

## Myanmar Govt hand over 22 NE insurgents to India Govt



IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

22 insurgents from Northeast India are

handed over to Government of India for waging war against the Union of India by Myanmar authority. The

India includes self styled Captain Sanatomba Ningthoujam of UNLF, Lieutenant Pashuram Laishram of PREPAK – PRO, Home Secretary Rajen Daimary of NDFV-S and self styled Captain Sansuma Basumatary of NDFB-S.

It is reported that the 22 insurgents have been brought back to Imphal where 10 will be taken back to Guwahati and the remaining 12 will be detained here in Imphal. All the 22 deportee is reported to be kept at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Imphal.

## Unrest in Andro AC over the arrest of social worker Sanjoy

IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

Womenfolk of Andro Assembly Constituency today stormed Andro Police station against the arrest of Lourembam Sanjoy, who is projected to contest against Ex - Minister Th. Shyamkumar who was recently disqualified from the State Assembly by the Speaker's Tribunal, in the upcoming by-election of Andro A/C. A source close to the matter said "Porompat Police Station detained L. Sanjoy son of L. Shyamjai from Yairipok Mathak Leikai since yesterday and the reason for his arrest is yet still to be ascertained."



Protesting against the arrest angry womenfolk held placards that read "Release L. Sanjoy immediately without any conditions, No one vandalised Ex MLA Th Shyamkumar's residence etc." Speaking to Imphal Times, a woman protestor alleged that Thounaojam Rabi who is the younger

brother of Ex-Minister Th. Shyamkumar of Yairipok Yambem Mathak Leikai held FIRs against Sanju, M. Tomba and L. Shyamkeshore and the reason is still not known. Further she appealed the CM to intervene into the matter and release Sanjoy unconditionally. "

## Two completes quarantine period at Singjamei

IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

The two persons who completed their mandatory 14 days quarantine period at the community quarantine centre for Singjamei AC at Manipur College today were sent home after a simple function organised by Quarantine Management Committee, Manipur College. The two persons went through the mandatory checks and were cleared by medical professionals. Singjamei A/c MLA and Manipur Legislative Assembly Speaker Yumnam Khemchand attended the home return function.

## NDPS Court stormed against anticipated release of Drug-accused former ADC Chairman

IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

A large number of volunteers of CADA, Nupi Samaj, AMKIL and Tammi Chingmi stormed the NDPS Court Complex, Lamphel today protesting the anticipated release of Lukhosei Zou-Former Chairman ADC Chandel on bail. It may be recalled that a large quantity of contraband Drugs was seized from his official Quarter. He was remanded to further judicial custody.

## Hearing Aid and Crutches provided to Brain Tumor patient

IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons Manipur, along with Department of Social Welfare, Government of Manipur and AMUCO provided Hijam Jiban of Nongren Mayai Leikai

Imphal east District under Sawbung CD Block of Lamlai Assembly Constituency with Hearing Aid and Crutches. Jiban was diagnosed with brain tumor in 2005 and is also suffering from hearing loss as well as visually challenged and needs physical support to move around. Rehabilitation

Officer of the relief centre Karnajit Khoibam and AMUCO President Ph. Nando presented the relief materials to the recipient. The team also visited Differently Abled Persons around Nongren area and distributed Relief Materials to tide over the present Covid-19 pandemic.

## Khelen Thokchom Trust extends financial assistance to injured Editor



IT News  
Imphal, May 15

Khelen Thokchom Trust President Robert Sapam and members of the Trust paid a visit to Rinku Khumukham and handed over financial assistance to the Editor of Imphal Times who have been recuperating at his residence following an accident earlier this month.

## 2nd tranche of PM Economic Package reaches the most vulnerable and deserving sections of society: ASSOCHAM

IT Correspondent  
New Delhi, May 15

After providing crucial support to the MSME sector, the Prime Minister's Rs 20 lakh crore economic package has most aptly targeted the small farmers, migrant workers and street vendors who are the most vulnerable section of the society, reeling under the Covid-19 crisis, ASSOCHAM Secretary General Mr Deepak Sood said. "Some of the measures under the second tranche of the PM's package, announced by Finance

Minister Mrs Nirmala Sitharaman today, show how the government is empathetic to the difficulties being faced by 8 crore migrant labourers, small and marginal farmers and street vendors", said the ASSOCHAM Secretary General. He said, the measures are aimed at providing both the immediate relief in the form of free food grains supply to those with or without ration cards and the short to medium term support. The 'One Nation One Card' PDS portability for migrant workers, would greatly

dissuade the workers seeking to migrate to their home towns. Mr Sood said, the ASSOCHAM would promote the concept of affordable rental homes for the migrant workers, within the industry and work with the government through the Public-Private-Partnership mode on this innovative idea. "The concept would make a great contribution to building a quality national resource at the bottom of the pyramid which has proved to be among the most critical components of the economic development".

