



Roshan, Premila bags Manipur Mega Marathon titles

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Marathon runner Kh Roshan bagged the winner's title while S Premila retained her winner's title of the 13th Mega Marathon Manipur in the men's and women's open category today. The annual mega marathon was organized by United People's Front Manipur under the aegis of Athletic Association of Manipur (AAM). Roshan, a personnel of 3rd Assam Regiment Shillong clocked 1 hr 06 min 32 sec to bag first position in the men's of the 21.5 kms long half marathon while S Premila of Yairpok Kekru Mayai Leikai also under Thoubal district reach the finishing line in 1 hr 21 min 08 sec to bag the first position in women's category. Both the athletes also won a cash prize of Rs 40,000 each. Another athlete Y Inao, also from 3rd Assam Regiment (1 hr 06 min 38 sec) and Romajit Kh of Khundrakpam (1 hr 06 min 43 sec) finished the second and third positions of the men's category.

In the women's category H Bhumeswari Devi of Sports authority of India touched the finishing line in 1 hr 22 min 58 sec and bag the second position while Th Babita of Yairpok under Thoubal district reached in 1 hr 26 min 17 sec to bag the third position in the same category of this year's event. The second position holders of the marathon also got a cash prize of Rs 30,000 and Rs 20,000 respectively. The other position holder's runners (4th to 15th rank position holders) of both the men's and women's competition which was participated by a good number of athletes, also went home richer with a cash prizes of Rs 3,000 each. The prizes were distributed during the closing function of the marathon which was attended by director of social welfare Ngangom Uttam Singh, President of United People's



Front W Second and President of AAM Leishangthem Ajit besides other prize donors. Youth affairs and sports commissioner Bobby waikhom and the key

functionaries of organizing body and others also present during the day's marathon flagging off ceremony held at khuman lampak sports complex in the morning.

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Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that the government is committed to render human service and work for the welfare of the people regardless of their political affiliation, caste, creed, religion etc. This was stated by him at the inauguration of Staff Quarter, Community Health Centre at Haoreibi Makha Leikai, Lilong today. Speaking as Chief Guest of the function, Chief Minister said that the State government fully endorsed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas'. He opined that when we uplift the lives of the poor people then

there will be peace, prosperity and development in the State. The purpose of doing politics is to help each other and to gain mutual respect and trust among all the communities living in the society, he added. He informed that his aim is to build a strong and cordial relationship between the communities. The Chief Minister further stated that the present government has fulfilled every promise made to the people. Emphasizing on various welfare schemes introduced by the government, Chief Minister said that after conducting survey about the status of people in the minority inhabited areas of the State, the government has

identified beneficiaries who can be benefited from various welfare schemes. CMHT, PMJAY cards have been distributed after organising various camps in these areas. The government has also constructed above 1000 houses in the Lilong area under PMAY, he added. He appreciated the people of Lilong for fighting collectively against drug menace in the area. N. Biren Singh maintained that transit accommodation for Doctors, Teachers and Nurses are being constructed at 19 places in hill districts of the State. Some of them will be inaugurated soon, he added. With the support of the people, the government could deliver good governance, bridged the gap between hills and valley in the State. In the next 5-10 years, the State would be transformed into 'Golden Land' with the present pace of the government, he assured. Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Health and Family

Welfare Shri L. Jayantakumar appealed the doctors and nurses to render their service with sincerity and dedication while treating the patients. He maintained that collective efforts are needed for inclusive development in state. He said that the government would extend every possible support to improve the infrastructure of the CHC. He further said that Geriatric, Palliative care unit will also be installed in the CHC soon.

The newly inaugurated Staff Quarters at CHC was constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakaram (PMJVK) funded by Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India and Department of Minority Affairs, Government of Manipur with a ratio of 90:10 with a total cost of Rs. 342.07 crores. The quarter consists of rooms for patients, doctors, nurses, medical store room, patient attendant room, conference hall etc.

Give license for poppy or ganja plantation for medicinal purpose - MLA Surchandra

By - Deborah Phijam
Imphal, Feb 16

A one day International Workshop on Alternative Plants for Opium-Poppy was held at VC 's Court Hall, Manipur University today. The workshop was jointly organised by Department of Forestry and Science, Manipur University, Chanchipur and South East Asia Centre for Agricultural Sciences and Humanities [SEACASH] under the aegis of the Apunba Imagi Machasing [AIMS], Manipur and Marjing Industries Private Limited, Imphal, Manipur. "The only thing to restrain the poor cultivator from growing poppy is not to be done only by the law but has to be done by giving alternative plantation or giving them work with adequate income" said MLA Yengkhom Surchandra Singh who attended as the Chief Guest of the inaugural session of the workshop. He said that If opium or ganja



can be used for production of medicines government should allow cultivators to plant it by providing them license in connivance with pharmaceutical companies for production of medicine to benefit both the society and the cultivators, the MLA said. Supporting the suggestions made by Th Brinda Adul SP of the Narcotic and Affairs of Border, few days back for growing Ganja replacing opium, Yambem Laba, senior journalist said that it has become high time for CBI not to delay furthermore in giving punishment to the drug traffickers and he further said

that why the people who were supposed to be the one to tell others not to do but they have become the one who are involved in drug trafficking. Sharing the past vivid experiences of 30 years in Myanmar, Mr. Yataku Agatsuma, chairman, 'Alternative plant for Opium poppy, Sendai, Japan, said that grapes, coffee or ginseng can be alternative crops for poppy plantation. Pradip Phanjoubam, Editor, FPSI, Review of Arts and Politics said that the government have to search and block the bigger market which the drugs were

supplying. Speaking about the reasons of poppy opium plantation in Manipur, Dr. H. Birakumar Singh, senior principal scientist, CSIR-NEIST, Imphal said that the government needed to substitute the poppy opium plantation by different plants like medicinal and aromatic plants, lemon grass and citronella ect. The workshop was also attended by MLA L. Radhakishore Singh, Prof. Amar Yumnam, L. Meghachandra, Principal Scientist ICAR - RC NEC and other scientist and academicians, from Japan.

