

COVID-19 recoveries cross 10.5 lakh mark; Recovery rate improves to 64.54 percent

Agency
New Delhi, July 31:

Total recoveries from Covid-19 today crossed the 10.5 lakh mark. In the past 24 hours, the highest number of 37 thousand 223 recoveries have been reported in the country. A total of 10 lakh 57 thousand 805 people have recovered in the country so far and with this, the recovery rate has improved to 64.54 per cent. The mortality rate due to coronavirus has further declined to 2.18 per cent in the country. The Health and Family Welfare Ministry said, the highest spike of 55 thousand 78 new cases of Covid-19 have been reported in the country in one day taking the total number of cases to 16 lakh 38 thousand 870. Presently, the total number of active corona cases in the country is five lakh 45 thousand 318. In a single day, 779 deaths have been also reported taking the nationwide toll to 35 thousand 747.

MD predicts heavy to very heavy rainfall in Northern states

Agency
Imphal, July 31:

The India Meteorological Department has predicted heavy to very heavy rainfall likely in Northern states of the country. IMD said, widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls very likely over Uttarakhand, Sub-Himalayan West Bengal and Sikkim and heavy rainfall over Jammu Division, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi, East Rajasthan, South Gujarat, West Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Maharashtra and Goa during next two, three days. Due to convergence of strong lower level winds over the west coast, widespread rainfall with isolated heavy to very heavy falls are also likely over Konkan and Goa and Ghat areas of Madhya Maharashtra between August 1 to 3, it added.

One more COVID-19 patient died; number of fatal case reached 5 in 3 days

IT News
Imphal, July 31:

The number of dead due to COVID-19 in the state of Manipur today reached 5 with one more patient who have been undergoing treatment at COVID Care Center JNIMS succumbed early today morning. The first fatal case of COVID-19 occurred on early morning of July 29 and since then the number keeps rising reaching 5 in three days.

According to report the 5th COVID-19 victim died at around 4.30 am today. He has been undergoing treatment at COVID Care Center JNIMS since last Wednesday after he was tested positive in a private clinic. The deceased has been identified as MD. Sajad Ahmad from Lilong in Thoubal district. So, far all those who died of COVID-19 are all male and are above 45 years of age. The first COVID-19 victim who died reportedly

contracted the virus from inside the RIMS where he has been treating. Health department statement said that among the 3 who died yesterday are due to comorbid health conditions and Covid-19. Untill yesterday the total number of positive COVID-19 cases was 2505 and among these 1672 have been reported recovered leaving the number of active Covid case to 829. The number is expected to rise today.

India achieves a remarkable feat by performing more than six lakh coronavirus tests in a single day

Agency
New Delhi, July 31:

India achieved a remarkable feat today by performing more than six lakh tests of coronavirus samples in a single day. The Indian Council of Medical Research said that a record six lakh 42 thousand 588 tests were conducted by various laboratories in the last 24 hours. More than one crore 88 lakh tests have been conducted in the country so far.

AIR correspondent reports that starting from less than 100 tests per day, a multiple fold increase in a few months was made possible by dedicated teams of research institutions, medical colleges, testing laboratories, Ministries, airlines and postal services. Government has created robust health infrastructure for effective management of Covid-19 pandemic within a short span. The Central government in collaboration with the States and Union Territories' government adopted the strategy of aggressive testing,

tracking and treatment to deal with the coronavirus crisis. In January this year, there was only one testing laboratory for COVID-19 in India. Now, 1331 government and private laboratory chains are conducting tests for coronavirus samples across the country. ICMR is continuously ramping up its testing capabilities by approving new laboratories, RT-PCR kits,

True Nat Test, CBNAAT Test and rapid antigen test kits. However, in spite of these developments, access to testing still remains a huge challenge in a large country like India. To deal with this challenge, the Health Ministry and ICMR have asked the States and Union Territories to include additional testing methods to improve the availability of testing.

Chief Minister pays last respects to martyred AR soldiers



IT News
Imphal, July 31

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today paid last respects to the three Assam Rifles soldiers, who were martyred in a militant attack at Khongtal village in Chandel District on July 29. He attended a wreath laying ceremony organised in their honour at Bir Tikendrajit International Airport. Speaking to media persons, the Chief Minister said that there is no place for violence in a democratic country like India. Strongly condemning the incident, the Chief Minister asserted that the Government would not remain as a silent spectator, and the perpetrators would be definitely hunted

down. N. Biren also appealed to the armed groups to shun hostilities and come out for a political solution. Stating that the State Government would provide suitable assistance to the families of the martyred Central forces personnel belonging to Manipur, the Chief Minister said that the matter would be put up in the State Cabinet for discussion. Responding to a query regarding casualties of COVID-19 patients, the Chief Minister said that all the persons, who had died so far had pre-existing ailments. As such, it was hard to save their lives, he informed. However, the Government has been trying its best to save every

single life, the Chief Minister stated. Earlier, N. Biren Singh led others in laying wreaths and paying last respects to the deceased Assam Rifles personnel. Khurai AC MLA Shri L. Sushindro, DGP Shri L.M. Khaute, other high ranking civil, military and police officers and family members also attended the ceremony. Later, the Chief Minister met the family members of Ratan Salam, who was one of the three Assam Rifles slain soldiers, and expressed his deep condolences. Sharing his grief, the Chief Minister said that attaining martyrdom for the country is like entering heaven alive.