## Lockdown being extended in Mumbai, Pune and other hotspots in Maharashtra till May 31

IT Correspondent  
Mumbai, May 15:

The Maharashtra government has decided to extend the lockdown in Mumbai, Pune and other COVID-19 hotspots until May 31 and reduce containment zones in Mumbai, to ease burden on the staff.

The decision to extend the lock down was arrived at in a meeting held on Thursday morning that was attended by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar among other state cabinet ministers. Aurangabad, Solapur and Malegaon among other hotspots will also come under the extended lockdown. The notification about this will be issued shortly.

## Wangdei Leikai residents submit memorandum to CM

IT News  
Imphal, May 15:

Residents of Wangdei Meitei Leikai, Langol today submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister of Manipur requesting protection and rehabilitation of inter-caste families residing at Wangdei Meitei Leikai without giving intentional harassment by Divisional Forest Officer, Central, Imphal West. Reiterating the fact that the village was established on 10<sup>th</sup> December 1990 with the knowledge of the state government for rehabilitation of inter-caste married families and to foster the bond of love between the two states, among Meiteis and Naga ladies of Nagaland along with Meiteis scattered around Cachar, Hojai and other districts of Assam and in possession of necessary

documents and recorded in Dag Chitha of Village No 91- Meitei Langol, Imphal West, issued by Authority of Revenue Department, Imphal West under MLR&LR Act 1960 for the last 50 years and was never a portion of Langol Reserved Forest. The memorandum also appealed to the Chief Minister to advise the DFO not to disturb the boundary and tranquility of Wangdei area in the interest of Meitei, Naga inter-caste married families and to foster the bond of love between the two states, further stating that if the enlargement of Reserve Forest Area continues, the residents will be rendered homeless which will risk peace and harmony in the state.

## ATRPFM & AMTU condemn firing incident at Prayer Mountain in Chandel district

IT News  
Imphal, May 15

All Tribal Rights' Protection Forum Manipur (ATRPFM) and All Tribal Manipur Union (AMTU) expressed strong condemnation to the firing incident that occurred on May 14 at around 3:30p.m at "Prayer Mountain" that fall within Mantripanthea village under Chandel District, Manipur.

The firing was allegedly made by residents of Mantripanthea village led by one person identified as S.S. Bemung Lamkang, Chief of Mantripanthea village. As per the report, around 10-20 individuals holding guns and ammunitions started firing against the 50-60 residents of Lambung village who were returning home from their place of jhum cultivation where two women were injured.

As per the news report published in a local daily, there is a record of land dispute between the two villages and cases were also filed and obtained orders from the High Court of Manipur.

The ATRPFM and AMTU stated that they have no knowledge of the factual positions of the disputed land in question, however, firing gun against civilians shall not be indulged by any dispute party under any circumstances. "It is illegal and criminal act on the part of the culprits who fired arms at the residents of another disputed party and it was not acceptable on totality. The matter shall be settled in accordance with law and not with violence. If there are any court's order, that shall be complied with and act accordingly", the statement added.

★ **Editorial**

**The psychological side of Covid-19 epidemic**

The worst is just starting to unfold, and as much as we would love to wish it all away, the fact of the matter remains that we are in it for the long haul. With thousands more yet to arrive in the coming days, this is a very crucial period for the people of Manipur in more ways than one. Understandably, a lot of people from the state are expressing their concerns with quite a number of them speaking up against the efforts of the central and state government to bring stranded natives to their respective homes from across the country. While the timing of the exercise leaves much to be desired, it would be unfair and even downright inhumane to deny the thousands of our fellow citizens their right to seek out a safe and secure place to endure the lockdown which, by any stretch of imagination, is not going to be lifted in the coming weeks or even months. One can only imagine the plight of most of these people who have to endure uncertainty, discrimination and diminishing resources while trying to make sense of the pandemic away from the safety of their homes. In fact, a much less talked-about aspect of this current crisis is the mental and psychological factor which needs to be highlighted and given due recognition if we are to effectively tackle the present situation.

