

AMWJU Sports

IT News
Imphal, March 7

The 10th Sports meet of the All Manipur Working Journalist Union (AMWJU) will start tomorrow. IPR Minister Th. Bishwajit and Education Minister will open the sports meet of the journalist fraternity. The sports will begin by lighting secrete light from the Kangla. Both the Ministers will joined the torch rally to mark the beginning of the sports meet.

Main event will be held at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex.

PM Modi hold review meeting on Covid-19 with Union Health Minister

Agency
New Delhi, March 7

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hold a review meeting on Covid-19 with Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan at 11:30 this morning. Senior officials of Health Ministry will also participate in the meet. Secretary, Information and Broadcasting Ministry, will also be present to strategies dissemination of information regarding precautionary measures in regional languages to further contain the spread of Novel Corona Virus in the country.

Bomb blast

IT News
Imphal, March 7

A bomb blasted at at the road side of Saijang in Imphal East under Lamai Police station at around 9.30 am today. No persons injured.

Water Resources Minister Letpao Suggests inclusion of Manipur River Basin in Newma Draft Bill



DIPR
Imphal, March 7

Water Resources Minister Letpao Haokip attended the Conference of Chief Ministers/Ministers of Water

Resources of North-Eastern Region on the Draft Bill in respect of proposed North East Water Management Authority (NEWMA) at New Delhi yesterday afternoon. The Conference was presided

over by the Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Sekhawat.

In the conference, Letpao Haokip drew the attention of the gathering to include Manipur river basin in the draft bill of NEWMA. He also said that the formulation of the master plan for Manipur basin should be done at the earliest. The Minister of State for Jal Shakti and Social Justice & Empowerment, Shri Rattan Lal Kataria, Chief Ministers of Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura, Deputy CM of Meghalaya and WR Ministers of all the NE states participated in the Conference.

Drinking alcohol will not protect you from COVID-19: WHO

Agency
Imphal, March 7

With 31 individuals diagnosed with the deadly novel coronavirus (COVID-19) in India, everyone seems to be going into a state of panic. And as a fallout, people are believing just about anything and everything they are coming across on the internet. Among several pieces of information, there is one that asks people to 'drink alcohol to stay safe and kill the deadly virus', which, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) is not true.

Busting myths, misconceptions and

misinformation about the deadly coronavirus, the WHO said: "No. Spraying alcohol or chlorine all over your body will not kill viruses that have already entered your body." According to the global health agency, spraying such substances can be harmful to clothes or eyes and mouth. According to the global health agency, spraying such substances can be harmful to clothes or eyes and mouth. "Be aware that both alcohol and chlorine can be useful to disinfect surfaces, but they need to be used under appropriate recommendations," the WHO said.

The most effective way to protect yourself against the new coronavirus is by frequently cleaning your hands with alcohol-based hand rub or washing them with soap and water, according to the organisation.

The WHO also revealed that taking a hot bath does not prevent the new coronavirus disease and cannot be transmitted through goods manufactured in China or any country reporting COVID-19 cases. So far, the deadly novel coronavirus has now infected more than 100,000 people around the world and taken more than 3,000 lives globally. As of Saturday, the total number of coronavirus cases around the world was 101,492, with 3,485 deaths.

AR organises veterinary camp cum medical checkup

IT News
Thoubal, March 7

26 AR and 3 ADU (Army Dog Unit) under the aegis of 9 Sector Organised a Veterinary Camp and Medical Checkup today at Tulihal Village Yairipok under Operation Sadbhavana Project 2019-20. The event started from 9 am today morning and concluded

at 1 pm. 3,300 x Domestic pets and animals were treated which including cow, buffalo, pig, goat, dog and poultry etc. Apart from the Veterinary Camp a total No of around 200 peoples from Tulihal and nearby villages were provided free medical checkup and medicines were distributed.