The entire NSCN/GPRN under the leadership of Mr. Yung Aung is fully intact –NSCN-K

IT News
Imphal, July 31:

War of words continues between Niki Sumi and Yung Aung groups of NSCN-K after the former who along with two other leaders had announced the replacement of Yung Aung by Lt. Gen. (Retd.) Nyemlang Konyak on July 29. A press statement released today by the MIP of the NSCN-K said that The entire NSCN/GPRN both Civil and

Military under the leadership of Mr. Yung Aung is fully intact and the recent development does not harm or change the status quo of the party. It said that the NSCN/GPRN totally rejects the Press notification and baseless allegations made by the expelled leaders lead by Niki Sumi against the current leadership of the party which was circulated in the social media. "The expelled leaders are only

trying to attract attention with their self appointed posts while working as agents of the Tatmadaw and Indian Raw", it added. The statement further said that in order to maintain their despotic and self-style nature, these leaders have always been opposed to the current transformation policies of the NSCN/GPRN. The statement further said, during the past few years, for reason best known to him, Niki

has kept himself completely aloof from the daily affairs of the party refusing to report to the headquarters even after repeated calling letters. "When the entire NSCN/GPRN and the Naga army were threaten and engulf by the armies of both occupational forces Niki and his associates manage to travel around freely with full protection from the enemy. "Niki has been always in support of a "Parrellel

Government" within the party with intent to officially divide the party based on the artificial boundary line. Nyemlang and Starson, blinded by power, has stoop so low and disgrace themselves by falling into his trap. "We make this special appeal to all Nagas not to be confuse and misinform with the propaganda of the expelled group for they had no political vision whatsoever.

YFPHR appeal to withdraw the MoUs signed for mining of Chromite and Limestone in Manipur with the Profit Making Companies

IT News
Imphal, July 31:

Showing serious concern on the fear of losing land, identity and culture of indigenous peoples of Manipur due to the proposed Mining of Chromite, Limestone and other minerals across Manipur particularly in Urkhul, Kamjong, Tengnoupal and Chandel Districts of Manipur which will destroy large scale hill range covering large scale forest which have been

securing livelihood for the Indigenous Peoples of Manipur. Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) has appealed to withdraw the MoUs signed in the regard. A statement said that the steps taken to initiate mining process without the consent of its people by the Government and signing MoUs with the profit making companies for chromite exploration and mining with M/s Sarvesh Refractories Pvt. Ltd, Rourkela, M/s Rourkela

Minerals Pvt. Ltd, Rourkela, M/s Kotak Resources, Mumbai, M/s Gulf Natural Resources, Gurgaon, M/s Visa Steel Ltd, Odisha, M/s Manipur Mines and Minerals Pvt. Ltd., M/s Balassore Alloys Ltd, Odisha etc in 2017 and also for limestone exploration and mining and to establish cement plant with M/s Super Ores, Guwahati, M/s Gulf Natural Resources, Gurgaon, and M/s Ramung Enterprises, Imphal etc are the steps to deprive its own people from participating

into the decision making process for development. It added that by destroying the forest, destroying the free flow of rivers due to construction of dams, destroying the hills for railway lines by disappearing streams which the Indigenous Peoples are dependent, polluting the environment and water bodies, filling up of wetlands, etc cannot be termed as a "Development Process" but a violation of Right to Life, Rights to clean Environment, Right

to Livelihood, etc. Indian Bureau of Mines have already confirmed that Manipur has 6657 Tonnes (Sixty Six Lacs Fifty Seven Thousand Kilogram) of Chromite and various tonnes of other mineral deposited and if mining initiated there will be no hills, no water on the river for survival and will remain as a barren land with no source of habitation which will have a serious impact on the Indigenous Peoples of Manipur.

Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) urged the Government of Manipur to withdraw immediately the MoUs signed with the Profit Making companies which is set to mine and destroy 37 sq. km in Limestone Mining and 38.96 sq. km for Chromite Mining in Urkhul, Kamjong, Tengnoupal and Chandel District of Manipur and other parts of Manipur and protect and secure the lives of indigenous peoples of Manipur.

★ Editorial

Ailing Nambul River recovering: Let's keep it alive

The ailing Nambul River, which is the face of the Imphal city, finally sees hopes of restoring to its normalcy with the kind of work being taken up to rejuvenate it under the supervision of some committed government officials. The river was life for the people in the once upon a time but it has converted to killer river for the people of today. According to Deputy Director of the Directorate of environment, Dr. T. Brajakumar, the pollution level at Nambul is so high that even scientists fears skin damage while collecting the river water from various places for laboratory purpose.

It is indeed a blessing in disguise, the lockdown and simultaneous closures of market area in Imphal has helped reduced the pollution level in the last three-four months. Saying so there were n dearth for people assuming the Nambul River as site for throwing garbage. May be due to lack of awareness or perhaps the people have no other means that they threw the garbage at the river and its bank. But during this lockdown, the Environment department timely acted. The ailing river now is slow recovering. And if the trend continue, it won't take long for Nambul to become another River Thames of the United Kingdom.

As per report of the Assessment of Water Quality Index of Nambul River published at International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET) in December 2016, the WQI value for the water samples collected ranges from 103.89-115.34. The highest WQI value of 115.34 was recorded from Hump Bridge site which is in the dense populated area of Imphal city. The WQI value which crosses 100 is unsuitable for human use. Even aquatic life doesn't survive. Two years after the condition is worsen. The Water Quality Index (WQI) is crossing 200, at some place the WQI reaches 253 (subject to correction about the exact figure as it was informally procured from Environment department authority).

Every citizen of the state knows that Nambul has become one of the most polluted Rivers not only in Manipur but also in the entire planet. What is worrying to the people if that the present condition of Nambul River has also become a threat to the one and only fresh water lake Loktak, a Ramsar Site and the largest freshwater lake in North East India. Nambul River drains into the Loktak Lake. As per scientific findings Nambul river generates about 72.23 tons of solid waste and 31.207 cubic meter of sewage every day in (the data has been increase this year).

Even after knowing all this facts, people continue to pollute the river. No citizens, no matter how literate they are or how knowledgeable they are, about the impact of spoiling the Nambul River, almost all sections dump the waste garbage in River.

Some few years back, short term measures like construction of retaining wall at both the river banks or imposition of certain laws to punish those who throw garbage at the River bed or bank were seen taken up. However, the state government this time seems to be serious. They are making a long term plan to make sure that Nambul River is useable once more. With the kind of project take up to rejuvenate the Nambul River, people now sees hope that aquatic lives are seen after so many years. But then, this dream of making live the Nambul River depends to the citizen. Without the support of the people it will be next to impossible to either save the Nambul River or the Fresh water Lake - Loktak.

