

“Covid 19”: death toll reaches 18 across India; Maharashtra to release 11,000 prisoners on parole

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, March 27

With a steep increase in “Covid 19” patients across India, the number of confirmed cases has crossed 640 and death toll reached up to 18 on Friday, whereas 66 patients were cured till now. The death toll is : Maharashtra 4, Gujarat 3, Karnataka 2, Madhya Pradesh 2, Bihar 1, Delhi 1, Himachal Pradesh 1, J & K 1, Punjab 1, Tamil Nadu 1, West Bengal 1. The new death figures include the death of a 35 year old man in Madhya Pradesh and the death of a 65 year old man at Sopor (J & K) on Friday. Maharashtra and Kerala remain the top two worst coronavirus-hit states in the country. The break up of confirmed cases is :Maharashtra (125), Kerala (118),Karnataka (55), Telangana (45), Gujarat (43), Rajasthan(41), Uttar Pradesh (41), Delhi(36), Haryana(30)

and Punjab (33), Tamil Nadu (29) and Madhya Pradesh (20) J & K (13), Andhra Pradesh (12), West Bengal (10), Chandigarh (7), Chhatisgarh (6), Bihar (6), Uttarakhand (4), Goa(3), Himachal Pradesh (3), Odisha(2), Andaman(1), Manipur(1), Mizoram(1) and Pondicherry(1). Following government guidelines on imposing a 21-day country-wide lockdown, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has extended the suspension of international flights to and from India to 14 April. In the wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the RBI on Friday, cut the repo rate by 75 basis points to 4.40 percent versus 5.15% earlier. Accordingly, the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate stand reduced to 4.65 percent from 5.40 percent. The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands reduced by 90 basis points to 4.0 percent. “RBI has taken several measures to inject substantial

liquidity. Priority is to undertake strong and purposeful action to protect the domestic economy. Need for all stakeholders to fight against the pandemic and banks should do all they can to keep credit flowing.” RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das said. In view of the countrywide lockdown, the Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highway has announced temporarily suspension of toll collection at toll plazas to ease emergency services in view of the coronavirus outbreak. Union Minister for Road, Transport and Highway Nitin Gadkari has stated the maintenance of roads and availability of emergency resources at toll plaza would continue in a usual manner. The Maharashtra Government has decided to release 11,000 under trials and convicts lodged in 60 prisons on parole to reduce the crowd. Those serving imprisonment of 7 years or less will be granted

parole immediately. Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh said. In another development, the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) has decided to donate Rs. 50 lakh towards Chief Minister's Relief fund as an aid for coronavirus relief and rehabilitation measures. The MCA has also decided to make available Wankhede Stadium located in South Mumbai, to quarantine people if need be. This was decided in a meeting of MCA members held via video conferencing on Thursday, MCA Secretary Sanjay Naik said. Gadkari has declared to donate one month's salary towards PM's relief fund. Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has announced to donate Rs one crore from his MPs fund. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has announced donation of Rs. 2.66 crore. Similarly all Shiv Sena MPs and MLAs will be donating one month's salary towards Maharashtra CM's relief fund.

Coronavirus: British Prime Minister Boris Johnson tests positive

Courtesy BBC
London, March 27

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has tested positive for coronavirus. Mr Johnson said he developed mild symptoms over the past 24 hours, including a temperature and cough. He is self-isolating in Downing Street but said he will “continue to lead the government's response via video-conference as we fight this virus”. Mr Johnson was last seen on Thursday night, clapping outside No 10 as part of a nationwide gesture to thank NHS staff. In a video on his Twitter account, Mr Johnson, 55, said: “I'm working from home and self-isolating and that's entirely the right thing to do. “But, be in no doubt that I can continue thanks to the wizardry of modern technology to communicate with all my top team to lead



the national fightback against coronavirus. “I want to thank everybody involved and, of course, our amazing NHS staff.” “So thank you to everybody who's doing what I'm doing, working from home to stop the spread of the virus from household to household,” he added. “That's the way we're going to win.” Mr Johnson was tested at No 10 by NHS staff, on the personal advice of England's chief medical officer, Prof Chris Whitty, Downing Street said. He will still be in charge of the government's handling of the crisis, the statement added.

