

Arambam Somorendra remembered on 20th Death Anniversary

IT News
Imphal, June 10

Fitting tribute was paid today to Arambam Somorendra at his statue erected at Khurai Salanthong in Imphal East district, on occasion of his 20th Death Anniversary. Unlike previous years, not many people gathered on the occasion due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, however, leaders and representatives of almost all meira paibis, CSOs, local clubs attended the death anniversary function of the multifaceted leader and paid floral tribute to the statue of the late leader. People gathering on the occasion also observed two minutes silence by maintaining physical distance on the occasion jointly organised by Arambam Somorendra Trust and Social Standard Club, Khurai Nandeibam Leikai. Speaking to media persons, Trustee of Arambam Somorendra Trust, Shambandaram Shamu said that the death anniversary of late Arambam Somorendra was not organised in a grand way with participation of masses as the trust felt it important to follow the WHO advisory in

connection with the COVID-19 Pandemic. "Earlier, we have already informed the public that the observance will done with less participation by paying floral tribute only", Shambandaram Shamu said. Arambam Somorendra (Tamohal to friends and admirers) was born on 12th July, 1935 at the Sagolband Meino Leirak, Imphal. He was the eldest son of Arambam Darendrajit and Arambam (O) Jamini. He grew up at a tumultuous time when Manipur was just freed from the colonial yoke of the British and the people of the erstwhile sovereign kingdom was learning to live under a short-lived interim Government within the framework of duly drafted constitution but was merged with the Indian Union in 1949 in controversial circumstances. He completed his masters in political science from the Pune University in 1963. Patriotic Writer Forum Manipur also observed at Nungshikol Parkta of Imphal East. Forum Secretary Rakesh Naorem expressed that Arambam Somorendra became a victim of violence when he succumbed to bullet



injuries on June 10, 2000 during a seminar on "Women's Sumang Lila in Manipur" at the Khurai Nandeibam Leikai, Imphal. The Forum paid floral tribute to the photo of Arambam Somorendra. A two minute silent was also observed as a mark of respect to the departed multifaceted leader. Rakesh Naorem further said that Arambam Somorendra is a Theatre Activist, sports persons, Martial Artist and a revolutionary. The death anniversary of Arambam Somorendra was also observed at Jiribam District at the JDO conference hall. The observance was jointly organised by JIMPAL, AMSU Jiribam district CADA, PPNAL and JDO Jiribam.

Criminal Contempt case against Thounaojam Brinda: 20 more people served notice

IT News
Imphal, June 10:

MPS Thounaojam Brinda Devi, today appeared before Justice Lanusungkum Jamir and MR. Justice Kh. Nobin Singh at Manipur High Court today in connection with a Criminal Contempt case taken up against her. Brinda Devi strong words and stands against the granting of bail to drug lord

Bishunupur Hospital declared as Containment zone

IT News
Imphal, June 10, District administration of Bishunupur had declared the entire Bishunupur district Hospital area as containment zone under para 12 of the Manipur Epidemic disease Covid-19 regulation 2020. And sealing of the geographical area and entry and exit of population from the containment area are banning vehicular movement in the area.

Lethkosei Zou by the ND & PS Court on May 21, prompted the High Court to take up criminal contempt case against her. 20 more people who had supported Th. Brinda Devi, by replying to a facebook post by Brinda devi were also directed to appear at the court on next hearing. The High Court asked Brinda Devi if she had threatened the witness in the Court of the learned Special Judge, ND&PS on 21-05-2020 and if she showed her middle finger to the learned Special Judge, ND&PS on 21-05-2020 and if she had posted derogatory, defamatory and contemptuous post in her face book account against

the Special Judge (ND&PS) in particular and against the Judiciary in general. In reply to the questions posed to the respondent Brinda Devi denied of threatening to the witness or showing middle finger. However, she admitted that about posting some comments at Facebook but prayed to grant some time to file an affidavit defending her action with regard to the questions. The High Court also served notice to the 20 people who had supported to h. Brinda Devi by replying comments to the facebook post posted by Brinda Devi. The notice served is returnable by June 17, 2020.