The government team which is implementing the works for treatment of Nambul River, has wisely invited community to participate in the making of Nambul River a clean one. It is also learnt that the govt. team under the initiative of the Environment Department is appointing some people on payment basis to clean the river bank from Keishampat to Khwairamband Keithel Thong Nambonbi is an appreciable attempt. But then, it should be remembered by the authority that such measures should not be simple for getting appreciation from the people. It should be with clear motives to clean the river bank. Once the river bank is maintained and keep clean there will no better place for people to enjoy evening walk. For this too the river water need to be keep clean.

Hope the ongoing rejuvenation works at Nambul River gives life to the dying river which is the face of Imphal city.

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RN Ravi's take on China's factor in india's North Eastern Insurgency

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This write-up is based on the webinar on the Role of China in North Eastern Insurgency which was being conducted by the Intellectual Forum of North East (IFNE) at Gauhati dated Friday, 24 July 2020. IFNE is a thinking tank formed in the year 2016 by a group of young dynamic intellectuals with its basic grounded objectives of highlighting the pertinent issues concerning the region of Northeast India. It is also a platform for discussion, debate and for a meaningful discourse inclined in conducting socio economic surveys, various research works, documentations, publications of books, journals, etc. The forum has been conducting various symposiums during its endeavour and exploring and restoring the rich heritage of India and presenting it to the rest of the world by the intellectual of its society is the primary vision.

Insurgency is one very vital issue of the country. And North east India is the most insurgency affected and volatile area next to Kashmir. Analysts have also indicated that most of the militant outfit in the region of Northeast have been quick to transform themselves into purely terrorist entities due to the rapid insurgency activities, many civilians have lost their lives since 1990, China's support to the outfit in the region have been going on since decades and also has been identified in providing lots of assistance to the insurgent groups and this type of material and moral support has really led to the success of insurgency. In 1970-1990, there was a classical insurgency which has now become silent, but it doesn't necessarily mean that it has been totally stopped. There it has changed its new version or phase so it is very essential to understand its new version or new phase in the country.

With the background note cited above being presented by the webinar host, Ms. Rilanjana Talukdar, Shri Ravindra Narayan Ravi, the Hon'ble Governor of Nagaland and former Special Director Intelligence Bureau was introduced as the special guest. RN Ravi was also the Chairman of the Joint Intelligence Committee formed in the year 2014. In the year 2018, he was also appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor of India. He had played a key role in eradicating the influence of insurgent groups in Nagaland.

RN Ravi: It has been felt by all in the strategic community, within the government, outside the government, the need for better greater understanding of China, the government is trying to invest more in understanding and so is the need from the part of non-government bodies, academia, think tanks also to study China because if it is not done there is a likelihood of doing miscalculation, and miscalculation could be very costly either in terms of resource department or responses. To have a better understanding of China is a necessity. This webinar organised by the IFNE is a very useful initiative which is expected to carry forward. It needs to be done more and more.

China have been assisting insurgency in the North east since a very very long time, then why? China must be having some interest. One way is to look at how it has assisted various insurgent organisations by giving them logistic, tactical, strategic support, etc? How did they do that, how do they carried out? It is important also to know what China's capabilities are. Even then, it doesn't answer the basic question why China is interested. So, it is important to understand China's interest in Northeast. Interest alone is not enough. It is also important to know what China's capabilities are. That way if effort is made to

understand China's interest and capabilities in Northeast India, then it would be easier to comprehend what China is doing with respect to the insurgents making it a little more comprehensive by touching upon the aspect, the context of China's interest and capabilities in Northeast which of course insurgency is a part of it, an important subject indeed. There's no doubt about it. What is China's interest here? China's interest in Northeast is integrally linked with China's interest in India. China looks upon India as a potential regional rival. When Communist took over China Mao Tse Tung took over China through his protracted revolution war it was not a victory of Communism, it was a victory of Chinese nationalism in disguise because prior to that the decadent Chinese empire which had fallen in 1911, republicans have taken over is very weak, centuries old humiliations China had faced actually shaken the Chinese right from the opium wars the English had waged, other European powers, the subsequent Chinese invasion, they have suffered over a century of humiliation in foreign powers. That humiliation acted as a catalyst to encourage and strengthen the sense of Chinese nationalism. Mao's People liberation Army and his campaign was not essentially a classical Marxist's 'haves' and 'Have nots' conflict, underpinning of it was in his nationalism. A sense of humiliation which China had suffered for long and humiliation has two aspects. One is it can be demoralising, it can also be creative, it can also trigger force with strong will. That is the curative power of humiliation. That is what Mao built and eventually took off in 1948.

When Communist China emerged, its core interest was resurgence of China as a middle kingdom, as a central power with neighbouring countries and states as muscels to pay tribute and remain where they are without much of interference. That was the trait which China had and has even today. The problem is the rise of China which is hegemonistic.

The rise of China which has a dream to be the central power with all the neighbours as the muscels is certainly not to the interest of others. In that dream, India perhaps being the largest neighbour, its objective right from the beginning is to pre-empt rise of India as a regional or global power. And when the objective is to pre-empt the rise of India, it identifies the vulnerabilities, the weaker spots in it. In that context, it looks upon Northeast as a vulnerable periphery which is emotionally strange, thanks to the colonial occupation of the region and creation of an isolation mindset. The emotionally strange population and crooked political geography carved down by mischievous partition, whenever think of North east in the strategic community and everyone, "we cannot escape from what we call 'chicken neck', 'Siliguri Corridor' and all these". So it accentuates the sense of vulnerability. This crooked political geography and strange population is looked at and upon as an opportunity. The objective of it is to prevent, pre-empt the rise of India. One weaker spot is North-eastern. Then what its objective is in Northeast India. Northeast India has a strange population and in the 1950s-60s-70s, when things were bad, crooked political geography surrounded by hostile East Pakistan and overall scenario was such that it thought that perhaps it could. Its ultimate and ideal objective is to dismember the northeast. But if its ideal objective is not achieved then

