

Janmashtami, birth of Lord Krishna, being celebrated in different parts of country today Manipur GUV' CM among other greets people

IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

The festival of Janmashtami, which marks the birth of Lord Krishna, is being celebrated in different parts of the country today. At Mathura and Vrindavan in Uttar Pradesh, Janmashtami will be celebrated with all the rituals but the devotees will not be allowed entry to the temples due to CoronaVirus. However, arrangements have been made to live stream the puja for devotees.

President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted people on the occasion.

In a message, President said, Lord Shri Krishna inspires us to establish a society that is just, sensitive and compassionate. Mr Kovind said, Lord Krishna's message

of Karmayoga is a call to focus on our responsibilities rather than caring for rewards. This spirit has been evident in the working of all our corona warriors who act at the forefront of our fight against Corona, he said. Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has greeted people on the occasion of Janmashtami. In

a tweet Mr Naidu said, the tales of the young Krishna's mischiefs and his heroic acts have captivated our collective imagination since time immemorial.

He said, the eternal message of performing our duties sincerely without attachment to results, elaborated by Lord Krishna in the Bhagwad Gita

has been a source of inspiration for the entire humanity. He said, Janmashtami, which is usually celebrated across the country with great fervor and gaiety, would have to be celebrated in a modest manner this year due to Covid-19.

On this auspicious day, the

Vice President called upon everyone to perform our duties faithfully and to seek the path of righteousness. He hoped that the festival would bring peace, harmony and prosperity to everyone. In a tweet, the Prime Minister said Best wishes on the auspicious occasion of Janmashtami.

KCP greets public on eve of the 16th Foundation Day

IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

The Proscribed group Kangleipak Communist Party issued a press release signed by S Mangal, Secretary-in-Charge, Information and Publicity greeting the people of the state on the eve of the 16th Foundation Day of its armed wing Miyam gi Fingang Lanmi, highlighting the fact that the day also coincides with the memorial day of the brave

fighters who lay down their lives during the 1891 Anglo-Manipur war. In the release, Ksh Laba Meitei, Chairman, Military affairs Committee and President, Kangleipak Communist Party applauded the selfless sacrifice being made by the various frontline health workers in the state as well as others engaging in providing essential services in the fight against Covid-19, the release also reiterated the need for all the small groups

and communities residing in the WESEA region to unite in the struggle for self-determination, adding that only unity will ensure that the common goal can be achieved. The release further mentioned that the most essential attribute for a 'Fingang Lanmi' or Red Army is adherence to the principles and spirit espoused by Mao and to maintain the discipline, hierarchy and diligence at all cost while protecting the

cause. Declaring the practice of working for the enrichment of the self as a selfish act which is against the principles of the party, the release also mentioned the importance of not only speaking of an equal society but also contributing to making it a reality, stating that any attempt to portray the ideology of the party as old and obsolete by anyone so as to discourage and mislead the public will be considered an enemy of the party.

Repaired potholes not lasted even a week



IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

Potholes repaired along the National Highway No. 2 under the supervision of the PWD at Indo-Myanmar border town turn out to be a daylight robbery by those implementing the work as those so called repaired makes no difference from the earlier situation.

"The same pot holes remain and it was just a week back that some contractors repaired it", President of All Community Development Organization Moreh (ACODOM) Mr. Thangiam Buddha Meitei told media persons.

Questioning the irresponsible

attitude in rendering public service the ACODOM president Thangiam Buddha Meitei appealed to the concern department and Minister to look into the matter as soon as possible.

"As we have all knew that due to the Lock down and Curfew in the District, movement of heavy Vehicles are stopped since from the Month of April. But seeing the condition of road of the Moreh Town, the contractor who was repairing the of the potholes fails to maintain quality in repairing the potholes which made the road same terrible as before the potholes was filled" he added.

121 police personnel awarded

IT News

New Delhi, Aug 12:

Union Home Minister's Medals for Excellence in Investigation for 2020 have been awarded to 121 Police personnel. This medal was constituted in 2018 with the objective to promote high professional standards of investigation of crime and to recognize such Excellence in Investigation by investigating officers.

Among the personnel receiving these awards, 15 are from the Central Bureau of Investigation, 10 each from Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra Police, eight are from Uttar Pradesh Police and seven each are from Kerala and West Bengal Police. The remaining are from the other States and UTs. These include twenty one women police officers.

Rebel body CorCom calls general strike on August 15 boycotting India's Independence Day

IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

Joint body of various rebel group operating in the region Co-ordinating Committee (CorCom) has called total shut down from 1 am of August 15 till 6.30 pm of the day boycotting the Independence Day of India. The rebel group has been boycotting the India's Independence day every year even as the state government celebrate it under tight security forces. During the total shut down essential service like medical,

electricity, water supply, fire service, press and other religious related activities has been relax as per the statement. "When India celebrate its Independent day we have been reminded that we were also once an independent nation", the statement said while adding that there is not even a single hairpiece of freedom in India's Independence. As Manipur's Independence is not included in the India's Independence, the region is still lack far behind from other in the field of development, the statement

said and added that after India occupied Manipur on October 15, 1949, Manipur has been living as a colony of India for 71 years. That is why Manipuri have no reason to be happy about the India's Independence Day. Quoting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech of July 3, 2020, at which he stated that the age of expansion is over the CorCom statement said that such a statement is delivered on the perception that nobody will know how the WESEA region have been occupied by then till today.

The statement term the series of his speech as an attempt to conceal the expansionism and human rights violations in the region. CorCom said that India is marching ahead in the top when it comes to expansionism of land. The CorCom reminded how India was created after British left and also reminded the words of Indian Iron Man Sardar Patel at which he told "Don't you have a brigadier in Shillong" at the time when the then King of Manipur refused to signed the merger agreement.

