

MSAD advisors

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

Executive body of the Manipur Students' Association Delhi, has appointed R.K Jackson, Dolaipabam Muhammad Ali, Laishram Ashok Singh and Chabungbam Babina Devi as new advisors for the tenure of two years (2021-2023).

LMS Law college Teacher Forum condole

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

The Teacher's Forum of the LMS Law College, Imphal expressed deep sorrow on the sudden and untimely demise of Dr. Vareso Ningshen, Associate professor and also the Co-convenor of the Teacher's Forum of the college.

A condolence meeting was held in virtual mode and observed 2 (two) minutes of silence and paid homage to the departed soul to rest in eternal peace. Dr. Vareso will always be remembered for his sincere dedication, priceless contributions, calm and noble attitude. The law institution has lost a kind hearted cheering faculty member. The members of Forum share our deep sense of sorrow to the bereaved family.

SWC condoles the demise of Sumang Leela artist Jilangamba

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

Social Workers Congress (SWC) Khongman has condoled the demise of Keisham Jilangamba Singh of Khongman Zone-5 who passed away on May 25.

Late Jilangamba was a renowned artiste of Shumang Leela. He was famous for performing the role of female character. An artist with an inborn talent for acting, it took no time for him to settle down in the field and emerge as one of the leading actors of popular Shumang Leela.

His demise is a great loss to the society and as well as for the Shumang Leela.

SWC Khongman also expressed profound grief and prayed for the soul to rest in peace.

SWC Khongman also expressed profound grief at the untimely demise of Ningombam Romesh @ Inaotombi of Khongman Zone-5 who was an Executive member of the SWC Khongman.

PM Modi's instructions to officials, Black fungus medicine should be brought to India wherever found in the world

Agency
New Delhi, May 27:

The Modi government at the Center has launched a war campaign to combat the shortage of Black Fungus or Mucoramyces medicine. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken the responsibility of arranging the drug of black fungus which has taken the form of an epidemic after the corona virus. Explain that an injection called liposomal amphotericin B is used in the treatment of black fungus.

PM Modi has instructed the officials that if they get this

medicine in any corner of the world, then it should be brought to India. With this, the central government has given license to five more companies to manufacture liposomal amphotericin B. PM Modi is constantly talking to senior officials about the availability of black fungus and liposomal amphotericin B injections.

According to government sources, PM Modi has clearly told the officials that in any country of the world this drug can be found, from where it should be brought to India immediately. In this, the help of the existing Indian embas-

sies is being taken around the world. Indian embassies are searching for liposomal amphotericin B in their respective countries. Now the results of these efforts of PM Modi are also being seen.

The US has been helped by a company called Corridor Sciences. Let us know that this company is also providing Remedisvir to India. Now this company is also making Amphotericin B available to India. So far 121,000 vials or vials have been sent to India. 85,000 vials soon to arrive. It is being told that Corrid Sciences has set a target of send-

ing 1 million doses of Amphotericin B to India via Mylan.

Let us tell that 11,717 cases of black fungus infection have been reported across the country. Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister Sadanand Gowda tweeted on Wednesday that the allocation has been made on the basis of the number of under-treated patients across the country, which is 11,717. An additional 29,250 vials of 'Amphotericin-B drug' used in its treatment were allocated to the States / UTs today for the treatment of mucoramyces.

Voice of Imphal Times The War with the invisible Virus: Strategy not appreciable

IT Desk

The War against human kind by the unseen corona virus which killed over millions peoples across the Globe and put at risk the life of over 1.5 crore people across the Globe with around one Lakh waiting to die has rendered acute the question of the place of warfare in nature and the effect of the invisible war on the human race.

The Covid-19, that is invading to human race is alien and invisible. Beside its move is fast and it is hard for any Government across the Globe to prepare a counter mechanism, when almost all the world's powerful countries are busy creating weapon of mass destruction or rockets to reach out to galaxy, spending cores and cores of money which could have feed the entire population of the world. The irony is that scientists today are busy spending money to build rockets when they are yet to understand the living beings that exist in the mountain, forest and deep blue sea of our earth.

The Novel coronavirus which cause Covid-19 and killed millions of people and attacked over 100 millions everyday besides putting lives of another million in hell indeed have diverted almost all issues including scientific studies, Government administrative, Food production and sales and what not ?

Maybe because the virus is known to humankind for just a year or maybe it is alien, different scientists have different opinions on how to fight these unseen virus. Perhaps, the issue is a long debated problem with no complete consensus agreement.

Until, we the human kind make up our mind collectively and put all effort to fight the enemy, we can gain no solid ground from all events serenely or at all events firmly the crisis which mankind is facing now.

It has sometimes been maintained after the first wave in our country (India). But while celebrating assuming the virus has completely been defeated, today India becomes the largest hit country by Covid-19 pandemic.

The total death case by coronavirus has 3.11 lakhs people and the total active case is over 24 lakhs.