what is next. Next is to keep India embroiled in itself. If it remains occupied in the major issue of internal stability, it consumes an enormous amount of national wealth and power and resources. That comes in the way of the rise of India. So, China engaged in proxy war what they call as 'bleed through million cults'. In that context, it has been aiding and abetting insurgencies in northeast. It also has a territorial ambition in northeast. When it comes to Arunachal Pradesh, it claims as its territory. What does it achieve? If the Northeast remains disturbed with internal strife, it makes it easier. This territorial ambition also plays a role. It also adds to the interest of China in Northeast. It also has another interest in northeast. Soon after it occupied possibly conquered Tibet, a lot of Tibetan freedom fighters including guerrilla rebels escaped persecution and came to India though of course Dalai Lama remains a central figure. India accepted them as refugees on humanitarian grounds and never allowed them to have military ambitions, military plans, and military training. His Holiness Dalai Lama was always treated as a respected guest. But China always looked at India with lot of suspicion that perhaps India was playing 'Tibet Card'. Even before 1962 border war, they have this thought that if you are smart in Tibet, we (China) would be smart in Northeast. As a counter to threats and apprehensions in Tibet used Northeast and later much later when the things have started pulling down and they started realising that all those things are not possible, then the latest turn out to be looked upon Northeast as a market, market for its produce in Southwest China - Yunan and Sichuan province. Because it can be huge market as those areas are relatively less developed in China then other. But they have a lot of potential by which they can export things. So China has a multiple interest in the Northeast in the context of weakening or pre-empting the rise of India.

How does and did it operate in the Northeast? It is operated in proxy as it doesn't have a direct access, since except Arunachal Pradesh rest of India's Northeast border doesn't share with China. In the initial period, beginning when the birth of the Communist China in 1948, it was a rise of aggressively militant nationalist type, that point of time, needs neighbour roads specially in Southeast Asia and Northeast India as an extension and upland of Southeast Asia is well connected is all a part of one geography. China was inspirational to two sets of people. One set of people were disgruntled people in the hills because the hills people were after the British in 1873, the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act 1873 has completely snapped the centuries old socio-cultural and political connect of the hills with the plains. It created a mindset to isolate. Initially that was with the pro-colonial project of evangelisation of the hills. That was a British policy initiated by the British Prime Minister, Henry John Temple. In 1858 British took over India from East India Company. The British parliament took a decision that, "It is said it is not only duty to evangelise it, but it is an imperative of the Empire". So the hills have to be evangelised, with that the socio-cultural, economic and political connect with the rest especially the plains of the Assam Brahmaputra Valley were to be completely snapped. When the national freedom movement started, the first time when they snapped the ties neighbours become strangers over a period of

time because the people of the hills and plains were so well organically connected. They have sociological, economical, matrimonial relations. The hills men would come and cultivate lands in the plains. They used to have a market to exchange goods and products. Whenever the people in the plains came under stress, they took refuge in the hills and vice versa by the hills people also. So, the hills and the plains had an organic connect but they disconnected it completely and turned neighbours as stranger. But after the political nationalist movement began, they turned it into a hostile state by stereotyping them as barbaric and uncivilised. Over a period of time, the hill people lived in total isolation from the rest and after British left, challenges before India was how to integrate those isolated people. And while building the modern Indian state infrastructure, it also came into dialectical conflict with the existing power structure in the hills because of the loose administration by the British as they left them as they were. So traditional power structure came in conflict with that of the modern Indian state. For them success of China, Mao Tse Tung was an inspiration.

There have not been many success stories in the history of insurgency around the world. Invariably insurgencies pitted against a regular state force they lose. There are many a times they do influence the state policies but eventually they don't become victorious. But China was an exception. There were few other exceptions that happened later like Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam, and Fidel Castro in Cuba. Mao's success having a military victory over established state power was a great inspiration. Their strategies, how they carried out became an inspirational model for this 'strange people' in the power structure of the hills. They started looking upon them how they did that. Learning from their methods, Mao's, 'Red Book', became an inspirational guideline.

And there were another sets of people mostly in the plains. They were romantic communists. That was at a time when Soviet Russia was on the move, already had a Communist, Communist International, rise of China, etc. That had a huge romantic appeal to certain set of people. That was the time when from 1948 onwards, the whole world, the whole region of Northeast India, Burma, Malaysia all these led up with Communist uprising. Revolutionary Communist Party of India resorted to large number of assassinations in Bengal and Assam between the periods of 1948 to 51. The rise of radical Communism in Manipur Imphal Valley, rise of Hijam Irawat though he was not a devout Communist his vision to revolt against the established order drew a lot of inspirations. Burmese Communist Party virtually ragged the whole country to armed revolution, guerrilla warfare for a very long time. In Malaysia, at that time it was Malay, when the British left it in 1955-56. Until then 1948 to 55-56 when the British conducted the counter insurgency in Malaysia, it was Malaysia Liberation Army, armed wing of Malaysia Communist Party. The success of Mao was great inspiration to all these disgruntled people around.

As far as Northeast India is concerned, from 1948 till 1964, China must be inspirational for these disgruntled people in the Northeast. There is no evidence of China lending direct assistance in terms of logistics or military wares or so, but it was a great inspiration as it was a great success story of the time. In

ED seeks details of FIR filed by Bihar Police against actress Rhea Chakraborty

IT Correspondent, Mumbai, July 31:

The Enforcement Directorate on Thursday sought details from Bihar police, of the FIR filed by late actor Sushant Singh Rajput's father against actress Rhea Chakraborty, to check whether there is money laundering aspect in the case. The ED has sought a copy of the FIR since Sushant's father Krishna Kumar Singh (74) has accused Rhea of siphoning crores of rupees from his bank account. The ED officials said that they are looking into the case for a possible investigation under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The ED will probe if anyone

used Sushant's money to create illegal assets. In such circumstances, it can attach assets of the accused and can arrest anyone found guilty, under the PMLA. According to reports, two flats in Sai Fortune Housing Complex in Ulwe (Navi Mumbai) are registered in the name of Rhea's father Indrajit Chakraborty. Two companies in which Sushant was director, are registered with the address of these flats. It is not clear who paid the money to buy these flats. Sushant's father has registered the FIR against Rhea and her family members and six others on charges of alleged abetment to suicide of his son under IPC 341 (wrongful restraint), 342

(wrongful confinement), 380 (theft in dwelling house), 406 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating) and 306 (abetment of suicide). Singh has accused Rhea, a budding TV and film actress of having befriended his son in May 2019 with the intention of furthering her own career. Sushant (34), was found dead in his apartment in Mumbai's Bandra area on June 14, 2020. The Mumbai police had registered it as an Accidental death case. In another development, on Thursday, Rhea alleged before the Supreme Court that Sushant's father was using his influence in falsely implicating her in the FIR lodged at Patna in Bihar accusing her of abetment of suicide of Sushant.