MEEYAMGEE KHOLLAO

IT News
Imphal, March 7

Third edition of the MEEYAMGEE KHALAO, an initiative of the Imphal Times will be held at 10 am at the office of the Imphal Times at Keishamthong Elangbam leikai. Topic: Fate of Salai Investors Part III

C M N. Biren Singh approved construction of a 20 bedded Isolation Ward in RIMS

IT News
Imphal March 7

The Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh approved in principle the construction of 20 bedded Isolation Ward in the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal at the earliest. This was stated by Prof. A. Santa Singh, the Director of RIMS during the inauguration of 15 bedded new Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU). A proposal to construct the 20 bedded Isolation Ward will be submitted to the Government of Manipur. The newly constructing Isolation Ward will solve the shortage of beds. He also further stated that the newly inaugurated 15 bedded Surgical Intensive Care Unit (SICU) will solve a problem of



shortage of beds in the ICU. These beds are one of the best in India and could be managed by remote control. This is innovative part of development project in RIMS Hospital. On other hand, the patients brought yesterday in the Isolation Ward is not confirmed COVID-19 patients and requested the public not to spread wrong

information to the social media.

Prof. Ch. Arunkumar Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital, Imphal, other Head of Departments, Faculty members, Staff Nurses and Non-Teaching Staffs also attended the inaugural ceremony of the new Surgical Intensive Care Unit in the RIMS Hospital, Imphal.

Coronavirus scare: Second floor of Radisson Blu evacuated

Agency
Guwahati, March 7

After a 76-year-old tourist in Bhutan tested positive for COVID-19, the second floor of Radisson Blu Hotel in Guwahati has been evacuated as a safety measure.

As per reports, the US tourist before travelling to Bhutan had stayed at Room Number 224 of the hotel on March 1. Unwilling to take any

chance, the hotel management as soon as came to know about the latest development in Bhutan, decided to evacuate the floor immediately.

They also put 23 staff members of the hotel, who came in contact with the US tourist, under special observation.

The US national had earlier travelled to Jorhat on February 22 via an Indigo flight and had checked into

MV Mahabahu on a seven-day cruise.

He had travelled to Majuli, Kaziranga and Guwahati as well, before travelling to Bhutan.

He was tested positive for COVID-19 during screening at Paro in Bhutan.

Even though no coronavirus case has been reported in Assam yet, however, the health department and district administration are taking no chances.

Solo Rider Charter Accountant from Gujarat headed for Mizoram; visited Imphal Times office

IT News
Imphal, March 7

Solo Motorist, Anish Baheti, a qualified Charter Account (CA), originally hailed from Rajasthan and lived in Australia for years, who kicked start his solo motor ride from Ahmedabad in Gujarat from 2nd February this year after riding till Myanmar yesterday return back to Imphal and visited Imphal Times office.

"I am qualified CA but I know inspire people through my talks and through my travel. I recently completed 10000 kms solo bike ride covering entire South India. Post that I covered 9 South East Asian countries in 29 days, again travelling solo. This is my first trip cross border solo bike trip.", the solo rider told to a team of Imphal staffers yesterday evening. He left for Silchar early today morning through Imphal Jiribam Road. Talking to Imphal Times Anish Baheti said, "I started off the journey from Ahmedabad (Gujarat) and travelled to the state of Rajasthan before entering the state of Uttar Pradesh. From there I crossed the Sonauli border to enter Nepal. In Nepal I covered Lumbini, Pokhara and Kathmandu. From Kathmandu I reached Bardibas before crossing the border to enter



Siliguri (West Bengal). From there I went to Kalimpong and then entered Sikkim. From Sikkim I entered Bhutan and from there covering Assam I went up to Tawang in Arunachal. Later I covered Meghalaya and once again entered Assam at Majuli island. From there I reached Nagaland and from there reached Imphal, Manipur". About the reason of his travel Anish Baheti said that his mission is simply to inspire others to travel and see the world, lead a healthy lifestyle and experience different perspective.