IBSD extends support to Sikkim govt.

IT News
Bangkok, June 10:

Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (DBT-IBSD), Regional centre, Sikkim has provided essential consumables to VRDL STNM Hospital as per the requirement to support Govt. of Sikkim's effort to fight the corona virus pandemic. The initiative of distribution of the above items was taken up by Scientist of IBSD Sikkim centre under the guidance of Director of the institute, Prof. Pulok K Mukherjee. IBSD contribution of the consumables was made in view of the requirement for the newly established state's first Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratory (VRDL) at STNM hospital, Gangtok.

IBSD team is ready to extend any possible help with the available resources at the institute for fighting the COVID-19. Director of our Institute would like to congratulate the whole team of State Health department and VRDL STNM Hospital who are doing yeoman's service in this tough time of fighting the COVID 19 pandemic. Earlier, DBT-IBSD, Sikkim Centre has also distributed hand sanitizer and surface disinfectant to frontline workers of Sikkim. It may be mentioned that IBSD centers in different parts of North East India are actively contributing in respective state by assisting in COVID-19 testing by providing equipments facility and consumables apart from distributing hand sanitizer to fight the pandemic, COVID - 19. DBT-IBSD is an autonomous institute under Department of Biotechnology, Govt of India with head office at Imphal and Centre's at Gangtok, Aizawl and Shillong.

Dr. Tara D Sharma, PI VRDL STNM Hospital expressed her sincere thanks to Prof. Pulok Mukherjee, Director IBSD and Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India for their kind support.

AR provides COVID-19 aid to Kasom Khullen quarantine centre

IT News
Imphal, June 10:

Shangshak Battalion of Assam Rifles distributed essential relief material to Kasom Khullen quarantine center for better coping with the COVID-19 pandemic. The items were handed over with the primary aim of helping the vill authorities to effectively run the Quarantine Facility in the village for those who are returning from outside the state through special trains. The items included ration essentials (50 kg rice and 15

ltrs refined oil) alongwith hygiene chemicals (5 kg bleaching powder and 5 ltrs Phenyl) for decontamination of the facility. SDO Kasom Khullen and volunteers of the quarantine centre were present to receive the aid. The battalion is encouraging the locals in border areas to wear face mask, avoid spitting in open and other common habits that can release respiratory droplets in public places and to follow COVID-19 guidelines laid down by the government.

CGHS to declare as COVID hospital

IT News
Imphal, June 10:

Health and Family Welfare Ministry has ordered that all CGHS empanelled hospitals, which are notified as COVID-Hospitals by State Governments shall provide treatment facilities to CGHS beneficiaries for all COVID related treatments. It has also been directed that all the CGHS empanelled hospitals, which are not notified as COVID hospitals, shall not deny treatment facilities or admission to CGHS beneficiaries and shall charge as per CGHS norms, for all other treatments.

Safeguarding Loktak necessary for the future generation: Forest Minister

IT News
Imphal, June 10:

Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Awangbong Newmai said in order to save and protect the future and life of the people of Manipur, it is necessary to safeguard the Loktak Lake. He made the statement today at the reception cum felicitation programme organised by the Loktak Development Authority (LDA) at the 2nd Floor, Secure Building Complex. Speaking at the function, Minister Awangbong Newmai said Loktak Lake is the source of life for the people of Manipur and survival will be difficult without its existence. Stating that the State is facing water scarcity both in the valley and in the hills, he expressed serious concern

over the drying up of rivers and water bodies of all the States. He opined that if all the rivers of the State get dried up in the future, than the last resort would be using the water of Loktak Lake. He opined that saving and protecting Loktak Lake is proportionally related to the survival of life and future of the people of Manipur. Cautioning that a day will come when we will fully depend on the lake water, he said at present the lake is endangered by various elements such as encroachment, reduction in water level among others. He cautioned that if the lake is not saved then in the near future the people of the State will face extreme difficulty. Minister Awangbong assured full cooperation from his side and welcomed ideas and