COVID Care centre open in Tamenglong

IT News
Tamenglong, Aug 12:

With the increasing cases of COVID 19 in Tamenglong and a fear of local transmission Deputy Commissioner of Tamenglong, Armstrong Pame today opened a COVID care centre with 120 beds at mini secretariat complex at Farmlane Tamenglong district headquarter.

The new 120-bedded covid care centre has 60 beds each with ventilation facilities for both male and females. After the inauguration, all COVID-19 positive patients were immediately shifted from Tamenglong Higher Secondary School to the new site at Mini Secretariat complex, which buildings were lying unused and vacant.

All the community quarantine centres which were opened in Tamenglong town areas will also be shifted to the mini secretariat

complex Tamenglong after due repair of the old buildings.

The inaugural function was attended by SDO Tamenglong Mahesh Chaudhari, SDO Tousem Paul Nangsha, SDPO Tamenglong Josiah Pamei and others dignitaries.

As per the report from the CMO office Tamenglong no new cases of COVID 19 were reported today from Tamenglong, till today total number of positive cases tested from Tamenglong is 241 people and so far 200 people were recovered from the COVID-19 and the active cases today remain 41 people and so far no deaths were reported from Tamenglong district.

All the returnees of Tamenglong district from different parts of the states are quarantine at Model High school, Preety Lamb Institute, DRDA guest house, Tamenglong higher secondary school and District hospital Tamenglong.

Indo-NSCN-IM peace process now landing in confusion; NSCN-IM says RN Ravi's mis-doings as Interlocutor

IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

Expectations about the finding of a lasting solution between the armed rebel group, the National Social Council of Nagalim (NSCN) under the leadership of Th. Muivah is slowly crumbling from the mind of the public, with more confusing statements coming from Government of India and the NSCN-IM years after the signing of the Framework Agreement in August 2015. When entire people of the North Eastern region celebrates after seeing a signed of relieved assuming that the decades old armed insurgency problems will be end settlement expected is not going to happen as NSCN-IM

started mistrust to the interlocutor RN Ravi and added fueled with his appointment as the government of Nagaland. A statement of the NSCN-IM issued on Tuesday said that Indo-Naga political talks which has come down in the modern history as the most high profile peace process in Southeast Asia is in a state of simmering tension and reaching the tipping point all because of Mr. RN Ravi's vitriolic attack on Naga issue, the very issue he was assigned by Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi to negotiate on his behalf to bring solution that is honorable and acceptable. All the hard work of 23 years of Indo-Naga political talks

having passed through six successive prime ministers is coming to nauseating end because of the mischief that keeps boiling in the hands of this interlocutor who has become more a liability than anything. The much hyped Framework Agreement (FA) which is the fruition of the recognition of the unique history and situation of the Naga by the Government of India (GoI) was signed in 2015 to form the basis for final settlement of Naga issue, the statement added. The NSCN-IM statement said that catastrophic as it is, FA is now undergoing castration at the hands of the very person who co-authored it with NSCN Chairman Mr. Isak Chishi

Swu and NSCN General Secretary Mr. Th. Muivah. This is the crux of the Indo-Naga political talks now. "The issue is now in the court of the Government of India that should come out with an undertaking that FA is still alive in its original form and to be handled by somebody other than RN Ravi, who is sensitive enough to understand and respect what has been achieved during the past 23 years. Ironically, the sanctity of Naga political legitimacy comes under assault when Ravi made a tumultuous turn using slanderous terms like "armed gangs" & "underground groups" against the very groups he

has been talking for years. The tipping point comes when he ordered the Nagaland state government to issue office memorandum requiring all state government employees to self-declare their relations with the "Naga underground groups". This is the bone of contention that has cropped up as Naga people cried foul over such outmoded policy that does no longer fit into the present scheme of things to end a century old Naga political issue. For quite sometimes Ravi was under NSCN's scanner when he twisted the Framework Agreement and misled the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the steps taken to solve the Naga

issue. The fact is that Framework Agreement is outside the purview of India Federation / Constitution it said. But in his report furnished to the Parliamentary Standing Committee he manipulated in his own narrative that is far from the actual meaning as very unambiguously worded in layman's language in the original copy of FA. According to the parliamentary report 213, Chapter III Naga Peace Accord index number 3, 1 clause 3.1.4, it read "In 2015, the GoI reached an understanding with the NSCN (IM) which agreed for settlement within Indian Federation with special status. The Interlocutor

informed the committee that this was a departure from their earlier position of 'with India', not 'within India' and the GoI called it Framework Agreement and signed it". The statement said that, clause 3.1.18 stated that "Framework Agreement was just about the recognition of uniqueness of Naga history by GoI and an understanding that inclusive settlement will be within the Indian Federation with due regard to the uniqueness of the Naga history. However, the interlocutor stated that it was implied in the agreement that some special arrangement will have to be made for the Nagas".

(Contd. on Page 3)

★ Editorial

Pardon us your Excellency: but as Governor of the state we do expect your intervention

It would not be too far from the truth to remark that the common people of the state is still living in perpetual hope and nothing much more, given the spontaneous euphoria of the people when power changed hands in Manipur after a decade and half of increasing nepotism, heightened state-sponsored terrorism, bureaucratic red-tapism and a plethora of cases of misgovernance have now given way to fear of expressing public opinions, stark mismatches between promises and performances; and outright dismissal of reports concerning misappropriation of public funds, to name just a few. Perhaps the unsavory recent developments in the political struggle reiterate the fact that politics of development and politics of power are contradictory, and that power does not equate performance.