"I choose to travel solo as it gives me more freedom. As I cross 6000 kms in 29 days promoting healthy lifestyle and solo travel, it's worth reflecting the self-mastery that one builds riding on all types

of road and experiencing all four seasons", he said.

6 skills that one will sharpen (especially if one's riding solo) are Trusting gut, Analyzing risk, Building focus, Taking decisions, Improving patience and Accepting uncertainties, Anish Baheti said.

"Every up is followed by a down and after every down comes an up. Stay balanced under both situations and enjoy the ride, is probably the greatest lesson one gets, riding mountain roads which can be easily related to life" he said.

He said that he planned to cover all the seven states of North East India and enter Mizoram and Tripura. He also wished to cross Bangladesh and covering other eastern states of India reach back to Ahmedabad (Gujarat).

CorCom wishes Women of the region on International Women's Day

IT News
Imphal, March 7

Join body of rebel groups CorCom while showing respect to the roles being taken by the women of the region in protecting our socio-cultural and economic condition on occasion of the International Women's Day which falls on March 8. A statement of the joint body greets the women of the region while celebrating the International Women's Day under the theme - I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights. The statement also elaborated on the root of the International women's day. It

said that the day is being remembered in solidarity to the uprising of the women fighting for their rights to make in par with that of their male counterpart. The uprising of the women community in 1993 at United States against the deprivation of the economic rights and to fight against various form of atrocities saw the seeds of Women's movement. The mass protest of the women garment worker in 1908 demanding improvement of their working condition had brought significant changes to the condition of women by demanding voting right and formation of "Women's Trade Union League".

Commemorating the day the United States of America observed February 28 as the National Women's Day in 2009.

Since then various uprising across the European countries took place. The United Nations later deeply felt the need for recognizing a day particularly for women and since 1975, the March 8 has been observing as the International Day across the globe.

The CorCom after elaborating the root of observing the World Women's Day said that even as when it comes to Manipur (Kangleipak) the women of the region even though were regarded with

high respect women today faced deprivation after it joined the Indian union. The new face is that women are deprived with male dominating them. The culture of communal base disintegration that spread to the state of Manipur is the root of all form of kinds that is happening in the state. Before Manipur (Kangleipak) become a part of India women were highly regarded. But after it became a part of India, introduction of draconian act and crime committed under the shadow of AFSPA. The CorCom said that restoration of the freedom is the only means to lift the status of the women.

Editorial

Saturday, March 7, 2020

Celebrating Women's day

March 8 is the International Women's day. This year's theme is 'EachForEqual', with vision to uphold the rights of the women from generation to generation. The day is being celebrated across the world to show respect to the women community and also to uplift them from the crunch of the male dominated society. It is also celebrated to acknowledge the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women across the globe.

Well the observation of the day has its root at New York. The mass protest of the women garment worker in 1908 demanding improvement of their working condition had brought significant changes to the condition of women. Commemorating the day the United States of America observed February 28 as the National Women's Day in 2009.

Since then various uprising across the European countries took place. The United Nations later deeply felt the need for recognizing a day particularly for women and since 1975, the March 8 has been observing as the International Day across the globe.

Like every nations across the globe, the erstwhile kingdom of Manipur had witnessed various historic events. The first Nupi Lal of 1904 and the 2nd Nupi Lal of 1939, are some of the events where Manipuri women contribution towards bringing a change in the society is worth remembering.

Unlike the western countries which celebrate International Women's Day, the kind of observation being taken place in a place like Manipur is different - Women's day being observed by various organizations in the state is rather a find a solution to the problems being faced by the women of today's Manipuri society. And unlike in the mainland Indian states and other developed and developing countries, the issues are of the women here in Manipur are very different.

There are certain issues like domestic violence, rape and crime against women, issues of widows, orphan girl child may be somewhat similar in almost all human society. But the kind of subjugation being faced by the women of Manipur under the draconian laws and the women becoming most vulnerable object during conflict between non state actors and state actors is serious.