Earlier this week, the prime minister's spokesman said if Mr Johnson was unwell and unable to work, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, as the first secretary of state, was the selected minister to stand in. “So thank you to everybody who's doing what I'm doing, working from home to stop the spread of the virus from household to household,” he added. “That's the way we're going to win.” Mr Johnson was tested at No 10 by NHS staff, on the personal advice of England's chief medical officer, Prof Chris Whitty, Downing Street said. He will still be in charge of the government's handling of the crisis, the statement added. Earlier this week, the prime minister's spokesman said if Mr Johnson was unwell and unable to work, Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab, as the first secretary of state, was the selected minister to stand in.

PM calls for concrete plan to fight COVID-19 at virtual G20 summit

IT News
Imphal, March 27

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called on G-20 leaders to help usher in a new globalization for the collective well-being of humankind and have multilateral fora focus on promoting shared interests of humanity. In his address at Virtual G-20 Leaders' Summit last night, Mr Modi underscored the need to put human beings at the centre of vision of global prosperity and cooperation. He also stressed the importance of freely and openly sharing the benefits of medical research and development, developing adaptive, responsive and humane health care systems, and promoting new crisis management protocols. The Summit was convened to discuss the challenges posed by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and to forge a global coordinated response. Mr Modi called on the G20 to come out with a concrete action plan to fight the global pandemic. Prime Minister said that 90 percent of the COVID-19 cases and 88 percent of deaths were in G20 countries. At the meeting, G20 Leaders also agreed to take all necessary measures to contain the pandemic and protect people. They also supported strengthening of the WHO's mandate in the fight against pandemics, including delivery of medical supplies, diagnostic tools, treatments, medicines and vaccines.

State BJP forms COVID -19 Combat team; selected Karyakarta to distribute rice and dal to five families

IT News
Imphal, March 27

Taking seriously to the alarming situation due to the outbreak of the COVID-19, office bearers of the BJP Manipur Pradesh to deliberated over the issue and resolved to form two state level committees on BJP Manipur Pradesh COVID-19 Combat Team under the Chairmanship of Party President K Bhabananda Singh to execute relief campaign and monitoring on COVID-19 at the state/ District/ Mandal and Booth Level at the earliest. Of the two state level committee , the State Relief Committee which comprise 8 members will be headed by MLA Th. Satyabarta Singh as Convenor and M. Aashinikumar as Co-convenor. The relief committee has been entrusted to execute for delivering the dry ration & other food item as decided on

war footing in public interest. The other committee – the Monitoring Committee will be comprised of 7 members with S. Joy as the convenor and Kh. Jibon Singh as the Co-convenor. This committee will monitor the overall relief work and report the the Chairman and Co-ordinator to further report to Party Central office from time to time. The meeting held at old BJP Office at Keishampat Nityapat, chaired by the party president also resolved to identify 5 dedicated Karyakarta from each booth who can provide 5 kg of rice and 1 kg of Dal from their own and provide to 5 (five) needy families of his or her locality within the jurisdiction of their respective booth and video record while delivering the item is mandatory. The meeting also decided that all the State Office Bearers , Morcha President/ Office bearers, District/ Mandal/ Office Bearer , booth Committee members of the BJP to extend all possible help to

the dedicated team of the district administration while rendering their relief services to combat COVID -19.

MLAs directed to their respective agency

IT News
Imphal, March 27

State government has directed all members of the Legislative Assembly to stay in their respective constituencies to help the district administration in their effort to control spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19). A notification issued by the Chief Secretary of Manipur on the directives of the Chief Minister has issued a notification in the regard. The notification said that the state government has appointed Nodal Officers for each district , who may be connected for any assistance.

Popular Front welcomes Corona restrictions; Demands adequate support measures

IT News
Imphal, March 27

Popular Front of India Chairman O M A Salam in a press statement welcomed the lockdown imposed in the country in view of preventing the spread of corona pandemic. However, he expressed dissatisfaction that enough preparations have not been made along the execution of such large scale restrictions. The steady increase in the number of infections in various parts of the country indicates that Covid 19 will likely pose serious public health challenge in India too. As of now the only universally accepted means to prevent this catastrophe is social distancing. Popular Front chairman welcomed the three weeks long curfew imposed by central and other governments to ensure the fundamental needs of the people. He appealed to the people to co-operate with these