Coming back to Manipur, the number of Covid-19 victims is also on the rise. A state with just around 34 lakhs population, have recorded the number of people killed by covid-19 have reached 730. Number of positive cases as on May 26 is 7,243 people. And to be precise almost all people of the state are being hit severely. And as per experts the pandemic is not going to end soon. Who Knows it may last forever.

Saying so, the human mind is strong enough to protect himself from any kind of attack. We have put under control the HIV/AIDS epidemic, defeated plague, diarrhoea, malaria, Spanish flu etc.

If the Covid-19 virus (SARS-2) continues to live among the human kind, the intelligence of human kind will definitely find a way to live making sure that the covid-19 virus may find a way to harm the human being. But this case is only possible if those running the government of each nation and their respective states act with a commitment by leaving aside their selfish idea of earning more or their desire to use these hard times as their tool to come back to power.

We the people of India and Manipuris in particular have seen too much publicity from the side of the Government in the war against the covid-19. But people today have realized that publicity is not the weapon of the choice for the common man.

It is not the bullets and bayonets needed at this hour but a piece of bread that could make people survived. What is required are hospitals and infrastructures plus manpower with more Oxygen generating plants that will give hope to the people. It will be the shield to protect themselves from the attack of the virus if the government if the government speed up covid-19 vaccines. And it will be the collective wisdom of all people that will enable us to live even if the coronavirus refund leaves earth.

CM launches MHIM Mobile App for Home Isolation Patients

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched Manipur Home Isolation Management (MHIM) Mobile Application for Home Isolation Patients at Chief Minister's Secretariat today. The Mobile Application is developed by Pentabyte Technologies LLP.

The Mobile App is being developed with a mission to avail real time health data and information of Home Isolation COVID-19 patients at monitoring level. With this App, patients can upload their health status including Pulse rate, SpO2, Body Temperature and



Blood Pressure among others using fixed parameters at fixed intervals as set by the Health Department from time to time.

The data uploaded will then be divided as critical and normal depending on the parameters and conditions set by the

Health Department.

In case of detection of any critical data, the system will raise an alarm to the monitoring team so that immediate attention and precautionary measures can be provided to the patients preventing further health deterioration.

Principal Secretary V. Vumlung was also present during the launch of the Application.

The Mobile App can be downloaded from Google Play Store for Android users. MHIM App which is meant for use by health workers and staff to upload health status of Home Isolation patients will also be launched soon.

MPCC demands free treatment for Covid-19 Patient

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

The Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) today demanded free treatment for all Covid-19 patients. In a virtual press meet held today through zoom application, spokesperson of the MPCC Bhupenda said that every covid-19 positive patient should be treated at free of cost at either government

of private hospital. For that the government should establish a scheme or package.

Talking to media persons, the congress spokesperson questioned the government on the modalities of how a person who are living on hand to mouth will be able to get the Covid treatment using CMHT or PMJAY card. He also attacked the ruling regime about the hospital rate fixed for the private hospital which

starts from Rs. 3000 to a minimum of Rs. 10,000 when most people cannot earn Rs. 1500/- a day leaving aside the curfew which is being imposed.

The Congress spokesperson also hit hard to BJP MP Dr. RK Ranjan for trying to put blame to congress party on the management of the COVID crisis saying that the congress is doing all it can while he BJP which is running the government had failed to make any

concrete decision or policy to fight this pandemic.

In connection with the inauguration of Covid care hospital by the Chief Minister at Keirao yesterday, Bhupenda alleged that the hospital was initially constructed as TB Hospital. He said that the so called Covid hospital as announced by the Chief Minister is a blatant lie and no COVID hospital has so far not been constructed in the state.

ASUK condoles the untimely demise of three PREPAK members

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

Alliance for Socialist Unity, Kangleipak (ASUK), a joint body of two major rebel group operating in the region - KYKL and KCP today condole the demise of the three cadres of another armed rebel group PREPAK in a tragic incident.

In a condolence message signed by N. Oken, Chairman of the ASUK expressed pain and sorrow to the untimely

demise of the three cadres of PREPAK - Acting Chairman Khumujam Ratan @ Kh. Sathy, Organisation Secretary Mayengbam Joychand @ Micheal Luwang and Lt. Col. R.K. Ramananda @ Roger, the army of the Red Army PREPAK.

The ASUK statement also share the pain and sorrow of the family members of the departed cadres. It said that late Acting Chairman Kh. Sathy was the jewel of the revolutionary move-

ment in the WESEA region. The ASUK recalled the courage of the revolutionary leaders who had contributed all his energy for the upliftment of the revolutionary movement. Late Sathy was arrested time and again but he never lost courage and continue the revolutionary movement after coming out of the enemy's hand.

ASUK also term the lost of organisation secretary Micheal as the lost of visionary young revolution-

ary leaders. The ASUK recalled on the hard work of Micheal to march ahead the movement. His dedication on research work and discussion was also recalled by ASUK.

Micheal had written various articles, lyrics etc. but everything he pen pictured were all encircled around the revolutionary movement. The ASUK also term the demise of Lt. Col Roker as great lost of Kangleipak and is revolutionary movement.