The practice of polygamy in the society and peoples' acceptance to it, either willingly or unwillingly is somewhat suppressing the rights of women.

The issue about polygamy in Manipur have its root in the feudal character of the society.

If we look back in the history, it was the King and his subjects that were privileged to have wives more than one. The end of monarch does not end this feudal attitude.

Manipur has witnessed various dark phases which give tremendous impact to the society.

During 1980s the society was severely hit by drugs and insurgency related violence. Because of drugs many become victims of HIV and AIDS, and because of insurgency related violence many were exterminated. Thus the number of widows was on the rise.

Understanding the possible impact, government introduced various welfare schemes for improvement of the widows. For example widows of the victim killed in insurgency related violence were provided monetary assistance provided that the victim does not belong to member of any none state actor.

If the victim is proved to be member of any none state actors then the widow are left to live on their own.

On the other hand Manipur's societal structure is always seen as male dominating society even after knowing that women have been always in the forefront - whether it may be fighting against immoral activities, drugs or wrongs of the government besides taking active role in supporting their respective family economically.

Culturally women are still forbidden to take the lead role. For example women are not allowed to do Keijna dan during the marriage of her daughter when she is the only parents left. A widow with only daughters still has to wait some male relative to perform the last rite of her husband or near and dear one. In both Sanamahi and Manipuri Veishnavite culture women are always told to follow the male. They are not allowed to sit at 'Phambal' - a place where head of the family often sit. This means that women are never considered as the head of family.

On the other hand women are deprived of their rights in getting their share from their parental family. The law of this land says that daughters or son should have equal rights when it comes to inherit properties. In Manipur society daughters once married are considered separated entirely from their parental family.

Out of the 60 assembly seat women can occupy only 2 in the state assembly. The people had witnessed the assembly house with maximum 3 women MLAs. There is hardly any representation of women in Parliament and it is unfortunate for a developing country to not include its women in the process. The observance of International Women's Day under the theme PressForProgress seems to have lost its significance as long as the women are not empowered to represent in the decision making body of the country as well as in the state.

Issues of the women are understood by women and without their presence it is useless to whatever welfare programme taken up for the women. Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao, Ujjawala Yojna, maternity leave schemes advertised today in some leading newspapers are valueless unless they are not empowered to sit among the male in the decision making body.

Lost

I have lost my Wallet containing Aadhar Card, PAN Card, ATM and a receipt for Gold along with my Mobile phone bearing number 8787699959 on the way from Thoubal bazar to Ningombam on 1st March 2020. Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Mutum Debadash Singh
Thoubal Ningombam
Contact 7005981877

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"Gender equality... still a distant dream"

By Raju Vernekar

As we are set to celebrate the "International Women's Day" on Sunday, with a theme #EachForEqual, drawing attention to the difference individuals can make, a gender equality is still a distant dream in our country.

The "Women's Reservation Bill" which proposes to reserve 33% seats for women in the Lok Sabha and in all State Legislative Assemblies, is yet to be passed. It was passed in Rajya Sabha on 9 March 2010 and subsequently got lapsed. It is yet to come in Lok Sabha.

Far from gender parity, the country has been witnessing a growing crime against women. The "Pre-Natal Diagnostic Technologies Act" seeks to prevent female infanticide. The schemes like "Janani Suraksha Yojana", the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign, all are aimed women empowerment. But the sex ratio continues to be skewed. At present it is 950 women per 1000 men.

As per the National Crime Records Bureau, the crime rate per lakh women population was 58.8 in 2018 in comparison to 57.9 in 2017. This includes, the "cruelty by husband or his relatives" - 31.9 per cent, "assault on women with intent to

outrage her modesty"-27.6 per cent, 'kidnapping and abduction of women'- 22.5 per cent and the rape cases-10.3 per cent.