As the coronavirus pandemic rapidly sweeps across the world, it is inducing a considerable degree of fear, worry and concern in the population at large and among certain groups in particular, such as older adults, care providers and people with underlying health conditions. In public mental health terms, the main psychological impact to date is elevated rates of stress or anxiety. But as new measures and impacts are introduced – especially quarantine and its effects on many people's usual activities, routines or livelihoods – levels of loneliness, depression, harmful alcohol and drug use, and self-harm or suicidal behaviour are also expected to rise.

In populations already heavily affected, issues of service access and continuity for people with developing or existing mental health conditions are also now a major concern, along with the mental health and well-being of frontline workers. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, it appears likely that there will be substantial increases in anxiety and depression, substance use and abuse, loneliness, and domestic violence; and with schools closed, there is a very real possibility of an epidemic of child abuse. However, according to experts, a few steps, taken now, can help us proactively prepare for the inevitable increase in mental health conditions and associated sequelae (a pathological condition resulting from a prior disease, injury, or attack) that are the consequences of this pandemic. First, it is necessary to plan for the inevitability of loneliness and its sequelae as populations physically and socially isolate and to develop ways to intervene. The use of digital technologies can bridge social distance, even while physical distancing measures are in place. Normal structures where people congregate, whether places of worship, or gyms, and yoga studios, can conduct online activities on a schedule similar to what was in place prior to social distancing. Particularly relevant here is the developing and implementing routines, particularly for children who are out of school, ensuring that they have access to regular programmed work. Online substitutes for daily routines, as mentioned above, can be extremely helpful, but not all children have access to technologies that enable remote connectivity. Needed are approaches for ensuring structure, continuity of learning, and socialization to mitigate the effect of short- and long-term sheltering in place.

Second, it is critical that we have in place mechanisms for surveillance, reporting, and intervention, particularly, when it comes to domestic violence and child abuse. Individuals at risk for abuse may have limited opportunities to report or seek help when shelter-in-place requirements demand prolonged cohabitation at home and limit travel outside of the home. Systems will need to balance the need for social distancing with the availability of safe places to be for people who are at risk, and social services systems will need to be creative in their approaches to following up on reports of problems.

Third, it is time to bolster our mental health system in preparation for the inevitable challenges precipitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Stepped care, the practice of delivering the most effective, least resource-heavy treatment to patients in need, and then stepping up to more resource-heavy treatment based on patients' needs, is a useful approach. This will require that systems are both well designed and well prepared to deliver this care to patients, from screening to the overflow of mental illness that will inevitably emerge from this pandemic. Scaling up treatment in the midst of crisis will take creative thinking. Communities and organizations could consider training nontraditional groups to provide psychological first aid, helping teach the lay public to check in with one another and provide support. Even small signs that someone cares could make a difference in the early stages of social isolation. And health systems, both public and private sector, will need to develop mechanisms for refill and delivery of essential medicines, including psychiatric medicines. A concerted effort will be vital in establishing a new and better system which can adapt and scale up as and when required. Understanding, cooperation and empathy can win this battle.

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**Home Sweet Home vis-à-vis the Lockdown Exodus**



**By-Paojakhp Guite  
Saihenjang, CCpur**

The global infamous COVID-19 has gripped humanity with two extraordinary sufferings: while some people suffer from the ordeals of the pandemic, others the orders of the lockdowns. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a pandemic disease, which is caused by a novel coronavirus called Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS-CoV-2). The lockdowns spawned by the pandemic have back-to-back been imposed thrice. The orders and ordeals have stretched out to over forty days and forty nights in toto, leaving us to our fate. Humankind does not have the immunity or antibodies or antigens so as to practically endure through the pestilence and hunger marathon. Nor can we starve, excepting a divine intervention. We are not prophets, but merely believers, if not atheists or agnostics.

The lockdown in its third phase has wreaked mind havoc. The first two were of great existential threats both in and out-stomach half-filled, at best for some hapless people, and social life brought to a screeching halt in general. Changing its paradigm, Lockdown 3.0 has shifted its affects. That, now it has sensitised human mind to one emotional romanticizing that is, developing a sense of familial love, especially to those who are being stranded or have stayed outside their home. Similarly, family members back home are no less eager for reintegration with their stranded kith and kin. Fingers crossed, they are now being taken home by country roads! This is the sweetness of home.