The aspirations of the people for a transparent, empathic and decisive leader is still proving elusive, as the expressed intents and promises of these leaders are gradually turning into empty rhetoric and disappointment. What is more surprising is that despite the popular public perception that the present state government is one approved and appointed in line with the agenda of the Modi Government at the centre, there has been details of blatant violation of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 which the Prime Minister himself pursued for reforms to check nepotism and corruption amid much cheers and fanfare, as reported in Imphal Times against the Chairperson of Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights (MCPCR) on more than one count. The state government has still yet to react to the report despite the details presented in the report- yet another indication of the complicity of the high and mighty in such cases of misappropriations of huge public funds and abuse of powers. Such uncharacteristic silences of an otherwise vocal leader of the government lend greater credence to the perceptions of a compromised integrity and acquired irresponsibility. The misleading and misinformed rejoinder of the said chairperson to the report almost confirms the public perceptions.

Another report by Imphal Times on August 8 regarding the lack of kits for extracting RNA for Covid-19 testing at RTPCR, and the subsequent outsourcing of the procurement to contractors/suppliers these essential kits has caused concern to a large number of readers, but surprisingly the state government and the authority entrusted to handle such issue have so far remained silent on the matter. Creation of contracts for works which could or should be handled by the various departments are increasingly coming to light, and for now, the state government is following the 'Silence is the best policy', which in matters pertaining to the public is more than likely to backfire.

These emerging undesirable events have raised a very important question- who should the public turn to if those who are entrusted and elected to act for the welfare of the public turned a deaf ear despite presenting detailed reports and overwhelming evidences of wrongdoing by the government officials working in the public domain? In a state where the public is more suspicious and wary of resorting to legal resources, frustrations and mistrust is bound to build up over time.

While the constitutional powers of the Governor might not cover such issues or is beyond the jurisdiction of duty, being the nominal head of state, it is given that the primary function of the governor is to preserve, protect and defend the constitution and the law as incorporated in his/her oath of office under Article 159 of the Indian constitution in the administration of the State affairs. All his/her actions, recommendations and supervisory powers (Article 167, Article 200, Article 213, Article 355, etc.) over the executive and legislative entities of a State shall be used to implement the provisions of the Constitution. The emerging worrisome trend may be considered a threat to the constitution of the country and what it was envisaged for, and the Governor should look into ways in which these issues can be directed to the authorities for rectification.

Changing the world starts with changing ourselves. If we cannot make right these petty issues despite the mounting proofs and pressures, change is inevitable and could mean the only way out of this recurring political nightmare.

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NEXT POSSIBLE LANGUAGE RIOTS IN ASSAM: Manipuris vs Assamese?

By- Yambem Laba

The odd six lakhs Manipuri population residing in Assam are up in arms against the Assam BJP Government. This had followed a notification by the Assam Public Service Commission whereby it had mandated for all aspirants to qualify in either Bengali or Bodo languages should they hope to be selected for any examinations being conducted by it. Exemptions have been given for the Karbis and Dima Hajos tribal population of the State.

Taking strong exception to it Hijam Rajen Singha a Manipuri hailing from Cachar and founder of the Pan Meitei Convention (Meitei being the indigenous name for the Manipuris) wrote a strong letter of protest to Ramnath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India. In his memorandum he took exception to three advertisements of the Assam administration. The first was No. AAP2/9/20/2018/10 Dated 5 August 2019 issued by the Department of Personnel Govt. of Assam; the second one was Advertisement No. 06/2019/dated 19-11-2019 issued by the Assam Public Service Commission advertising for the recruitment to the posts of Assistant Engineers and Junior Engineers and the third one was the advertisement issued by the Secretary of the Medical and Health Recruitment Board of Assam vide notification No. MHRB/21/D/2019/307 calling for posts of Inspector of Drugs to be filled in it. All the three advertisements had warranted that all candidates compulsorily requires the clearing of either of the three language tests of Assamese, Bengali or Bodo. This has left in lurch thousands of Manipuri aspirants. He reiterated that the entire exercise is against the understanding given by Prime Minister Narendra Modi of 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Biswas'.

Citing that the Manipuri language had been included as a Schedule Language under the 8th Schedule of

the Constitution of India since 1992 and that since the year 2000 it has been made an optional subject of the Combined Civil Service examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission. Tracing the historical route of the Manipuri language it was also pointed out that since 1924 the Calcutta University had introduced it as a vernacular language for the Matriculation examination. Following independence the Gauhati University had in 1949 introduced Manipuri as a Modern Indian Language in intermediary and Bachelor of Arts examinations too. And today the Assam University, Silchar offers Manipuri as a subject for its Post Graduate, M Phil and PhD programmes since 1997. Besides the Assam Government had as early as 1956 had made Manipuri a medium of instructions at the Primary and up to Class Ten in 1976.

Rajen in his appeal to the President had also pointed out that being a linguistic minority and an economically backward community of Assam the Manipuris of Assam had always encouraged their children to study in Manipuri medium with the view of safeguarding their language and culture but now their future appears to be doomed. It was demanded that the Assam Government be advised to include Manipuri language as an "associate" language of Assam for the purpose of appearing in it as an qualifying paper for the examinations conducted by the Assam Public Services Commission alongwith Assamese, Bengali and Bodo languages and further to introduce Manipuri as an optional paper for the Mains examination of the state Commission for recruitments to the Assam Civil and Police Services and other fields. And that in all future recruitments of the Government of Assam, the Manipuri language should be kept on par with that of the three other languages

viz: Assamese, Bengali and Bodo. Rajen also said that he has approached Debabrata Saikia Opposition Leader of Assam and R.K. Ranjan Member of Parliament from Manipur personally to press home the issue.