measures so that we can overcome the challenge together. However the dramatic way the Prime Minister announced a 21- day-long nationwide curfew without adequate preparations that address the genuine concerns of the citizens was disappointing. There are indications that the announcement caused unhealthy panic among people. Rs. 15000 crore announced by the Prime Minister is too inadequate to face nation's Corona medical emergency. There was nothing in the address to support the vast majority of citizens who are poor daily wage labourers and to ensure food supply. In order to avoid people dying of virus, we should not let them starve to death. It is the duty of both central and state governments to ensure the fundamental needs of the people. Popular Front Chairman urged

the central and state governments the following support measures with immediate effect till the return of normalcy. 1) To distribute special monthly allowance to all families Below Poverty Line. 2) To distribute free food kits to all those in need through PDS (Ration shops). 3) To declare steps to ensure that there is no food scarcity and that there is no price hike. 4) To ensure that the curfew doesn't affect the transportation of food, medicine and other basic items across the country. 5) To allow essential shops to open full day to avoid rush and panic during limited hours of buying. O M A Salam has reminded that it is primarily the duty of the government and also civil society groups to see that people quarantined at their homes are not turned unrest and lawless due to hunger and denial of basic necessities.

DM Community College started manufacturing hand sanitizers

IT News
Imphal, March 27

Amid complaint about non-availability of hand sanitizers, which is advice as mandatory to protect from the dreaded Coronavirus Dhanamanjuri Community College started manufacturing the hand rub solution. “Under a series of community extension services rendered by the Dhanamanjuri Community College based at D M College of Science, Imphal, in addition to its normal duties of teaching and learning processes, the faculties & staff led by the

Department of Pharmaceuticals and Quality Assurance of the College under the UGC sponsored Deen Dayal Upadhyay Centre for KAUSHAL based at D M College of Science, has manufactured around 300 bottles of 200ml capacity each of the alcohol based hand rub solutions till date. The Scheme was launched on 20 March 2020 with a few number of unlabelled bottles for the use of the staff & faculties of DM Community College which later was continued under the initiatives of the Department of Higher & Technical Education, Government of



Manipur, a press communique by Dr Rahejuddin Sheikh, Director, DDU- KK & Nodal Officer, D M Community College said. The hand rub sanitizers were prepared following strictly the norms prescribed by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for fighting Covid19. The first batch of 80 bottles



were presented to the Chief Minister, Manipur for distribution to those who are in dire need of the sanitizers in view of the State Government's precautionary measures to protect against the Covid19 corona virus. Now the benefits have been extended to the journalists and media persons who are actively sharing their

unavoidable responsibilities in fighting against Covid19. The package of 40 bottles is now presented to the Secretary of the AMWJU, at Manipur press club today the 26th March 2020. The benefits of the sanitizers has also been extended to the police personals of the Imphal(W) in appreciation of their restless services round the clock to fight against the serious attack of the Corona Virus in Manipur. The hand sanitizers are prepared under the common standard norms issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in two different formulations: isopropyl based and ethanol

based with addition of some essential citronella oils as flavour. The Bachelor of Vocation (B Voc.) Degree Courses in the specialised subject discipline of the Pharmaceuticals & Quality Assurance has been introduced under the National Skill Qualifications Framework (NSQF) from the academic sessions 2018-19 with 40% general education component and 60% skill development component aligned with the National Occupational Standards (NOS) and affiliated at Dhanamanjuri University, Imphal, Dr Rahejuddin Sheikh said.

Editorial

Friday, March 27, 2020

Is the Govt. decision to distribute free PDS rice to NFSA and CMHT cardholders excluded Keishamthong AC?

March 23 evening, showing serious concern about the people particularly those living below Poverty line, during the total lockdown called, as precautionary measures to fight the spread of Coronavirus, state cabinet resolved to distribute PDS rice to NFSA cardholders and those who do not have NFSA card but CMHT cards for the month of April in this current month at free of cost.

The decision taken by the state cabinet was announced by the spokesperson of State Government Th. Bishwajit who is also the Works and Power Minister to a group of media persons.

However, at the ground, the cabinet decision has been disregarded at some of the Assembly Constituencies particularly in Keishamthong Assembly Constituency.

After Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced 21 days lockdown starting from midnight of 24 in the entire country to counter the spread of the coronavirus, the state government too takes immediate measures to follow the announcement of the Prime Minister and make sure that the people of the state do not face any problem food scarcity. Some MLAs under the supervision of the Chief Minister had started handing over rice to various PDS agents to distribute it to the public free of cost. There is a report that the rice has started distribution at some of the Assembly constituency as the lockdown enters 3rd day.