She said that she has been into acting since 2012. She admitted that she was in a live-in relationship with Sushant since a year up till June 8, 2020 when she temporarily shifted to her own residence in Mumbai. She has been in deep trauma due to his death and now she was getting rape and death threats. As such she has filed a complaint at Santa Cruz police station in Mumbai against the death and rape threats. Her plea said, Sushant was suffering from depression and was also on anti-depressants and he committed suicide on the morning of June 14, by hanging himself. She was summoned by the Bandra police in Mumbai on various occasions and her statement was also recorded under section 175 of CrPC. She has learnt that the probe by Mumbai police is on and some of the forensic reports are awaited. She said that Section 177 of CrPC mandates that every offence shall be inquired into and shall be tried by the magistrate within whose local jurisdiction it is committed. As such the jurisdiction to probe the offence would lie with the Bandra Police Station. However, in the present case, the investigation has mechanically commenced without jurisdiction by sending report to the Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate 3, Patna Sadar,

Patna, instead of sending FIR to the jurisdictional Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Bandra, Mumbai and Bandra police station. It becomes abundantly clear that the commencement of investigation in Patna is erroneous, since the incident happened at Bandra. As such it would be just and expedient, if the case is transferred from Patna to Mumbai. No prejudice would be caused to the respondents (father of Sushant and Bihar police), if the direction is issued in this regard by the SC, the plea said.

Lifting of allocated PDS items continues

Imphal, July 30:

PDS rice allocated to Assembly Constituencies (ACs) of the State continues to be lifted from certain godowns located at various parts of the State. The lifted rice is meant for distribution to the beneficiaries of the ACs. In Senapati District, Mao AC lifted 1,204.01 quintal of rice under Pradhan Mantri Garb Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) and 938.35 quintal of rice under National Food Security Act (NFA), both allocated for the month of August, today. The AC also lifted 1,701.14 quintal of PMGKAY rice and 1,844 quintal of NFA rice on 29th of this month. Saikot AC of Churachandpur District too reported lifting of 1,354.60 quintal of NFA rice today. The AC also lifted 1,349.30 quintal of NFA rice and 754.50 quintal of PMGKAY rice on 29th July. The lifted rice were allocated to the AC for the month of July. It may be mentioned that all the ACs of Churachandpur District had completely lifted their PMGKAY rice allocated for July.

In Thoubal District, 2,290.45 quintal of NFA rice was distributed to the beneficiaries of Lilong AC while 5,902.4 quintal of PMGKAY rice was distributed to the beneficiaries of Wangjing Tenthia AC, Thoubal AC and Wangkhem AC. It was also reported that Thoubal AC and Wangkhem AC lifted 2,020.50 quintal and 1,830.60 quintal of PMGKAY rice respectively, allocated for the month of August, on 29th of this month. Sugu AC of Kachhing District reported completely lifting of its allocated 1,409.50 quintal of rice, allocated for the month of July, under PMGKAY today. The lifted rice consisted of 76.95 quintal under AAY and 1,332.55 quintal under PHH. Under PMGKAY, Nungba AC of Noney District lifted 689.40 quintal of rice today and 689 quintal of rice on 29th of this month from FCI godown, Sangaprou while Tamenglong AC of Tamenglong District lifted 650 quintal of rice on 29th July from the same godown. The lifted rice was allocated to the ACs for the current month.

AIFUCTO opposes New Education Policy

IT News Imphal, July 31:

All India Federation of University & College Teachers' Organisation (AIFUCTO) strongly opposed the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, saying that the new reform education policy will privatize the entire education sector. When the entire country is struggling to save the lives of the mankind and economic backbone of the country is in serious bad shape, Central Government considered it as a opportunities to implement

its ideology on the entire nation. "Keeping with their unbridled spree for privatization of key public sectors, the present NEP will privatize the entire system, providing a death knell to AIFUCTO struggle for a democratic, secular, scientific and inclusive education", the AIFUCTO statement signed by Its General Secretary Prof. (Dr) Arun Kumar. The statement further added that Market, Corporate and fundamentalist forces will take advantage of the situation and demolish the

constitutional foundation of our Education system. Democratic right of the Teachers and the autonomy of the institution will collapse like a house of cards. The emphasis on online system of teaching and examination will open the system to commercialization and deprive vast majority of the students from the benefits of knowledge revolution of 21st century. The communal over tone of the policy will rob from the students mind the scientific temper and make them victim of emotional frenzy. The statement also stated that

the National Education Policy (NEP) is not the reflection of collective consensus of the nation nor it exhibits the democratic views of all stakeholders including AIFUCTO. The claim of the Government that before finalizing the policy wide range consultation has been made is merely eyewash and pretensions. Only persons with ideological affinity with them have been consulted. Reason best known to the Government, they didn't have the patience for approval in the parliament. "The structurally changes

made in the policy is mere cosmetic and nothing to with quality education. The phasing out of the affiliating system, provision for multi disciplinary institution and design to change curriculum will have a disastrous impact on the fate of the Teachers and our pluralistic cultural diversity. There is no concrete road map for resource mobilization. That means entire NEP is meant to consolidate the forces of centralization, corporatization, and commercialization", it added.