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018. Stipulates death penalty, to those convicted of raping children below 12 years. Besides it also has provisions to punish those indulging in such crimes, who uses to escape punishment claiming as "minors". Section 376E of the IPC stipulates death penalty to the accused involved in rape. Despite such deterrent legislation, criminals do not seem to be deterred. As such a change in mindset of men is need of the hour.

Besides sometimes even "higher ups" also contribute to crime. In a recent case in Mumbai an MLA was booked for harassing and assaulting her daughter-in-law, after she delivered a second premature girl child (who died later). The accused MLA wanted a male child.

While the male literacy rate is 82.14% per cent, the female literacy rate is at 65.46% per cent. Besides by and large, women's participation in the work force is low at 27 per cent compared to other BRICS (an association of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) countries.

As of now there are a host of laws

to protect women. Provisions such as: Right to equality under Article 14 of the Indian Constitution guarantees women equality before law, Article 39(d), guards the economic rights of women by guaranteeing equal pay for equal work; and Maternity Relief under Article 42, secures just and humane condition of work and maternity relief for women. Acts like the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, prohibits acceptance of a dowry and the guilty can be punished with imprisonment as well as fine. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, provides protection to women against domestic violence and recommends punishment of fine and imprisonment. As per the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (Panchayati Raj Institutions) all local elected bodies have to reserve one-third of their seats for women. The Central government has several schemes for women upliftment both at State and Central level. They include "Swadhar" (1995), "Swayam Siddha" (2001), "Support to Training and Employment Programme for Women" (STEP-2003), "Saksham Scheme" (2010), "National Mission for Empowerment of Women" (2010) etc. Thus, there is no dearth of laws

and schemes for the women empowerment.

The condition of widows is the worst, since the society still treats them in a despicable manner, especially among Hindus. They are either abandoned by families or sent to "Shelter Homes", to live a life of penury. A small pension of Rs 350 per month (which was Rs 200 earlier) is granted to them under the Indira Gandhi National Pension Scheme. In most States, they are considered as a bad omen and are excluded being "inauspicious".

After many years, the number of women MPs has increased up to 78 (nearly 14%) compared to 62 women MPs in earlier Lok Sabha. Besides a little solace comes to women serving in army, since the Permanent commission will be open for women officers from April 2020 onwards. They can choose the specialised stream for this during the second year of their service.

However deep-rooted patriarchy society, continues to affect women's empowerment. Of late the women are holding important jobs with 42 percent of them earning equal to their husbands, but they still remain subservient to their husbands.

RBI puts "Yes Bank" under moratorium ED raids "Yes Bank" founder Rana Kapoor's house in Mumbai

By Raju Vernekar

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday conducted searches at "Samudra Mahal", the Worli (South Central Mumbai) residence of founder and former managing director of "Yes Bank", which has been placed under moratorium by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for financial mismanagement.

"In exercise of the powers conferred under 36ACA of the Banking Regulation Act 1949, the Reserve Bank has, in consultation with Central Government, superseded the Board of Directors of "Yes Bank Ltd". For a period of 30 days owing to serious deterioration in the financial position of the Bank. This has been done to quickly restore depositors' confidence in the bank, including by putting in place a scheme for reconstruction or amalgamation. Prashant Kumar, ex-DMD and CFO of State Bank of India has been appointed as the administrator under Section 36ACA (2) of the Act", the official communication stated.

Friday's ED's search was based on evidence reflecting a Rs 600-crore

loan sanctioned by DHFL to Doit Urban Ventures, controlled by the family of Rana Kapoor.