Also the Joint Action Committee for Safeguard of Indigenous Manipuri People of Assam a conglomerate of 16 powerful Manipuri organizations of Assam including the All Assam Manipuri Students Union, Manipuri Youth Front, Assam Manipuri National Council Assam and the All Assam Manipuri Women's Meira Paibi Coordinating Committee signed by Nandababu Singha of the Assam Civil Service, Professor Dhiren Singha of the Assam University and Hijam Rajen had cited historical documents including the Assam Accord to stress home their point home to Sabrananda Shabrawal Chief Minister of Assam on the need to safeguard the interests of the Manipuri people now residing in Assam in view of the threat to their well being on account of the recent stand of the Government of Assam over job recruitments and the language factor at work.

And also jumping into the fray is the Union of Associations of Manipuri Rights consisting of 28 different pressure groups have written to the President of India, the Prime Minister, Chief Minister Sabrawal of Assam, N. Biren Singh Chief Minister of Manipur and Governor Najma Heptulla of Manipur. They have reiterated that the Sahitya Akademi of India had recognized this language as early as 1972 and that it is now being taught both at the Assam and Manipur Universities both from the undergraduate to post graduate levels as well as PhD programmes. And that the Assam Government should actively and urgently reconsider their language formula of recruitment to jobs in Assam before things go out of hand.

Meanwhile observers have noted the insensitivity of the Assamese administration to such a touchy and sensitive issue like that of language. Assam which had since the early 1950s had seen tension and riots over the language issue following the States re-organization Act whereby states were created based on the language of the people and that Assam should have Assamese as the sole language. It was in 1960 when Bimala Prasad Chaliya had piloted the Bill towards making Assamese as the sole language of the State. In 1961 protests against this provision broke out in the Bengali dominated areas of Karimganj and Cachar where many died. It should do well for Sabrawal to remember that it was the Shanti Parishad spearheaded by the Manipuris of Cachar alongwith other indigenous population comprising of the Cacharis as well as the Muslims that had stood by the provisions of Assamese being the sole official language of the State.

It is noteworthy to note that both the Bodos as well as the Karbis came into prominence in Assam only after they took up guns. Said Rajen, the Assam Government should realize that it is not only about securing jobs but also that of showing respect to their mother tongue 'Manipuri' that is irking the Manipuri youths in Assam today and that it would do well not to push the Manipuri youths against the wall for they might fight back with guns. And sabrawal who has just coped with the Bodos and the karbi problems on one hand and Pareth Barua's ULFA (Independent) on the other will have a bigger problem at hand should a group like 'Manipuri Liberation Front of Assam' should crop up. It would augur well for the former AASU leader and now the Chief Minister of the State to put on his thinking cap and solve the problem before it becomes a prairie fire.

Conventional vs Organic Farming

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh

Agriculture has been one of the biggest innovations in the human history, with the first domestication of food crops occurring over 10,000 years ago. This domestication of food allowed for communities to base themselves in one area, growing tending and harvesting foods to sustain larger populations. Simple manual agriculture dominated for the first 8,000 years- focusing on the sowing and harvesting of grain crops, husbandry of animals and planting orchards of nut and fruit trees. The next 2,000 years brought massive technology changes that moved from mostly manual labour (both human and animal labour) to the manufacture of farming implements that allowed larger areas to be farmed with less labour. Coupled with the sharing of foods crops around the world, this again boosted the ability of humans to farm and feed larger populations with agriculture. What started as the simple understanding of plant biology (that is the planting of seeds to grow a replica) grew into the most important and largest industry in the world as well as the fuel for massive population growth. Food were grown with what was naturally available and if modern standard were applied to ancient agriculture, it would most definitely be ORGANIC. The 1900s brought massive change that not only modified how humans produced food but also how food humans could produce.

In the space of less than 150

years, humans discovered how to artificially create fertilizers as well as build machines that could do the work of many humans. There was revolutionary as it allowed for significant yield increases in labour. Interestingly one could easily correlated this change with the acceleration of human population, suddenly humans were able to produce more with less, allowing massive growth in population (from 1.5 Billion in 1900 to more than 7 Billion today). The 1940s brought what has been called "The Green Revolution", which is the loose description given to the discovery of more artificial fertilisers and their distribution; creation of chemical herbicides and pesticides and genetic modification of plants and animals. This shifted food production into mass production that continues today. Driven by the artificial boosting of soil nutrients and application of poisons that reduced the impact of pests, genetic modification of plants has led to plants producing more yield than they would naturally produce and insertion of other animal and plant genomes to modify the properties of the plant. Again the boom of food production in this time could be linked with the increase in human population.

"The Green Revolution" brought more food to the World and with it brought huge volumes of artificial inputs to agriculture. In Australia alone, there is approximately 1.7 million tonnes of artificial fertilisers applied to farming (which has

increased from 0.7 million tonnes in 1983). Pesticides use in Australia has also grown rapidly with over 5,000 tonnes of herbicides, 5,000 tonnes of insecticides and 3,000 tonnes of fungicides sprayed every year and growing rapidly. This awareness and the toxicity of many of these inputs has led to the (re)emergence of organic agriculture combines modern agriculture method with natural inputs and pests management. There has been a focus in the past twenty years plus on the food we eat and how it is grown. Many people are asking questions about the inputs that are applied to their foods and the impact that it could be having on the earth as well as their bodies. 1987 saw the emergence of Biological farmers of Australia, a group of farmers who advocated and championed the natural farming approach that work with nature rather than against. They championed and adopted farming technique that now form organic certification, a process that is incredibly stringent and bound by consumer Law.