Contd. from Page 2

RN Ravi's take on China's factor in india's North Eastern Insurgency

1965, there was India-Pakistan War, before that in 1962, India had war with China. At that time, there was only armed Naga movement. They were mostly in East Pakistan. There is no record of going to China until 1964. The 1965 war between India and Pakistan, gave China the opportunity to escalate the situation in Northeast. And then in 1964, there was the first cease fire with the Naga insurgents. In 1963 December, Nagaland state was created. Naga armed insurgency started in 1955, before that the movement of Naga National Council pursued its objective peacefully. Subsequently, some NNC leaders who does not approved of the path of violence as destructive for the Nagas abandoned the NNC and they formed another party, eventually the Naga People's Convention (NPC) and with over three years period they consolidated the Naga's opinion and got the Nagaland state. Agreement for that was signed in the year 1960 and 1963 and eventually formed Nagaland state. But undergrounds were not a part of the accord. They were very much enchanted by the possibility of independence inspired greatly by China. In 1964, an attempt was made and ceasefire happened. In 1965, the ceasefire had significant progress and it appears as if there would surely be settlement. At that point of time, Phizo wrote a letter in March 1965 to Naga Army Chief to warn not to have a settlement stating that China is

going to attack in the air. They are going to drop 'hydrogen bomb' on India. And India is going to be reduced to ashes. If Nagaland remains part of India, Nagaland would be reduced to dust. Such kind of misleading literature was created among the armed rebels by the leaders sitting in London that China is going to destroy it. At that point of time negotiation was with the NNC which is a political organisation, not with the armed wing. Its armed wing rebelled against the political wing taking the stated stance that nothing short of complete independence is not going to be accepted and if they do that they will be treated as traitor and we' (the armed wing) will take on and continue. That actually led to the failure of the peace exercise. Then towards the end of 1965, the first delegation of Naga rebels went to China and they were welcomed by the Chinese leaders. And thereafter several delegations too went through Yunan via Burma and Tibet into Sikkim for hosting and training the Naga rebels. Subsequently, Mizos were also taken and given training. In between another development happen in this region that was in East Pakistan over the issue of language which had first actually rebelled and Pakistan did not succeed. Pakistan never used Bengali language as the official language of the country and Bengalis were proud of their language. Subsequently election happened and the denial of West Pakistan's political leader

to give power to East Pakistan's political leaders though the later have won the majority escalated into a liberation war in 1971. In this liberation war that happened, Chinese again invested a lot creating trouble in the Northeast, in Chittagong Hill Tracts, bases were created for rebels, bases were created in Unan province, there were special air operations operating from Chittagong airports to carry the rebels, trainers and equipments. China invested a lot as they took it as another great opportunity to break India by creating so much of disturbances. Pakistan's also helped as they thought if India remains occupied to its internal disturbances it will not be able to come for the liberation of the Bangladesh. It should not be forgotten that ironically Americans were also there. It was a unique confluence of interest. Adversaries of India, they have come together - Pakistan, China and United States. And at that point of time Chinese invested a lot in building the insurgent organisations giving them the capability and a lot of moral and material support. But eventually Bangladesh was liberated. And that liberation of Bangladesh gave a setback to the Chinese dream of dismembering Northeast India. But soon Sheikh Mujibur was assassinated and political change in Bangladesh happened in a way that it again encouraged the Chinese, it remains so until Maoist Maoism though he passed away in 1976. Until 1978, by the time Deng

Xiaoping was firmly established, he established his grip over the Chinese administration. That old policy continue but after the arrival of Deng Xiaoping, there was recalibration of policy - main policy, to pre-empt rise of India. And there was no change in it. The change was the recalibration of the involvement in Northeast India. And then they became more discreet. Earlier they made no bones about it. But then they became more discreet. Assistance to the Northeast insurgent was not as in the scale and in the manner as it used to be because thrust was on building China not creating instability in the neighbour it consumes their own resources. Communism in China in whatever way was buried with Mao. Wealth and power became the main aspiration of objective of China under Deng Xiaoping. He didn't like China to be seen involved in another country's conflict. However there was again tweak in that in 1990s when India had lot of internal disturbances in Jammu and Kashmir, entire northeast and in the Eastern flank and Western flank and also the Central heartland, Maoist was also very active, they were trying to fish in troubled water. They did that. It also subsided.

From 1948 to 1965, it was inspirational, 1964 to 1978 it was active involvement, from 1978 onwards it became discreet, did not disconnect, did not shun them but it became more discreet in providing assistance to the Northeast insurgents and that continues even today. China's interest remains what it was. Policy wise, China has undergone recalibrations. Getting the opportunity it will again tweak returning back to what it was doing. It is learning to adjust with rising India and in the process of learning to adjust, it has not given up its larger dream of a middle kingdom being the sole super power in the region later on the global ambition. What are the capabilities? From 2000 onwards, when the situation in India was very well under control, they started talking about markets, Stilwell Roads, connecting Kunming with Gauhati. But it stills keep looking for the troubled waters. What is their capabilities in North-eastern India today because it doesn't have any direct access. Its capabilities is only through proxies. Proxies are the insurgent organisations. In the last ten years Northeast has seen remarkable improvements. By all indications with the rise of comprehensive strength of India, the improvement in the strength of India seems irreversible, democratic institutions are taking roots, greater awareness about modern India state infrastructure is taking roots within the people, better connectivity, economic rise of India getting better economic opportunity for the people, all these have improved the situation remarkably. So China's capability to influence the situation and create the trouble is limited. Some disgruntled elements will try to raise the importance of China, 'China Bogey'. China's capability to meddle in the issues of Northeast is hugely

reduced. As and when China bogey is asserted, it need not be considered as if it is going to be a major threat. India today is not what it was 20/30 years back. So what should the stance be which is not only for the Northeast but for the whole of country's capability grew stronger? There is no substitute. And Prime Minister, Modi's mission even right from his first term is to make India stronger and stronger. In the entire international geo politics, there is no substitute to strength. As the Greek proverb says, 'strong do what they must', all the problems of India in the past is because of its own weakness. India have to go strong and that will settle all its issues. In the context of Northeast, strengthening economic and emotional integration bonding with the rest of the country is needed. Lots of damage to the national fabrics have been caused by the British has to be repaired. And a counter insurgency thrust must shift from the military to the police. Most of India's counter insurgency methods and doctrines were hugely influenced by British counter insurgency operations in Malay. But it being counterproductive have realised over a period of time. So long a colonial power is operating on foreign soil, it's a different story. But when it comes to dealing with its own people, that formula should be done away with. It has a very limited validity. Even in Nagaland context, earlier tribes and after creation of Nagaland