suggestions from the officials of the LDA. He hoped that with the joint cooperation between the Government, LDA officials and the people of the State will surely pave a way to save the Loktak Lake. Ng. Sanajaoba Singh, Superintendent Engineer, LDA presented a detailed power-point presentation on "Conservation and Management of Loktak Lake". Loktak Development Authority (LDA) was established in 1987 under Societies Registration Act. It functioned under the aegis of

IFCD and later reassigned to the Forest and Environment Department. LDA was reconstituted as a statutory body enacting the Manipur Loktak Lake (Protection) Act, 2006. In 2019 it was mandated to manage the associated wetlands (Pumlen, Ikop, Kharung, Khoidum among others). L. Sushindro Singh, Chairman LDA, Shri MH Khan, Additional Chief Secretary (Forest), LDA Project Director Shri L. Bhagat Singh and officials of the LDA attended the function.

Merchant vessel 'Basra Star' remains grounded in Ratnagiri

By Raju Vemkar
Mumbai, June 10:

A merchant ship "M.T. Basra Star", which was drifted during recent cyclone "Nisarga" that affected parts of Western India, remains grounded near Mirkarwadi off Ratnagiri coast in Maharashtra since the ship has been stuck in the rocks. The vessel carrying diesel from the Gulf to Maldives has been stranded near the Indian coast since

September 2019 after it encountered a problem with its engine. It was drifted due to cyclonic waves and heavy winds blowing at 120 kmph on June 3, 2020. It was towed up to the inner anchorage at Ratnagiri, close to the beach by officials of the Indian Coast Guard and the Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB). However, when it reached the shore it got stuck in the rocks. As such based on the request of the Regional Port

officer of the Maharashtra Maritime Board, marine experts of the Director General of Shipping have reached Ratnagiri to carry out the salvage operations. The port officer has also obtained the permission of DG Shipping to berth the vessel at Narmada Cement jetty located at Bhagwati Bandar Rd, Bhagwati Fort and Light House in Ratnagiri after the salvage operations are over. Thirteen crew members on

board, who included three foreigners-Sri Lankans, Philippines and Ethiopian and 10 Indians, have been quarantined at Kuwarbav in Ratnagiri by local administration. One crew member has reported sick. In the meanwhile the Indian Coast Guard has stated ""#CycloneNisarga Preventive measures and Constant liaison by ICG with #Maharashtra #Goa #Gujarat state

administration. Port authorities, merchant ships and fisheries dept resulted in nil loss of life at sea, no major damage to port and oil rigs' the ICG said. The Indian Coast Guard had deployed 48 Disaster Relief Teams along western seaboard. They included 13 teams deployed along Maharashtra, Daman & Goa coast. Besides ICG ships were kept stand by for initial assessment, SAR and Relief efforts.

★ Editorial

Even diarrhea kills human sometimes

The dreaded coronavirus has killed over four lakh people across the globe. In India alone number of people killed by the virus is over seven thousand five hundred with the state of Maharashtra at the top. Of the over seventy-three lakhs people affected virus across the world as many as thirty-six lakhs people have been recovered. The number of recovered patients is also over one lakh thirty-four thousand in India. Luckily in the state of Manipur, even though the number of people tested with the novel coronavirus is on the rising cross 300, no death has been reported so far. Besides the number of recovery rates is also high besides the fact that the health care facility is very low when compared with other states.

As per the World Health Organisation as well as medical experts, the dreaded virus is going to live longer among the human kinds and people have to learn to live with the virus. Accepting the idea of learning to live with the virus many countries across the globe had started resuming normalcy. Even the state of New Delhi in India despite having a large number of people affected by the virus, normal life has been restored by opening the lockdown of various sectors. Even schools are likely to be opened up in the coming days. In Chennai, people started taking the COVID-19 pandemic as another flu-like disease that people often get and could be prevented with extra care.