Organic agriculture is a production system that regenerates the health of soils, ecosystem and cycles adopted to local conditions rather than the use of synthetic inputs like chemical fertilisers, pesticides and herbicides. GMOs are not allowed in organic. On the other hand conventional farming is that relies on chemical intervention to fight pests and weeds and provide

plant nutrition i.e synthetic pesticides, herbicides and fertilisers. Organic farming relies on natural principles like biodiversity and composting instead to produce healthy, abundant food. Importantly, "Organic production" is not simply the avoidance of conventional inputs, nor is it the substitution of natural inputs for synthetic ones. Organic farmers apply techniques first used thousands of years ago, such as crop rotations and use of composed animal manures and green manures crops, in ways that are economically sustainable in today's world. In organic production, overall system health is emphasized and the interaction of primary concern. Organic producers implement a wide range of strategies to develop and maintain biological diversity and replenish soil. Conventional and organic farming methods have different consequences on environment and people. Conventional agriculture causes increased greenhouse gas emission, soil erosion, water pollution and threatens human health. Organic farming has a smaller carbon footprint, conserves and builds soil health, replenishes natural ecosystem for cleaner water and air without toxic pesticide residues; more profitable, yields equal or surpass & crops are more resilient than conventional one and create more jobs. So Organic farming is the sole alternative for our clean and sustainable future.

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IT raid finds money laundering worth Rs 1000 crore by Chinese firms



**Raju Vernekar
New Delhi/Mumbai, Aug 12:**

The officers of Income Tax department raided a total of 21 companies based in Delhi, Ghaziabad and Gurugram region and unearthed a Rs 1000 crore money laundering scam by Chinese firms in India, on Tuesday. The raids were conducted based on the credible information that few Chinese individuals and their Indian associates were involved in money laundering and hawala transactions through series of

shell entities. The income tax search action was mounted at various premises of these Chinese entities, their close confederates and couple of bank employees. They were involved in hawala transactions through a series of shell entities, Surabhi Ahluwalia, official spokesperson of CBDT said in a statement. CBDT further said that the search action revealed that at the behest of Chinese individuals, more than 40 bank accounts were created in various dummy entities, entering into credits of over Rs. 1000 crore over the period. "A subsidiary of Chinese company and its related concerns have taken over Rs. 100 crores bogus advances from shell entities for opening

businesses of retail showrooms in India. Further, incriminating documents in respect of hawala transactions and laundering of money with active involvement of bank employees and Chartered accountants has been found as a result of search action. Evidences of foreign hawala transactions involving Hongkong and US dollars have also been unearthed. Further investigations are under progress, The CBDT said. During the raid a Chinese individual Charlie Pang holding a fake Indian passport was nabbed by IT sleuths. The passport was reportedly issued from Manipur. Charlie was using 8 to 10 bank accounts in fictitious names in

India and was representing many Chinese Companies in India for Hawala Operations. The figure can go into thousands of crores, sources said. There are roughly 800 Chinese companies in the domestic market. They have about 75 manufacturing facilities for smartphones, consumer appliances, construction equipment, power gear, automobiles, optical fibre and chemicals. There is a sizable Chinese investment in Indian companies. Roughly the investment is: Automobile Industry (40%), Among India's top 30 unicorns (startups worth over \$1 billion), 18 are Chinese funded and technology-driven. Metallurgical Industry

(17%), Power (7%), Construction (5%) and services (4%). India has already banned several Chinese mobile apps in the country for national and data security reasons after mounting global concerns over Chinese government allegedly using these digital platforms for espionage and data harvesting. Government has also taken some policy initiatives including blocking participation of Chinese firms from certain projects and government contracts in the aftermath of Galwan valley clashes between the soldiers of the two countries dealing a blow to bilateral relations and creating a popular atmosphere of mistrust of China in the country.

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.....NSCN-IM says RN Ravi's mis-doings as Interlocutor

Ravi craftily deleted the word "new" from the original to justify his own narrative and circulated to the 14 tribe leaders, NNPGs, NTC and Nagaland GB Federation. These people are simply carried away by his manoeuvrable talkings and made to believe him and portrayed the NSCN on the wrong side. Today, this misplaced interpretation of "it will provide for an enduring inclusive new relationship of peaceful co-existence of the two entities" has become the point of conflict that delayed the process for solution. Significantly, the word "new" is politically sensitive as it goes to define the meaning of peaceful co-existence of the two entities (two sovereign powers). Further, "NEW relationship" strongly indicates outside the purview of Indian Constitution. When "NEW" is removed there is room for misinterpreting it as under Indian Constitution. It is a matter of indignation for the Naga people when Ravi went for the perversity as he insulted the NSCN negotiating team using un-parliamentary language in the official talk stating "this can be understood even by Class VII students that it mean acceptance of the Indian Constitution". The worst official talk took place on 30th January, 2020 at Chumukedima, Nagaland. On the competency that we have submitted he straight away told the NSCN negotiating team that we must have submitted the competency by mistake. He added that it is a stupid and contaminated paper and A to Z he cannot accept unless we rewrite the competency. There would not be any further talk if we do not rewrite and submit the competency he concluded. NSCN negotiating team cannot forget the unethical deadline given by Ravi to sign the Naga agreement on or before 31st October, 2019. Earlier to this in his diatribe against NSCN he said NSCN has "mischievously" dragged the Framework Agreement and began imputing imaginary contents into it. In this context NSCN put on record that it never adopted

procrastinating attitude as repeatedly slandered by Ravi. What matters is the contentious issues that has to be sorted out with mutual respect and understanding. Taking unilateral decision on the timeline is never a part of the negotiation that has trail more than 23 years. Sanctity of the talk must never be sidelined. Ravi is a person with divisive mentality and has applied it to the hilt among the Nagas. He took the unilateral decision to deviate from what was started by the pioneers of the 2nd Indo-Naga Ceasefire that has taken the peace process this far. From nowhere Ravi created NNPGs as third party/force against the bilateral talk of the GoI and the NSCN. Ravi used to harp on that issue is one, so there will be one solution. But he signed separate agreement with NNPGs and later used this group to counterweigh the NSCN. Earlier, Ravi in his seeming openness told NSCN negotiating team that he will not have any parallel talks with NNPGs other than to brief them on the core issues discussed and agreed between GoI and NSCN. In his first meeting with NNPGs he simply said that they have nothing, no proposal at all. There was an occasion during formal talk when we raised the issue of NNPGs whether it should be included in the final settlement. Ravi replied, "I have got written assurance from them that they would never disturb the talk between us. If they try to disturb our talk I can kick them out". "I have asked them to board". Now the pertinent question is, what Ravi is going to do with the 'Agreed Position' he signed with NNPGs. Ravi in more than one occasion proved himself as a man lacking principle that stands up to his stature as interlocutor to such high profile political dialogue as he committed breach of confidential documents by circulating the doctored Framework Agreement and Competencies to the Naga leaders that he favored after removing a word "NEW" that virtually changed the meaning of a sentence in the Framework