state, the Naga rebels, they were more apprehensive and careful of Naga armed police, not so much of military because military had handicap of intelligence. As a result, when they had intelligence, they operated there were significant collateral damages that give a lot of sympathy to the underground rebels, whereas Nagaland armed police when they operated they did incisive surgical strikes. Northeast can be made as an economic hub building on its own natural and human resources. And building massive connectivity infrastructure - surface, digital and air is also of crucial importance, still there are large tracks in the region where there is no roads. Area which has no connectivity is out of the reach of the state. Some intangible measures also needs to be taken. First and foremost is detoxification of false history which has taken root in the region. It has replaced the genuine true history. The Northeast has been there since for thousands of years before the British came. Northeast have all those period of organic connect with the rest of India but today it is portrayed as if they are a distinct land, distinct people. So detoxification of history has to be done. And the civilizational connect has to be restored. Just by removing the thin layer of ignorance and false history, the civilizational connect with the rest of India will all be seen and should be restored. At the same it needs to be built on.

Govt imposes import restrictions on colour TV sets

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, July 31:

The Union government imposed restrictions on import of colour Television sets to promote domestic manufacturing and cut inbound shipments of non-essential items from other countries including China, on Thursday.

China is the largest exporter of TV sets in India, followed by countries like Vietnam, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, and Germany.

India imported colour TV sets worth USD 781 million in 2019-20. Imports from Vietnam and China stood at USD 428 million and USD 293 million respectively in the last financial year.

In 2018-2019, the imports of TV sets stood at about \$1 billion. China (\$535 million in 2018-19) was the largest exporter of TV sets in India. It was followed by countries like Vietnam (\$327 million), Malaysia (\$109 million), Hong Kong (\$10.52 million), Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, and Germany.

In a notification dated 30 July, 2020, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) stated that the Central



Government amends the import policy of items under EXIM code 852872 of chapter 85 of ITC (HS) 2017, schedule I (import policy).

As per the notification the import policy of colour TV sets under HS code from 852872 11 to 19 is amended from "free" to "restricted". Actual user condition would not be applicable for importers applying for an authorization to import the goods "restricted" in this notification. The procedure for grant of license will be separately issued by DGFT. The restricted items include: TV set of screen size up to 36 cm, TV set of screen size up to exceeding 36 cm but not exceeding 54 cm, TV set of screen size up to exceeding 54 cm but not exceeding 68 cm, TV set of screen size up to exceeding

68 cm but not exceeding 74 cm, TV set of screen size up to exceeding 74 cm but not exceeding 87 cm, TV set of screen size up to exceeding 87 cm but not exceeding 105 cm and TV set of screen size up to exceeding 105 cm and Liquid crystal display TV set of screen size below 63 cm. All the above items were under "free" category earlier.

Putting an item under a restricted category of imports means the importer of that commodity will have to seek licence from the commerce ministry's DGFT for imports. It may be recalled that in June 2019, the electronics manufacturing industry had asked the government to ban imports of televisions from Vietnam, which had registered a 25-times jump to Rs 1,500 crore within a year. The

industry had also called for changes in the import duty structure.

In the letters dated June 11, 2019 to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal and Communications and IT minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Indian Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA) had said that the government was losing close to Rs 1,000 crore in GST alone, owing to the current basic customs duty (BCD) regime, which was encouraging a grey market for colour televisions.

ICEA had also sought a time-bound investigation by an inter-ministerial panel on imports from Vietnam — with which India has a free-trade agreement — in relation to price, quantity, value and special reference to rules of origin.

Basically TV components are imported from China by different manufacturers. LG manufactures TV at its plants in different countries including China and India. Accessories are made in Korea and China and then the components are delivered to the assembly plants. Xiaomi is one of the major Chinese TV set manufacturers.

SPORTS

E - Conference on "Trends Issues and Development of Physical Education and Sports"



IT News
Imphal, July 31:

Two Day International E - Conference on "Trends Issues and Development of Physical Education and Sports" is being jointly organized by the Department of physical education and sports science, Fit India Campaign Committee and Fit India Club, Manipur University, Canchipur, in collaboration with National Association of physical education and sports science (NAPESS), India w.e.f from 30th to 31st July, 2020 at Manipur University, Canchipur, Imphal concluded today successfully.

Around 650 participants attended from abroad and from India in this International E-Conference. The trends advance in the knowledge of physical education and sports science has improved the lifestyle of the society generation. This International E-Conference has been undertaken by the department to share the knowledge of the professionals through their research work and expertise in the field of physical education and sports science. The main aim of the International E-Conference is to bring together leading academicians, scientists, researchers and research scholars to exchange and share their experiences and research findings in the area of physical education and sports.

Dr. L. Santosh Singh, Organizing Secretary he addresses welcome speech for this Two day International E-Conference on "Trends Issues and

Development of Physical Education and Sports".

Shri. Jarnail Singh Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University as chief guest of this Inaugural function and he express with his happiness that Physical Education is a part of primary activities for everyone, and it's become physically, and mentally fit and healthy aspects oriented and games and sports performance oriented.

Prof. P. Chinappa Reddy, Chief Patron of NAPESS and Patron of Conference, he address as guest of honour speech for this Inaugural function.