Yes, COVID-19 is not only the disease that kills human beings. There are diseases that kill a human being. Only yesterday there are reports of aged people nearly killed due to diarrhea. Many people have died of serious diarrhea cases.

The lockdown may be the only option to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, but then freezing normalcy by detaining all human beings to their houses is not going to help either.

It has been long that people were locked at their houses, and the government needs to unlock the lockdown to let live the people. As man is always a social animals.

Open letter to honourable CM of Manipur

Requisition to speed up Covid19 Swap Test in Senapati IQC

Sir,

1. With due respect and high expectation on your government, I write this letter to you for your kind attention and consideration. Personally, I consider you as one of the most courageous CM, the first people CM of Manipur and a man who walks the talk. One of the most admirable things by the common people about you as a leader is that you are easily accessible in social media and ready to interact with the common people. Today, only a few public leaders have the courage to face the common people in social media. We need more leaders like you who are approachable and able to interact with the common people.

2. The present global pandemic may force to take away many more people's jobs across the globe. Globally, about 195 millions of people have already lost their jobs till the first week of April 2020. In India, about 122 million people have already lost their jobs till in the month of May. Therefore, timely evacuation of stranded people of Manipur by your government is sincerely appreciated.

3. Currently, there are 1690 returnees in 22 Senapati Transit QC at present. In one of the Senapati Transit QCs at Don Bosco College, Maram, the returnees from Chennai have been in this QC in last 17 days; they have reached Maram on 24th May 2020. In this QC, 2 (two) of the returnees from Chennai were tested covid19 positive, and their swap retest have been completed. However, they are still waiting for their results. It may be necessary to give a special attention to this particular QC and speed up the swap test to avoid spreading of virus within the inmates.

4. There are 1690 returnees at present in Senapati District Transit QC, and most of them are waiting for their turn to take swap test. It is also very important to speed up taking swap test in all the QCs in Senapati since most of them are sharing common room, hall, toilets, bathroom etc. The returnees are worried that there could be high chances of infection with each other.

Therefore, you may kindly consider this requisition and give a special attention to speed up all the swap tests in Senapati district transit QC.

Thank you,

Yours sincerely,
Dr. R.B. Thohé Pou
Senapati, Manipur

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Importance of Natural Assets Management

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh

Natural Resources/ Assets Management, refers to the management of natural resources such as land, wetland, water, soil, forests, plants and animals, with a particular focus on how management affects the quality of life for both present and future generations (Stewardship). Natural resource management deals with managing the way in which people and natural landscapes interact. It brings together land use planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and future sustainability of industries like agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry. It recognises the people and their livelihoods rely on the health and productivity of the landscape and their actions as stewards of the land play a critical role in maintaining their health and productivity. Natural Resource Management specifically focuses on scientific and technical understanding of resources and ecology and the life supporting capacity of those resources. Environmental management is also similar to natural resource management. In academic context, the sociology related to but distinct from Natural Resource Management and so on.

Natural assets are the stock of natural resources or ecosystem that are relied upon, managed or could be managed by local government for the provision of one or more services to a community. These provide critical services and functions to communities both on their own and as part of infrastructure systems with engineered assets, including: soil quality; food protection; drainage and rain water attenuation; water treatment and storage. Recharge of aquifers, rivers and creeks;