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (GoI) AND THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST COUNCIL OF NAGALAND (NSCN)

The political conflict is about six decades old. Attempts have been made for its comprehensive Resolution through discussions between the Govt. of India and the representatives of the Naga people from time to time. A fresh attempt in this regard was initiated through a political dialogue between the Govt. of India and the NSCN in 1997. The GoI and the NSCN dialogue led to a better mutual understanding. While the GoI in expression of the understanding recognized the unique history and position of the Nagas; the NSCN understood and appreciated the intricacies of the Indian system. With such an understanding and with due appreciation of the imperative of the contemporary realities and regard for the future vision both sides have agreed to reach an agreement that will end the violent confrontation once and for all and will usher in comprehensive progress in consonance with the genius of the Naga people.

Both sides have understood each other's respective positions and are cognizant of the universal principle that in a Democracy sovereignty lies with the people. Accordingly, the Govt. of India and the NSCN, respecting people's wishes for sharing the sovereign power as defined in the competencies reached an agreement on the 3rd August, 2015 as an honorable solution. It is a matter of great satisfaction that dialogue between the Govt. of India and the NSCN has successfully concluded and we are confident it will provide for an enduring inclusive relationship of peaceful co-existence of two entities. The two sides agreed that within this Framework Agreement details and execution plan will be worked out and implemented shortly.

**Sd/- (Isak Chishi Swu) Chairman, National Socialist Council of Nagalim
Sd/- (Th. Muivah) General Secretary, National Socialist Council of Nagalim
Sd/- (RN Ravi) Representative of Government of India**

Agreement. He hastens himself to misinform and mislead the GoI as well as Naga people in various platforms by twisting the Framework Agreement. Again, the reason why NSCN have refrained from publishing the FA was respecting the tacit understanding reached between the two sides not to release to the public domain for security reasons of India. However, Ravi took undue advantage and started modifying and manipulating the FA in his own narratives which began to mislead the Nagas as well as the GoI. Ravi also resorted to fear psychosis to pressurize the NSCN to submission. He organized military exercises over Naga areas using Indian Air force's latest aircrafts, deployed heavy security forces with war tanks, directing all Nagaland state security forces to be in their respective stations with rations stock to last for at least two months and directing all state police Special Branch to identify and locate the NSCN members' residents. In the Naga political movement it is needless to say that Naga civil organizations played a crucial role in their

respective capacities. But Ravi refused to work with Naga apex civil societies like the Naga Hoho, NSF, NMA, NPMHR, etc. He only entertained his "yes men groups" and few selected individuals who are docile enough to serve as his mouthpiece and trumpet in the media. Ravi has proved himself as incompetently reckless. There was an occasion when he met the 14 tribes of Nagaland on 18th October, 2019. He told them that Naga integration is ruled out. Such misleading statement on Naga integration created confusion on PAN NAGA HOHO as some tribes refused to support PAN NAGA HOHO if there is not going to be Naga integration. What has driven Ravi to go for the unthinkable after more than 23 years of fruitful negotiations is now the focusing point of talk in every hearth and street corners. How could Ravi arrogated to himself the power to change the rules/contents of the agreement arbitrarily? Where is his credibility now? His domineering approach has come to destroy the spirit of gentlemen's negotiation. It

was against this background that Ravi has set the bridge on fire and the meeting point is something unthinkable. He should have been more sober with the NSCN with whom he has shared the same table for years to find the honorable means to solve the Naga issue. It is comprehensible that person who want to turn the clock back the Naga issue by forcibly making it into "law and order issue" cannot be expected to recapture Naga people's imagination to bring solution that is honorable and acceptable. NSCN is grateful to the Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi who guided and supervised the signing of the historic Framework Agreement by giving the ceremony on a high profile status. But the very doings of his representative Ravi has cast a huge trust deficit as his role has come to be seen as nothing short of disowning the Framework Agreement. NSCN, has, however, gracefully and patiently tolerated Ravi despite his act of profanity. Let truth and sanity prevail to take control of Indo-Naga political negotiations and let God be the judge.

Two-child policy campaign launched in Assam

**IT Correspondent
Guwahati, Aug 12:**

Assam chapter of Jansankhya Samadhan Foundation (JSF) recently launched a campaign for the two-child policy in Bharat (India) sending a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union home minister Amit Shah along with Bharatiya Janata Party chief JP Nadda with a fervent call to enact a population control bill in the Parliament. The State unit of JSF has decided to organize a series of webinars, awareness campaigns and other events to garner public supports for their call. Established in 2017 to create public awareness over the population control initiatives, the JSF, which is a registered non-governmental organization headquartered at Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh, continues arguing that India would be the most populous country (overcoming China) across the world within a

decade. "With declining resources and a global economic slowdown amidst the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, we as a nation is hard-pressed to support our current population (over 1.37 billion) with the herculean task of eradicating poverty," said Biswajit Nath, a nationalist journalist and a dedicated participant in the nationwide movement. As the population explosion directly affects on the available resources, the JSF believes that only option left before the nation is to bring an effective legislation for a strict two-child policy (per family) in the populous country, said Sibaprasad Sarma accompanied by Achintya Das, Nipon Saikia and Kulaprasad Das. They pointed out that the JSF activists have already sent separate memorandums to the Centre urging for an effective population control initiative in the country.