Prof. Nayana Nimkar, Director Symbiosis School of Sports Science, Mumbai, Maharashtra - India he address Keynote address on the topic "Trends Issues and Development of Physical Education and Sports" for this Two Day International E-Conference, the session was conducted by Prof. Ravi Kumar, Warangal, India as Moderator. During these Two Day International E-Conference five eminent Invited Speakers from different part of country namely Professor Dr. Oleksandr Krasilshchikov, Malaysia / Ukraine, Presented the paper on "Changing Trends of Physical Education and Sports", the session was conducted by Dr. Benu Gupta, Associate Professor, Vice - President of NAPESS as a Moderator. Professor Lim Boon Hooi, Malaysia, he presented the paper on "Major Role of Core Strength Exercise Fitness Programme", the session was conducted by Dr. L. Thambal Singh, Assist. Prof. Dept. of PESS, MU as Moderator. Prof. Dr. Klaus-

Peter Herm, Germany, he presented the paper on "Issues and Development of Children and Youth Sports", the session was conducted by Dr. Nita Bandopadaya, Associate Professor, Joint Sec. of NAPESS as a Moderator. Prof. Dr. Erika Zemkova, Slovakia, she presented the paper on General Versus Sport Specific Testing of Postural and Core Stability, the session was conducted by Mr. L. Pungding, Assist. Prof. Dept. of PESS, MU as a Moderator. Dr. Khalid Khalifa Dougman, Abu Dhabi Sports Council, he present the paper on "Physical inactivity - The silent pandemic & COVID-19", the session was conducted by Dr. M. Chourjit Singh, Assist. Prof. Dept. of PESS, MU as a Moderator. Prof. W. Chandrabu Singh, Registrar, Manipur University, Canchipur he address as Presidential speech for this Two day International E-Conference and he expressed that this conference topic is right time with new Education Policy by Govt. of India of education on "Trends Issues and Development of Physical Education and Sports".

He also narrates about the holistic approach of Physical education subject with other streams open in the University. He also wanted that the Fit India Club, Manipur University should work with the selected and identified villages in around Manipur University for the all-round development i.e. (physical, mental & social well being) of the villagers. Lastly, Prof T. Inaobi Singh, HoD gives his vote of thanks for the Two days International E-Conference.

Tribute to the fallen soldiers: Wreath laying ceremony at Tulihal Airport

IT News
Imphal, July 31:

To honour the supreme sacrifice made by Havildar (GD) Pranay Kalita, Rifleman (GD) Methna Konyak and Rifleman (GD) Ratan Salam of the Assam Rifles, who laid down their lives in the line of duty on 29 July 2020 in Manipur, a wreath-laying ceremony with full military honours was organised at Tulihal Airport, Imphal under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) on 31 July 2020.

During the solemn occasion, wreaths were laid to pay homage to the fallen soldiers by N Biren Singh, CM of Manipur, L Shushindro, MLA, LM Khaute, IPS, DGP, Manipur, Brig DS Shishodia, Dy IG AR (South), Brig Deepak Joshi, Commander, 9 Sector Assam Rifles and Col Prashant Misra, Col 'A' 57 Mountain Division. The sacrifice of the fallen



soldiers hailing from Manipur, Nagaland and Assam, truly represents the idea of unity in diversity - the strength of our nation and the Assam Rifles. Assam Rifles remains committed to the security of the nation and will continue to uphold it's ideals in it's pursuit to defeat secessionist forces. Havildar (GD) Pranay Kalita,

a resident of Barpeta, Assam, is survived by his wife and two daughters, while Rifleman (GD) Methna Konyak, a resident of Mon District, Nagaland is survived by his wife and daughter. Rifleman Ratan Salam is a resident of Kakching Makha Leikai, Manipur and he has left behind his wife and two sons.

They were dedicated, brave and courageous soldiers of the Assam Rifles. The nation salutes their supreme sacrifice made in the highest traditions of the Force in service of the nation. In this hour of grief, the Assam Rifles stands firm in its solemn commitment to ensure the welfare of the families of the fallen soldiers.

Phase Five of Vande Bharat Mission to start from tomorrow to repatriate Indians from 23 countries

Agency
New Delhi, July 31:

Phase Five of the Vande Bharat Mission is scheduled to start from the first of August. A total of 792 flights which include 692 international flights and 100 domestic flights have been scheduled under this phase to repatriate Indians from 23 countries.

These include GCC countries, US, Canada, UK, Germany, France, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand, China, Israel, and Kyrgyzstan. Briefing media last evening, External Affairs

Ministry spokesperson Anurag Srivastava said, these flights would cater to 21 different airports in India and repatriate a total of one lakh thirty thousand Indians stranded abroad.

As many as 54180 passengers have been brought to country's financial capital Mumbai till date from different countries as part of the Centre's 'Vande Bharat Mission'. The Maharashtra Chief Minister's Office (CMO) statement said that in addition to this, 18 more flights are expected to land in Mumbai today. Immigrants have been brought back from many

countries including the United Kingdom, Singapore, Philippines, USA, Bangladesh and Malaysia.

Under the Vande Bharat programme undertaken to bring back Indians stranded in other countries, so far 395 flights have brought 54180 passengers to Mumbai.

According to Maharashtra Government data, of the total number of passengers, 18587 are from Maharashtra and 18192 hail from Mumbai while as many as 17401 belongs to other states. In view of Covid-19 outbreak, passengers from Mumbai were admitted to institutional quarantine facilities set up in different hotels by the state

government. While others were sent to their respective districts for getting quarantined.

On the other hand, passengers from other states were quarantined in Mumbai till they get travel passes from their home states. Working of Vande Bharat Abhiyan is being undertaken by the state in coordinated efforts of Mumbai Collectorate office, Greater Mumbai Municipal Corporation, Regional Transport Officer, BEST, Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation, Airports Authority of India, Mumbai International Airport Authority Ltd.

President Ram Nath Kovind gifts a sports cycle to budding cyclist Riyaz

Agency
New Delhi, July 31:

President Ram Nath Kovind today gifted a sports cycle to budding cyclist Riyaz. The President also wished Riyaz to realise his dream through hard work and become an international cycling champion.

The bicycle delivered to Riyaz today, a day before Eid-al-Adha, comes as Eidi in the true spirit of the festival that is marked by gifts given by elders to younger people. Riyaz's story is quite motivating for those who are downtrodden and yet dare to dream big. A student of Class 9 at

Sarvodaya Bal Vidyalaya of Anand Vihar in Delhi, Riyaz belongs to Madhubani district of Bihar. To support his father economically, the boy works in an eatery in Ghaziabad as a dishwasher in his free time. In 2017, he won a bronze medal in the Delhi State Cycling Championship.