recreation; climate regulation; habitat and biodiversity; air quality regulation; health and wellbeing. Although all communities have natural assets, the benefits that can be gained from managing them have been poorly understood or overlooked. Historically standard processes for planning, engineering and operations have not considered the services that natural assets provide to communities or the impact of development and operations decisions on these assets, the types of assets function together and rely on each other and therefore need to be managed as a system. Today, there is an opportunity available to local government to realize multiple benefits by including natural assets in asset management processes. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has been working on "inclusive wealth" for a few years now. What is it and how does it differ from Gross domestic Product (GDP)? Sovereign nations typically measure economic success in terms of GDP (income) but this approach is risky as it fails to track and measure the impact of this on nature. Inclusive wealth, on the other hand captures financial and produced capital but also the skills in our workforce (human capital), the cohesion in our society (social capital) and the value of our environment (natural capital). The concept of inclusive wealth takes into account the social worth of manufactured, human and natural capital which in turn is the source of a country's GDP. Inclusive wealth measurement is critically important. Generations transfers this "wealth" (thus defined) not income, to the next generation. Handing over to future generations a healthy planet with little pollution and vibrant ecosystem is a prerequisite for sustainable development. Inclusive wealth, therefore

underscores the essential role biodiversity and ecosystem play in the provision of many of the services we receive from nature and on which our economies, livelihoods and wellbeing rely. Humanity has prospered immensely in recent decades but this has been coupled with profound impacts on biodiversity. What are the risks to our economies and way of life, as well as those of future generations? Two-third of the world's GDP, directly and indirectly, relates to the world's ecosystems and biodiversity. The World Economic Forum in its latest report says, we need to measure and track inclusive wealth and identifies climate change and important threats facing businesses and economy. But globally, biodiversity is declining faster than at any time in human history. According to a landmark report from the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem (IPBES), the average abundance of native species in most major land-based habitats has fallen by at least 20%, mostly since 1900. This shows that GDP growth is unable to capture biodiversity in the way that inclusive wealth does. The 2018 inclusive wealth report suggests that in the last 25 years, natural capital has declined in 140 countries. The current imbalance between nature and human activity is manifested in habitat fragmentation, the illegal wildlife trade and the destruction and domestication of wild species. This has increased the risk of the transfer of dangerous pathogens from animals to human. How does "inclusive wealth" inform the COVID-19 crisis and how can countries "build back better"?

The devastation that COVID-19 is causing, underscores the importance of Biodiversity for our health and that

of the global economy and need for the human enterprise to live within the "safe operating Space" of the biosphere. COVID-19 recovery calls for an ambitious line of enquiry into zoonotic diseases and ecosystem health. Our continued erosion of wild space, primary forests and ecosystem have brought us uncomfortably close to "reservoir hosts" i.e animals and plants that harbour diseases that can transmit to humans. The expansion of renewable energy and more effective and safer waste management or key investment priorities if we want to build back better. Investors cannot continue to ignore the price our Planet pays for unsustainable growth, says UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres. The economies of biodiversity is the economies of the biosphere upon which we all depend for our survival. It sees the management of nature and biodiversity as an asset management issue. It demonstrated how our demand for the goods and services that nature provides outstrips its ability to supply them sustainably. Nature is in crisis, threatened by biodiversity and habitat loss, global heating and toxic pollution. Failure to act is failing humanity. Addressing the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and protecting ourselves against future global threats requires sound management of hazardous medical and chemical waste, strong and global stewardship of nature and biodiversity and a clear commitment to "building back better", creating green jobs and facilitating the transition to carbon neutral economies. Humanity depends on action now for a resilient and sustainable future.

(The writer can be reached to: sjugeshwor7@gmail.com)

Changes in our society: Where are we heading?

By: Brambacharimavum Sadananda Sharma

When we discuss social change, it is not specifically the changes in our human behavior. Social change comes with different changes in our societal institutions including family, religion, and education. Individuals maturing in a society internalise institutional patterns and learn to live accordingly. The main factor in the interaction of groups according to institutional patterns is the establishment of basic norms of conduct. If we go deviated from these norms, it is considered as criminal behavior or act against society norms and conducts or morality.

Now, the most important question most of the societies facing today is how to uphold a rational balance in this rapidly increasing social change so that this changes in society are not only the factors or reasons for increase of crime rate. Change in societal institutions also changes the character of the control which the institutions exercise on norms of conduct.