**Fear and Fare: Beyond Politics**  
Fear overwhelmed the psychosis. Up till Lockdown 3.0, we saw no sign of progress. The pandemic outbreak containment

curve continues to rise exponentially on a daily basis unabatedly. Till date, the recovery rate has reached 31.74%. However, this gives no rest to the people either, and their mind ragged with sleepless night. The fatality rate stands at 3.2% Acc. to the Union Home Ministry report. Their homesickness was at its apogee.

The Central Government stands by its aggrieved citizens across the country. It provides an enabling environment. The State Governments with the Centre work in union cutting across political lines. Logistic supports are being arranged across the country. Meanwhile, the BJP-led NDA Government at the Centre failed to assure the returnees of their logistic charges and fares while made announcement. They drew flaks from the Opposition parties. The Congress President Mrs. Sonia Gandhi took advantage of this loophole to render her Good Samaritan works to the returnees by giving them financial supports. Immediately, in retaliation the Centre calibrated its decision and came up with another sort of helping hand to contribute 85% of the returnees' fare expenses. In this way, fortunately or unfortunately the returnees fell victim to politicisation on issues of train fares.

The fare friction is fair. This shows a sign of a mature democracy. This backlash between the BJP and Congress cannot be construed as a political vendetta. India exhibits its maturity in democracy in this hour of global health crisis. For a governance to be efficient, effective and robust in democracy, Opposition has a humongous task. By doing so, Opposition keeps government in the right track. That's why Opposition is also sometimes known as Shadow Cabinet (Britain). Therefore, with these proactive steps of both the Government and the Opposition, the stranded passengers have the chance to travel with a smile on their faces. Their fear psychosis is all gone and hoping to hitch a ride back to their home town.

**Home and House**  
Human beings are pilgrims for the family, or home for that matter. We leave home for a certain

prospect in the hope that we could bring back some sort of blessings which are beneficial to the family members. Since pre-historic times, human beings practised hunting of animals and gathering of food items. Ever since they had a sedentary life, they started to enjoy the fruit of their hard labour at home.

Similarly, in modern times, we leave our home for outside to explore new worlds other than hunting and gathering alike. We enjoy these showers of blessings with our family members. Apart from our family members, we can also share our blessings to the needy and near & dear ones. Thus, the adage, "Charity begins at home", meaning that a person's first responsibility is for the needs of their own family and friends. In the simplest term, home can be defined as family members, while house means the physical structure or platform wherein we stay.

But, this time situations are weird. Our minds are reined in more by suspicions than expectations. To reach home is their expectations and we should not be hesitant to welcome them with open arms.

**Fate and Faith**  
In this uncertain period of COVID-19 outbreak, the poor are always at the receiving end and seem to be nearing their fate. But, they have the faith that they do not abjectly surrender to this seeming fate, not to die hunger.

Vulnerable to fate are not only the poor, but humanity as a whole. The deadly novel coronavirus does not cast us. Nor does it cast its eyes on humanity based on the rich, poor or creed.

The common fate all human beings have is death (God forbid!). This mortal human body might be disposed of in any form with or without certain cultural rites and rituals. Disposal could be through burial or cremation or any other forms. To perform this rite, we need home. COVID-19 has taken a toll of lives where family members are not allowed to participate in the funeral. Only medical doctors, paramedics and few select people participate in the funeral. This is the very pain humanity feels, because no decent funeral can take place according to one's customary rite. This acts as

an alarm in the people's mind to rush towards home so that we can reunite with our family members both awesome and oddsome times.

**Global to Local**  
Early 1990s, India was proud of the rising high tide of globalisation. This was considered a breakthrough as far as its economy was concerned. It tried to join the elite club of global powers. At the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, globalisation brought with it huge impacts to India in myriad ways. Economy was growing in leaps and bounds. Exports were skyrocketed. Industries, factories and various multi-national companies (MNC) were mushrooming in the country. Service sector made a significant headway, thus employment rate was encouraging. Migration pattern changed. In-Migration within the country was at its record high. Rural seasonal labourers migrate to towns and cities and eke out their living.

However, upon the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, growth trajectories and migration pattern have become otherwile. Globalisation is back to her village. A huge chunk of migrant workers have taken every risk to reach their natal villages by hook or by crook. Hundreds trudge along the road with pit stops en route. The Centre is mulling over prioritisation of indigenous goods. Swadeshi politics has always been a cherished dream of the current dispensation at the Centre. Modiji and his stooge Amith Shahji are working hard to make the country self-reliant and to be more vocal about (being) local. A Rs. 20 lakh crore is just a beginning of this venture.