As for the Keishamthong Assembly constituency, the Agents instead of distributing the rice free of cost had been distributing the rice at Rs. 3 per kg. The decision of the state cabinet has not been followed and above all when a CMHT cardholder went to collect their share of rice the agent said that those rice are not meant for the CMHT cardholders but for the recorded consume who have cards.

The question that Imphal Times want to put up is, whether the state government had excluded Keishamthong Assembly constituency when they took the decision to distribute rice for the month of April in advance at free of cost. We are at war like situation fighting with an invisible enemy. The way that the PDS agent in Keishamthong Constituency needs to be looked upon by the Chief Minister who is working hard for the welfare of the people.

Social worker Romen distributes edible item

IT News
Imphal, March 27

In view of the inconveniences face by the people of the state due to lockdown called across the nation to contain the outbreak of the Novel coronavirus/COVID-19, Social worker Oinam Romen distributed essential items kitchen items including dal and rice to around 200 household of the YUTCO chiroim Leikai of Singjam Assembly Constituency. Local volunteers assisted the social worker Oinam Romen while distributing the edible items.



All set to distribute rice at CCpur and Pherzawl

IT News
Imphal, March 27

The Thanlon MLA and MTDC Chairman Vungzag Valté have brought rice for the people of Churachandpur reeling under the COVID 19 impact today.

The Thanlon MLA and MTDC Chairman Vungzag Valté while talking to the Press about the present unprecedented conditions due to COVID-19 said he has made an arrangement for 10 trucks of rice to be provided to those of the people who are starving in Churachandpur. He could bring only 6 trucks of rice which altogether weights 1425 quintals for the people of Churachandpur and Pherzawl so as to save their lives. He said out of the 10 trucks of rice he arranged 4 trucks have been

snatched away by others so he is helpless.

Talking to newspersons at DC/Churachandpur office today about 4:20 pm he further said there are enough stocks of rice and steps are underway to provide to the people further on need based. He said the main problems are transportation as there are restrictions at every movement, labour for loading and unloading as well as fuels problems.

He said it shall be distributed based on the instances of the district administration of Churachandpur and Pherzawl though rates have not been fixed up.

About the COVID 19 he said it is a kind of an epidemic and too much of getting panicky is not the solution and the people should stand together and fight against it

Why Virus Kills us: A Scientific Lesson

By - Ayi Trisna Wijayanti & Inamul Haq

The world is engulfed in fighting the pandemic virus namely Covid 19 that emerged from Wuhan city of China. However, the Chinese government got successful in its control by using different means. While like the rest of the world is fighting in its ways. However, all individuals need to understand why the virus kills us.

The answer to that question is the same as the answer to why we kill chickens, goat, sheep, fish, bean sprouts, and so on. If you are serious about that question, you also have to seriously think about how life works.

Are you aware that for one species to live, there must be another creature that dies or is killed? Realize that we humans are just a species of living organisms. We belong to a large group of animals. The most important characteristic of animals is that they do not produce their food. That is, he does not produce food for his own body. Different from plants. Most plants do not require food supplies from other living organisms.

Take a look at the plate of food you eat every day. How many types of living organisms die so that a plate of food can be served on your plate? There are thousands of grains of

rice. Grains of rice are prospective living organisms that should grow into thousands of rice plants. On a piece of tofu that you eat hundreds of soybeans should be hundreds of soy trees. At the same time, millions of mushrooms growing among the soybean seeds that come to die when you fry.

Of course fried chicken, fish, etc. that you eat are mere living organisms. They all must die so that we all humans can survive. That's not how much. There are many more killings that we must do so we can survive. To build the house where we live, also build roads and cities, there are so many plants that must die. At the same time, there are thousands of animals that must also die because they lost their nests to live.

But don't be sad. We are not the only creatures that get rid of other creatures for life. If you look at the forest, at first glance it seems calm and quiet, but there is also a competition in life. Many small plants must die because they don't get enough sunlight, they are covered by the leaves of large trees. Conversely, the large number of trees that died undermined by small parasites. There are even many large trees that are killed by fungi and bacteria. Of course in the forest, we will easily find plant-eating animals or other animal-predators.

to live, one living creature often preys on other living creatures even though there are times when they can live in mutualism, they support each other in all living aspects.