A well-known fact of our human existence is that all the societies tend to move from tight institutional integration to social disintegration, this is an inevitable process and this can be seen particularly in regard to the influence of the family, religion and education upon young people and has led to a termed "permissive society", where society has a great deal of fewer restrictions on an individual's social, physical and intellectual mobility, which can weaken the moral and socio-cultural structures necessary for a civilized and valid society.

We live in a society where the internet and social media influences are higher than our traditional family customs and norms; we used to

defy our elder's advice and accepted wisdom thinking that their thoughts and advice are not relevant in today's generation. Right from our upbringing, our intellect and concepts are crammed up with news of crime viz. rape, murder, corruption meaning we grew up bearing in mind and believe that our society is unmanaged and rugged.

Information on pessimistic ideas and incidents comes each day, so our intelligence started to acknowledge and consider the fact that negative news and information made us feel thrilled and news without crime is not appealing. We often rejoice less about good achievements, this raise in the progression of changing a society, where only misdeed and unwanted things happen every day and we started to take it casually as a normal routine. Yes, this is factual but if this mindset continues, we need to ask ourselves, where are we heading? And what kind of bright future we look forward to?

Most of us cannot accept this reality that we are changing day by day not only in economy, education, science, and technology but also in our social norms and conducts. Slowly generation gap has been paving and creating a society who knows little of who we are? What are principles of our society? You may reflect upon what one can single-handedly do in a society; and find many examples of single man making immense things happen only with a small step with an urge to do something different.

A human existence is not only about being born and engaged in our work for entire life; we are the most superior species in every aspect on this planet. There must be a purpose and a reason for our existence in our society. We need

to keep asking the question and should crave on doing something significant for our society. Just like, we pollute our environment in different mediums. Our societal mind too is getting polluted with negative, toxic and poisonous thoughts with each passing day.

That news bulletin of crimes happening far and wide in our society is not to amuse us every morning, it is a clear signal of warning that we need to be conscious and concern about this rapidly changing society and to act upon it. Things take time to mature, just like we are matured in this society feeding with dishonesty, corruption, misdeed, and negativities. It is never too late to redirect our energy to an optimistic and positive approach. Let us extend love, care, and harmony instead of hatred, discrimination, disregard, looking down on one another.

Discipline in a society is the essence of a society. These days' people pay less consideration and attentions in this topic and gradually the significance of discipline is vanishing from our society. On the contrary, the height of criticizing and demoralizing one another is also becoming an element of life and nothing good or fruitful is going to come out from this and this is a very big loss to our society, which has always been used as an example of discipline, principles, hard-work, honesty and intellect.

Also we never make an effort to recognize someone's value in our life with this attitude of hypercritical in everything creates an enormous gap in shaping society, many people's from different communities desires to collectively do something good for the society take the reverse of their

decision considering what the society will think. Hope is a very powerful thing, when societies are in the verge of losing hope and falling apart many Young minds, Concern Organizations, Volunteers stand up functioning day and night to bring together those broken pieces. But we barely appreciate them and never realized their importance and the role that they play in our society.

In a society, we should appreciate more and judge less. Criticizing and judging others can cause a massive consequence, this practice or culture won't take time to broaden and turn into a socially accepted craze. Visualize a potential future where we are dragging down each other's leg so that no one escapes from this nightmare.

However, only a negligible number of people are practicing and spreading these kinds of negativities and the larger population, though they are full of positivity and dream a dream of a good society, either brushes off such an issue or stay as a mere spectator.

It is time for one and all to act against such negativism and stop neglecting such issues thinking why I should be bothered, and wait for somebody or a hero for that matter, to bring the desired change. As the saying goes "Little drops of water makes a mighty ocean" the issues which we are neglecting today as small and irrelevant, if not taken care of, will surely become a huge problem in future. It might seem like I am making a mountain out of a molehill but I firmly believe that the issues in hand has turned into a mountain which have been neglected as a molehill.