Therefore, while a mass exodus is happening proper care has to be taken. The receiving states should not be hesitant to accept them, because this is unavoidable circumstance happening out of their love affairs with their home. Destination accommodations have to be well managed with strict protocols. Home quarantine won't do. A minimum of 14-day community quarantine has to be undertaken by the Government. Before we receive them, we wish them a happy and safe journey. Bon voyage and Godspeed!

**Palghar mob lynching case lawyer dies in car accident**  
**BJP / VHP renew demand for CBI Probe**

**IT Correspondent  
Mumbai May 15**

Advocate Digvijay Trivedi (32) who was a part of the legal team representing the deceased seers in the Palghar mob lynching case (Maharashtra) passed away in a car accident on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad national highway on Wednesday.

Trivedi was killed on the spot when his car turned turtle near Manor, at around 10.30 AM, while his co-counsel was critically injured in the accident. She has been admitted to the Kasa government hospital.

He was travelling with his co-counsel Preeti Trivedi in a four wheeler, driven by him on National Highway No. 48. They were on way to the Dahanu Sessions Court. Prima facie he lost control of the vehicle and met with an accident. The Kasa Police have registered an accidental death report and are making further inquiries.

Trivedi was the chief of the legal cell of the Hitendra Thakur-led Bahujan Vikas Aghadi party. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad, which had raised voice, soon after the mob lynching case and had demanded a CBI probe, has reiterated its demand, raising suspicion, about the accident.

Trivedi, representing the sadhus on behalf of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, was scheduled to present his case before the

Dahanu Sessions court. He was a resident of Bhayandar (about 26 kms from Mumbai).

While the mob-lynching is being handled by Maharashtra CID, till now the police has arrested 116 people in the case where a mob of over 300 people lynched 2 sadhus and their driver to death. Those arrested have been remanded to police custody till 19 May and the minors among them have been sent to Bhiwandi juvenile home.

The brutal lynching of 2 Sadhus in Palghar in Maharashtra on 16 April had shocked and angered the entire nation. The sadhus -Kalpavriksha Giri (70) and

Sushil Giri (35) who belonged to the "Juna Akhara" were beaten to death by a murderous mob of with sticks in Gadchinchale village of Palghar, when they were on their way to Surat (Gujarat) to attend a funeral of their guru. The incident came to light only when the video of the incident was shared on social media.

The reports suggested that the villagers lynched them on suspicion of theft and kidnapping of children based on whatsapp rumours. Some groups claimed that certain religious sects brainwashed the local tribals about the people coming in disguise and spoiling well water,

during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

In a video that was shared on social media, the Sadhus were seen accompanying the police but the mob snatched them and started to beat them. The police who were outnumbered were mute spectators as the three were lynched. They did not deter the mob which was determined to kill them. Subsequently 5 police personnel, including 3 officers were suspended and the 37 staffers were transferred out. Lately SP Gaurav Singh of Palghar in charge of the area was also sent on compulsory leave, on charges of dereliction of duty.

**Brutal attack on policemen in Mumbai**

**By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, May 15**

In a shocking incident, three policemen, including two CRPF jawans and an officer, were attacked with stones and sharp weapons by a group of nearly 20 people in Antop Hill area in Central Mumbai, when they were questioned for violating lock down norms on Thursday night. While the injured policemen have been admitted to local hospital, one person has been arrested and a hunt has been launched for 17 other

unidentified assailants. The assault ensued when the police patrol party found the people in large number on the streets late night. They were not maintaining physical distancing norms and were also without face masks, mandatory during ongoing COVID 19 pandemic. During the wordy duel, 5 to 7 women and 10 to 12 men attacked policemen with lethal weapons due to which the policemen suffered grievous injuries on head, hands and legs. The police have filed an FIR under Indian Penal Code Section

307 (attempt to murder), 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty), 332 (voluntarily causing hurt to deter public servant from his duty his duty), 324 (voluntarily causing hurt by dangerous weapons or means), 344 (wrongful confinement for ten or more days), 271 (disobedience to quarantine rule), 188 (disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) and other sections of National Disaster Management Act 2005, police spokesperson Pranay Ashok said.