Back to the original question, why do viruses kill us? The answer is simple because they want to "live" and grow alive. The word life for a virus is written in quotation marks because biologically the virus does not even qualify to be called as a living creature.

Viruses do not have cells. It is known that the cell is the smallest unit of life. But even though they are not considered as living organisms, viruses generated their self as what living organisms do. To be able to reproduce, a virus hijacks a ride on the cells of living organisms. Humans are not the only victims of the virus. Viruses hitch a ride on all kinds of living things. Animals, plants, fungi, and bacteria are the target for viruses to ride in to live.

So, humans are not exclusive targets for viruses. Viruses only have nucleic acids (DNA / RNA) which can multiply themselves. To be able to reproduce itself, the virus requires the ability of cells to produce proteins.

DNA / RNA is a kind of program that orders cells to produce the types of proteins that cells need to live. Viruses only have programs,

or software, to order products, but do not have production machines. Therefore, he must hitch a ride to the cell. Viruses enter the cells of living things, take control, use the production functions of the cell, all to multiply themselves.

The virus enters our body cells through open places, such as the mouth, nose, eyes, or exposed skin. Some are inserted by animals such as mosquitoes into our bodies through bites. They look for cells as a place where they can attach themselves. The cells that are used as binding sites are called receptors. Then the virus enters the cell.

Once inside, it hijacks various cell functions, orders the production of proteins it wants, to support itself. Viruses then multiply their self. Cells that are filled with the virus then rupture, then the virus hijacks a ride on the cell lender from the cell, to move to another cell, then control it. Or, it comes out of the human body then looked for an opportunity to enter another body.

What is the essence of all the processes? Viruses are carrying out the most basic functions of all beings in the universe, which is to multiply their species. All living organisms also do that. When doing it, they also make other creatures die.

Nothing more and nothing less.

URGENT APPEAL TO ALL THE CONCERN ON COVID19

BY: YACPIP

It is a reality of life today that all of us on the Earth in general and Manipur in particular are experiencing extremely difficult days due the alarming infection by the Corona virus (Covid 19). The virus is spreading like a wild fire. It is suspected that the virus has past the Stage 1 and stage 2 and entering into its Stage 3 and perhaps we are at the tip of Stage 4 which could be Fully Blown.

However, we have to resist and live with this virus for some time as it cannot be done away easily. Every one of us has to be prepared to deal with this virus. Couple of months back the virus was somewhere far away from our place but as it stroke couple of cities in our country, it spread and infected hundreds of people, multiplied and have penetrated in most of the states of our nation. Its fast spread and infection has created a chaos in every part of the world and now knocking at our door.

Herein, the question arises on what kinds of weapons are available in our hands at this critical moment apart from medical care, testing, therapists etc.

Yes, we do have few weapons in our hands which can make prepare of ourselves and take care to deal with this virus. These can be classified into four categories as cited under:

1. Self :

i. We should not immediately panic or afraid which can lead to anxiety, depression, mental breakdown etc. which may give way for the virus to reach you. It doesn't mean that we are left without care, meeting people, loitering here and there by not following the instructions, etc. We should carefully follow the instructions and guidelines of various experts like doctors and our leaders who are deeply concern on how to deal with this virus. Please prepare the situation mentally, physically, emotionally and psychologically to deal with the worst situation as mental wellbeing is utmost important to handle most of the critical situations.

ii. In present case many friends who are suffering or might have suffered with this virus will try to be alone without disclosing his/her status of the virus due to the present social and political environment of dealing with the virus is critical as it increases social stigma and discrimination. Therefore, anyone who has a doubt

of might have been infected by the Virus fulfilling certain criteria provided by the experts then he/she may kindly consult with your doctors or your trusted medical professional, counselors, health workers, nurses etc. so as to undergo proper process of quarantine, observation and other required necessary processes.

iii. At the same time we all cannot wait for conducive environment to disclose the status of the virus but should build our courage within ourselves to open up and disclose.