AMSU set up special task force to check class X and XII examination

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All Manipur Student's Union (AMSU) has stated that the student body will be taken up various programme to maintain and improve quality education in the state. A statement by the student's body said that even as there seems some improvement in the conduct of class X and Class XII examination conducted by the BOSEM and COHEM in the last few years, however the examination still lack in meeting the goal to improve human resources. The statement said that beside conducting the examination in a proper way it

is also a need to improve the teaching - learning process round the year.

Even though mass copying during class X and XII examination seems to have perished at many examination centers such culture still is continuing at some examination center, the AMSU said. In this situation even though there is no need for paying inspection visit to all the school AMSU definitely feel it necessary to visit some examination center for the class X and XII.

For that matter AMSU is setting up a Special task force to look into the matter, said the statement signed by Bruce Pebam, Secretary HRD, AMSU Headquarters.

Coronavirus: Naga woman mistaken for Chinese in Mumbai, made to leave building

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Feb 16

Chaos ensued in a housing society at Chembur in North East Mumbai, after a local resident shot a video of a 23-year-old Naga woman suspecting her to be a Chinese national suffering from novel coronavirus and circulated it online. The 23-year-old woman, who was donning a mask, had just arrived in Mumbai from Nagaland, to visit a friend staying in the society on February 10. The Naga woman, a video-blogger, arrived in Chembur around 8.30 PM and was ringing the apartment's doorbell, when, to her surprise, a male resident of the building started shooting her while trying to

engage her in a conversation. Subsequently that neighbour who had video graphed the visiting woman, passed it on to the owner of the flat, who had gone to Kerala, in which the host is residing. Within minutes (at about 8.57 PM), the host, received the video from her Kerala-based owner, who questioned her about the visitor. The host, is also a 23-year-old woman, from Nagaland studying at Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in North East Mumbai. She had been staying in the flat for a year. "I was shocked to see the video, where my friend, who had just arrived from the airport, was filmed by my neighbour. When I confronted him, it led to a major argument. His wife even asked my friend

to leave the building," she said. "My neighbour claimed that he assumed my friend to be Chinese, and since she was wearing a mask, he thought she was infected with the coronavirus," the TISS student said, adding that after she tried to tell him that it amounted to "racial discrimination" the fight escalated. Her friend eventually went away to stay with another acquaintance. The TISS student intends to lodge a complaint with the institute's North East Students' Forum. In similar incident on 14 February, a residential colony at Malabar Hill in South Mumbai, had pressed the panic button and sought the intervention of the

Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), thinking one of its residents, who works in Singapore and had recently returned from Sri Lanka, was infected. Ever since the coronavirus broke out in China's Wuhan, instances of race-based discrimination have been reported from the world over. Meanwhile, on Saturday, 11 persons suspected to be infected were admitted and kept under observation in Maharashtra. They included 5 in Kasturba Hospital (Mumbai), 3 in Naidu Hospital (Pune) and 3 in District Hospital (Sangli). The patients in Kasturba included a crew member (Philippines national) of the "Fred. Olsen Cruise Liner "Boudicca". The cruise liner arrived in

Mumbai on Saturday. "He was suffering from cold and fever and as such he was admitted to the hospital. However his condition is stable. There are 824 personnel, including crew and passengers, on board the ship. They all are safe, Maharashtra Health Minister Rajesh Tope said. In Maharashtra, till now 49 out of 60 patients admitted to different hospitals, have been discharged. Besides, the health condition of 193 passengers was monitored and 137 passengers were given clean chit after 14 days of surveillance. Also, till date a thermal test was conducted on 34,283 passengers at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport. Maharashtra has 39 isolation

wards and 361 beds, he added. In the meanwhile Amesh Adajia, an infectious disease specialist with the Johns Hopkins University Centre for Health Security, Baltimore, USA has said that certain environmental conditions including cold weather and humidity is conducive to the transmission of viruses. In Wuhan province in China, the epicentre of coronavirus, the temperature had been in the region of 6-8 degree Celsius, for about a month. In such cold temperature, the transmission of viruses takes place within 15 seconds. The virus cannot last in the temperature of 30 degrees and above. As such the scientists world over are hoping that onset of summer may bring in relief from the infection.

Raising day of the army wing of KYK observed

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Army wing of the proscribed group Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYK), Meeyamgee Yawol Lanmee (MYL) today observed its raising day today. The raising day function were held at the party General Head Quarter, 1st Bn, 2nd Bn, 3rd Bn, and at its nitits including technical and mobile unit, a statement of the outfit said. Main function of the raising day held at 1st Bn, 2nd Bn and 3rd Bn were attended by commanding officers of each battalions