NSCN, ULFA-I boycott India's Independent Day

**IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:**

Calling boycott the India's Independence Day, celebrated every year on August 15, a joint statement of the NSCN/GPRN and the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA-Independent) said that with the onslaught of COVID-19 when almost the whole world is in turmoil, poorly educated and ill prepared colonial India to take on the pandemic, urge to deflect her citizens dire straits by arousing nationalistic fervour not to 1961/62 era. The statement said that while the Cuban Missile Crisis was building up and of it, in December 1961 colonial India's then Prime Minister Nehru ordered a forward push resulting in the Sino-Indian war of 1962 and eventual crushing defeat of colonial India in the war. "This time while COVID-19 calamity was unfolding, colonial India makes the same mistake and send her soldiers in May 2020 to move into Chinese territory with another apparent forward push policy resulting in a hand to hand combat between the soldiers of the two countries", the joint statement said adding that it is incredible to see colonial India's expansionism, but, we need to remind ourselves of the saying in India, "Wherever Hinduism has gone that is India". It added that Kautilyan political machinations have been used to rob the Sovereignty of the Punjab, Kashmir, Sikkim and similar scheming is on the avil of the colonial Indian deep State for Bhutan and Nepal. In 1962 colonial India being cut to size was not complete because US President Kennedy came to India's rescue. Yes Rajnath Singh, it is not 1962 now! "We should recall here the ideals of freedom envisioned by US President Roosevelt. Actually he was instrumental to persuade Britain to give India her Independence. He

appreciated the power grip and greed of the British Empire as reflected in his interactions with Winston Churchill. He saw the menace of III Reich Nazi Germany aiming for world domination and was against empires in general. On 14 August 1941 The Atlantic Treaty was signed. The clause 2 and 3 of that treaty is very important for our region, as the wishes of our peoples were not asked for and decisions were made at the behest of handful of hapless so called leaders", the joint statement said. The joint statement said that the region should be known as Western South East Asia (WeSEA), untidely resolute in fulfilling our birth rights and restore our ancestral Nationhood outside the political entity. "Colonial India has slain thousands of our people across the region to subjugate us. With the 'Dutch courage' of having nuclear weapons colonial Indian hegemony has been covering down her smaller neighbours to a submissive vassal State like existence. But, the strong wind of change is blowing. Our common people must be alert and prepare themselves to participate fully in bringing in the new dawn. All our citizens need to resist colonial Indian oppression and occupation peacefully, so long colonial India does not use brutal or lethal force. Otherwise, our citizens have the rights to self-defence by any means in the UN charter", It said. Further, it also said that the Indian Independence day is not a day of freedom of our people but of bondage. The joint statement called on the people not to take part in celebrating it voluntarily or under duress. The outfit called total shutdown of all commercial activities, administrative services and educational institutions between 12 midnight to 18:00 hours on 15 August 2020 except for most essential and emergency services.

Over One Lakh loans sanctioned under PM SVANIDHI scheme

Agency
Imphal, Aug. 12:

The number of applications received under PM Street Vendor's Atmanirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) scheme has crossed the five lakh mark within 41 days of commencement of lending process. The number of loans sanctioned under the scheme has crossed one lakh.

The PM SVANidhi scheme has generated considerable enthusiasm among the street

vendors, who have been looking for access to affordable working capital credit for re-starting their businesses post COVID-19 lockdown.

The scheme was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs under the ambit of 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan'. It aims at facilitating collateral free working capital loans upto 10 thousand rupees of one year tenure, to about 50 lakh street vendors in the urban areas, including those from the

surrounding peri-urban/rural areas.

Incentives in the form of interest subsidy at seven per cent per annum on regular repayment of loan, cashback upto 1,200 rupees per annum on undertaking prescribed digital transactions and eligibility for enhanced next tranche of loan have also been provided.

PM SVANidhi Scheme envisages bringing Banks at the door steps of these nano-entrepreneurs by

engaging the Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and the Micro-Finance Institutions (MFIs) as lending institutions. This is in addition to Scheduled Commercial Banks - Public and Private, Regional Rural Banks, Cooperative Banks, and SHG Banks.

The onboarding of the vendors on digital payment platforms is a very important component to build the credit profile of the vendors to help them become part of the formal urban economy.

International Youth Day being celebrated today; VP M Venkaiah Naidu urges people to be more active change agents

Agency
Imphal, Aug. 12:

International Youth Day is celebrated across the country today. The day gives an opportunity to celebrate and mainstream young peoples' voices, actions and initiatives, as well as their meaningful, universal and equitable engagement. In 1999, the

United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth that 12th August be declared International Youth Day. The theme of this year is Youth Engagement for Global Action.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu has urged young

people across the world to be active change agents in building a more equitable and sustainable world. He appealed to youth in India to be at the forefront of eradicating various social evils like caste and gender discrimination. Mr Naidu called upon them to pledge to strive hard to realise the dreams of our freedom fighters.

He called upon them to build a New India that is free of poverty, illiteracy, corruption and provides equal opportunities to all. Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar said, the day offers a chance to raise awareness of the need to ensure the engagement and participation of youth.

Army Organises Colourful Band Display, Enthralled Imphal



IT News
Imphal, Aug 12:

As a curtain raiser to 74th Independence Day celebrations the Indian Army organised a colourful Band display to honour the COVID warriors at MR Ground in Imphal on 12 Aug 2020.