2. Community :

i. The role of the community is very important to deal with any virus or crisis. We are yet to know whether we are at the stage 3 or about to reach the stage 3. We cannot deny that any person who are with the virus are also the member of our community whether the person is male or female or child or doctors, student, officers, drivers, daily wage earner, rickshaw puller, government officials and so on. We cannot predict but anyone of us can be infected with this virus. Herein, the question arises on what we can do? If your son or daughter or wife or any family members, etc are infected, what you will do? The same story occurred in 1990s where Manipur was hit by HIV/AIDS, where thousands of people have died due to HIV/AIDS as there were no medicines to cure the same like what is happening at present with the Covid19.

ii. One very important measure which must be adopted by the community is to immediately stop Stigma and Discrimination. We cannot deny the fact that every society has good practices, social bonding, customs, guidelines, traditions, norms etc. But it is also a reality that every society also some time or in many time associated with the serious concern of stigma and discrimination against any person of the community living with the virus which are difficult to treat traditionally and with modern medicine like HIV / Aids, TB (long ago), Leprosy etc. One cannot rule out that a person is infected with a virus from someone who is also infected from another one, may be from the bus or market or in the flight or in the train or from shops etc. It is not the fault of another neither ourselves, neither anyone. Then why are we committing ourselves to stigmatize and discriminate a person living with the Corona virus or any other virus?

iii. Our community should learn to accept the survivor or +Positive friends with virus as an important member of our family and community. The discrimination and stigma will deeply facilitates the situation of the person living with the virus to be more underground and spread more without any prevention. Then who's fault would it be? Whether our fault or the +Positive person's fault? Definitely it will be our fault for committing stigma and discrimination. Who will be the responsible person for the dead of the Covid 19 (+) person? need to be questioned and understood.

iv. Our civilized and educated community must extend our support to the Covid 19 (+) friends as a human being with complete preparation and following the guidelines to deal with the + person. To do the same we all need training from the experts. Who will provide the trainings? Mainly doctors and other health care staffs.

v. Community members can help and facilitate the family members of the possible infected persons to organize to follow the guidelines or procedures for admission to hospital, PHC or home care / quarantine etc.

3. Role of the Government :
(i) Government of Manipur and India should open counseling centers at the villages and localities in the urban areas which could be feasible (like one centre for every 10 localities or 15) with telephone facility, counseling rooms with micro phone to avoid close contact, electronic reading materials, make available video conferencing to spread awareness, Skype calls, etc. Confidentiality should also be strictly maintained, so as the person living with the virus will trust and cooperate with you and us in the long run. Or else all our efforts will help only few and the whole society will be with deep fear and helplessness. It will lead to many unwanted incidents like suicide, disappearance from the community or family or migrate from the states which may not be a good sign in long run.

to all this environment and factors how our community, society, institutions and government agencies are looking at them.

(ii) Police model: It is very good to deal with the emergency situation. In the present context, we are in crisis of health care and in fact we are in emergency. Many people are following the instruction of the authority such as stay at home. So police are helping the people to be safer by few key important steps or actions. Markets are closed to stop the spread of the virus including various institutions etc. There may be some people due to some reasons may attempt to disobey such guidelines in which the police has the important role. Now the situation is at the peak leading to arrest people possibly living with virus who failed to voluntarily report for support. In other word, we are treating the patients as a person who is violating the law like committing a crime. We should not deny that these are the myths of the virus.

(iv) Our government is suggested to create an environment where the + people are empowered to come forward to report and extend their cooperation to the govt. This can be done through many discussions in TVs, News Channels, Radios in Manipur by using Video conferencing, etc. to avoid go out. Many experienced people in social approach, medical approach, Psychological approach, educational Approach, gender approach, children etc can facilitate our society to empower the friend living with Covid 19 to open up and comfortable cooperate with the system.

4. Role of NGOs and Civil Society :
i. These sectors have very strategic role to deal with the virus. Yes, we all know that this virus is difficult but somehow we are living with it today. We urge to the government to encourage the CSOs/ NGOs to engage with the situation to make the progress faster so as to reach out at various community to sensitize and mitigate the spread.

ii. It could be recalled and some of us may be remembering that some 20-25 years back, one of the important political leader made a statement that there was no HIV/AIDS in India. At that time the country was going through serious crisis of the HIV virus and the role of NGOs/ CSOs cannot be forgotten.
"We must accept the Reality and prepare for the worst"

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail : imphaltimes@gmail.com. For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-2452159 (O). For time being readers can reach the office at Cell Phone No. 9862860745 for any purpose.