While the Yes Bank went into red, the State Bank of India offered to acquire 49 per cent stakes in the Yes Bank. The SBI will bring in Rs 2500 crore for a crisis ridden 'Yes Bank' and will ensure repayment of all deposits, dilution of equity and write off of Rs.10,800 crore of additional tier 1 (AT 1) bonds. RBI has put "Yes Bank" under moratorium and suspended the its board for 30 days. The RBI also capped withdrawal limit at Rs.50,000 for the one-month

period. The moratorium came after Rana Kapoor-promoted bank failed to raise capital to address potential

against Kapoor is a continuation of its investigations against DHFL where it has found fund diversion to the tune of Rs.12,733 crore to 80 alleged shell entities using one lakh fake borrowers. These transactions date back to 2015.

"In some instances we found that the funds that were diverted by DHFL originated from Yes Bank. The searches are to ascertain the nature of these loans and whether there was any irregularity in granting them," said the ED official. ED is also expected to issue a look out notice against Kapoor. The notice prevents individuals being probed by an investigative agency to leave the country.

The ED has accused the Kapil and Dheeraj Wadhawan of DHFL of purchasing shares of five firms—Faith Realtors, Marvel Township, Abe Realty, Poseidon Realty and Random Realtors—after which they were amalgamated with Sunlink. The outstanding loans of these five firms, totalling around Rs.2,186 crore till July 2019, were allegedly appropriated onto the books of Sunlink in order to cover the diversion of loans acquired from DHFL.

Inauguration of dedicated ground to st. Peter's school, kamjong by Assam Rifles

IGAR (South)
Imphal March 7

Chassad Battalion of 10 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) dedicated a newly constructed ground to the students of St Peter's School, Kamjong on yesterday. The school is a cradle full of raw talent in the field of games and sports. Despite being located in a far flung remote border area St Peter's School authorities under the able mentorship of Reverend Father has been able to provide a conducive environment to the children for acquiring knowledge as well as excelling in various co-curricular as well as extra-curricular activities.

Realizing the immense talent and passion of the children, the Chassad battalion provided full assistance in construction of the sports ground within the school premises. The battalion with the help of it's own

resources moved tons of soil to clear the area first and further carried out leveling the ground to prepare the playground.

To express their heartfelt gratitude to the Assam Rifles for extending their valuable assistance in preparing the sports ground, the school children alongwith their parents and school faculty organised an inauguration ceremony for which the Commandant Chassad battalion was the chief guest. The occasion was also graced by the presence of many important Reverend Fathers from Imphal who delivered the revered prayers and the exhortation speeches. Members of Civil Society Organizations were also present during the function.

The event was followed by distribution of sports items and gifts to the school by the Chassad battalion. Refreshments were organised for all present at the culmination of the event.

Stringent action will be taken: Education Minister

IT News
Imphal, March 7

Education Minister Dr. Thokchom Radheshyam said that stringent action will be taken against those teachers and officials involved in the alleged leakage of question papers. He pointed out that a criminal case has also already been registered. The Minister was speaking at the media briefing on the conduct of the examination by BSEM and COHSEM yesterday, at the conference hall of SSA, Babupara.

He also expressed his concern over the alleged incident of March, 2020. It is a very unfortunate incident that such violence occurred at the exam center. Out of 38664 students who had appeared in this year HSLC Examination, 2020; 23 students were expelled for copying and 77 students for impersonation from 140 examination centres, he

asserted.

On the action taken up by the Department of Education (S), as a precautionary measure against the CORONA virus, he informed that a circular of DO's and DON'Ts were circulated to all the schools in the state.

While briefing the Media, Director, Education (S), Thokchom Kirankumar also added that the answer keys for the HSLC Examination, 2020 will be uploaded from 11th March 2020 on the website of BSEM www.bsem.in and 3 (three) days will be given for the public to make claims and objections, if any, subject to legitimate reasons with proofs. The last date and time of receipt of claims and objections will be till 04:00pm of the 14th March, 2020, he further informed.

The press meet was attended by the Commissioner Education (S) T. Ranjit Singh; Chairman COHSEM, L. Mahendra Singh, Secretary COHSEM, officials concerned and staffs of BSEM and COHSEM.