The military bands presented an impressive Band Concert in honour of COVID Warriors of Manipur

in recognition of their services and dedication in their fight against COVID-19 pandemic. The martial tunes played by the pipe bands of Army induced a patriotic fervour in the event which mesmerised and enthralled a large number of COVID warriors and citizens.

The event was graced by respected Chief Secretary to Govt of Manipur, Dr Rajesh Kumar, IAS; Maj Gen

V T Mathew, GOC 57 Mountain Division, Lt Gen K H Singh (ret) and many others distinguish Civil dignitaries also attended the event. The Chief Secretary appreciated the yeoman service of the frontline COVID Warriors and expressed his gratitude for their selfless dedication to their duty. He also complimented the Army for the thoughtful gesture of organising the display.

Assam Rifles Distributed Relief Material to the BPL Families In Moreh

IT News
Moreh, Aug. 12:

Moreh Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) distributed relief material to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families in Moreh on 12th Aug 2020.

A total of 120 packages were distributed with each package containing Rice, Flour, Sugar, Salt and Fresh Vegetables. Due to COVID 19 and lockdown restrictions, the relief materials were handed over to the community leaders for further distribution to the



affected families. Moreh being a multi-community township, equitable distribution to the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families of all communities

was ensured. A majority of population in Moreh is financially dependent on move of goods from across Indo-Myanmar Border (IMB) under the Free

Movement Regime (FMR). However, due to closure of International Border Gate No-2 for the last four months, the means of earning for these people have reduced drastically causing extensive financial hardships.

The contribution by the Assam Rifles was an attempt to further supplement the efforts of the Government under the "Garib Kalyan Yojna". All the community leaders expressed their gratitude towards the Assam Rifles for this noble cause during the challenging times.

Tourism has the potential to change the lives of people of North East PIB and ROB Imphal host Webinar under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat programme

PIB
Imphal, Aug. 12:

Tourism has the potential to change the lives of the people of North East since the region has an immense potential to attract the tourists in huge numbers. 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), Shri S N Pradhan said that cultural exchanges during the past few years due to Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat initiative has increased manifold. This has the obvious economic benefit through tourism, and

this benefit will continue to accrue to the states in years to come, but much more important is the creative use of official machinery to contribute to the unity of the country, he said.

The first guest speaker at the Webinar, Shri Shri Pushpendra Pal Singh, Chief Editor, Madhya Pradesh Madhyam, Government of Madhya Pradesh, said that infrastructure development of Manipur is vital for the development of tourism in the state. He pointed out that whenever we organize multi-state cultural programmes anywhere in the country, Manipuri music and dance are always highly appreciated by the people. He said that natural beauty and other advantages can only be converted into larger

tourism returns if it is organized properly. He informed the participants of the several tourist circuits of Madhya Pradesh which are now world famous.

In his address, Shri Yumnam Suraj Singh, Deputy Director, Tourism, Government of Manipur summed up the efforts of state government to develop the Krishna circuit and nature-tourism. He informed the meeting about the war-tourism which is attracting the Japanese tourists as we are giving out information about important battles involving allied troops and the Japanese army that took place here during the Second World War. He said there is a steady increase in foreign and domestic tourist numbers in the state. Cultural exchanges

under EBSB have been very useful in creating awareness about Manipur in Central India. This is expected to give long term fillip to our efforts, he added.

Abhishek Dayal, Director, PIB Imphal thanked the participants and said that if media of the two states participate in this movement of promoting the tourist circuits of each other states, both the states will hugely benefit. He said that Madhya Pradesh took a lead in promoting its tourism and this experience of tourism promotion can be utilized by Manipur officials in the ways in which it can be done effectively. The webinar was attended by 35 persons including media persons and officials of PIB and RoB Imphal region.

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Aug 12:

Karan Tiwari, a 27-year old cricketer, suspected to be suffering from depression, committed suicide at his residence by hanging to a ceiling fan in Konu Compound, Gokuldham, at Kurar village in Malad in North Mumbai, at about 10.30 PM on Monday night.

Karan went to his room and locked the door. By the time the door was broken, he was found dead. No death note was found and the police registered the death as an "Accidental Death (ADR)". "We have registered an ADR and investigations are on," Senior Police Inspector Babasaheb Salunkhe, at Kurar police station said.

Karan had no job and was said to be ruined by the COVID-19 pandemic break. He was living with his mother and brother. Earlier he had called one of his friends in Mumbai and had told

him about the current scenario of his career where he was not getting a proper chance to show up his talent as a result of which he was depressed. He was stated to be depressed since he was not included in proposed IPL team for the season slated to start from 19 September onwards in UAE. He had reportedly called his friend in Udaipur (Rajasthan) to inform him that may end his life. In turn the said friend reportedly informed his sister residing in Udaipur. The sister called his mother, to console Karan, but by then, it was too late.

Karan, a medium pacer, had bowled in the Mumbai Ranji Trophy nets at bowling practice session at Wankhede Stadium in South Mumbai earlier. He was known as 'junior Dale Steyn' in local cricket for his physique and bowling action resembling to the South African cricketer. He played for Souvenir Cricket Club and United Friends

Sports Club and recently completed a Level 1 coaching course at local level. But he had no job.

He was struggling to get a chance to play in the senior team and had reportedly tried on many occasions but had failed. As per BCCI rules, only those players who have represented a state team in any age category are eligible to enter the IPL auction.

Many of his friends and players paid condolences on hearing the news of his death. Actor Jitu Verma, who was his closest friend, stated that Karan had been struggling in the game for many years. Mumbai senior team coach, Vinayak Samant also said he was trying to find a good local club for Karan.

The pause on the cricket due to the COVID-19 pandemic across the country has been troublesome for many such cricketers like Karan, with many players contemplating their future.