IMA condemn Dr. Chinglen's article

IT News
Imphal, May 27:

Indian Medical Association Manipur State Branch has condemned an article written by one Dr Chinglen Maishnam and published at the Poknapham daily on 26th May, 2021.

A statement of the IMA Manipur State Branch said that while doctors, nurses and other healthcare providers of the state are fighting the present pandemic risking their own lives, publishing such a derogatory article is uncalled for and it will definitely

dampened the morale of the front-line workers at this critical juncture. The comparison of chargeable rates for RT-PCR test for Manipur with other states is also miss leading as RT-PCT tests are done free of cost at government hospitals like RIMS and JNIMS while the chargeable rates for the same test at private hospitals are fixed by the state government. Furthermore, the pictorial that comes with the article representing a doctor and a nurse squeezing patient to mint money is very callous, childish and unbecoming of his stature.

Covid-19 second wave can impact child nutrition in India



By: Vijay GarG

With half the children under five in India being malnourished, the present Covid-19 crisis could further impact child nutrition and service delivery across the country that is in the grip of a ferocious second wave, said the UN Children's Fund UNICEF.

"With 27 million births and 30 million pregnancies every year, life-saving services to help women give birth are critical in India," said Yasmin Ali Haque, UNICEF Representative in India, on Friday.

"However, as health facilities continue to be overwhelmed treating Covid-19 patients, there are reports of pregnant women struggling to find the required support to give birth."

She noted that schools across the country remain closed, and remote learning is also disrupted in several states.

"This is tearing 247 million children in elementary and secondary education away from these safe spaces, just when they need them most. In addition, many children do not have access to digital learning. Learning loss will therefore continue for children in India.

"We're assisting the government to ensure that critical services for the most vulnerable children continue to function across all states.

"UNICEF in India has been on-the-ground working tirelessly since the start of the pandemic."

The UN official noted that India is in the grip of a ferocious second wave of Covid-19.

"In the last 24 hours (till May 7), India bore the burden of 414,188 new daily cases, which is highest daily case count ever recorded by any country in the history of Covid-19 pandemic — higher than even the count a day earlier (412,262). There were 3,915 deaths due to Covid-19.

"UNICEF is very concerned about this deadly daily surge in new cases. This wave is almost four times the size of the first wave and the virus is spreading much faster. On an average there were more than four new cases every second and more than two deaths every minute in last 24 hours.

"With the surge in cases, the virus is also affecting more people across age groups, including children and infants."

She said, "What is happening in India should raise alarm bells for all of us. The pandemic is far from over. Covid-19 cases are rising at an alarming rate across South Asia, especially in Nepal, Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Entire health systems could collapse, leading to more tragic loss of life.

"Very low levels of vaccination in most South Asian countries (less than 10 per cent in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal) is adding to concern of the virus spiraling even further. Besides South Asia, we are also seeing alarming situations in other parts of the world.

"Along with the increase in COVID-19 cases, the impact on children being affected by the virus has also increased. And of course the impact of the outbreak and public health and social measures on children is likely to be aggravated following the second wave. They are living through a tragedy.

"Children are losing parents and caregivers to the virus leaving many of them destitute, without parental care."

The UN official said, "While there isn't enough data yet, we can see that illegal adoption pleas have surfaced on social media, making these orphans vulnerable to trafficking and abuse.

"UNICEF is calling for greater efforts to safeguard these orphans. We need to promote kinship care, family tracing, enhance functionalities and accelerate the sponsorship of destitute families.

"This surge is having dire consequences for children whose access to essential health, social, protection and education services is being constrained.

"Children are facing mental health issues and are at greater risk of violence, as lockdowns shut them off from their vital support networks.

"They are missing out on life-saving routine immunization, critical care and treatment for pneumonia and other diseases."

UNICEF has sent critical lifesaving supplies to support India at this difficult time. For example, 3,000 oxygen concentrators, testing kits and other critical equipment in place.

It has sent additional critical lifesaving supplies to India, including two million face shields and 200,000 surgical masks. Additionally 2,000 more oxygen concentrators will arrive by the second half of May with another 2,650 being procured.

"We support the regular monitoring of more than 50,000 Covid vaccination centres across 27 states of India," the UN official said.

"Covid has shown more than ever we are living in an interconnected world. India is under threat today. We need solidarity to prevent the situation from getting worse in other countries. We are very thankful for the support and compassion from the international community. We need the compassion and contribution to continue until we see the end of the pandemic."

Letter to the Editor

Culinary ban

Sir,

While there is no harm in introducing the sale of alcohol in Lakshadweep, for it may provide employment to some people, the ban on beef is problematic. That the livelihoods of many butchers and an entire ecosystem will be hurt is undeniable. Further, since beef is cheaper than chicken or mutton and more nutritious, it is affordable to all. Such a ban will set a bad precedent.

Some may oppose non-vegetarian food, some may oppose alcoholic beverages, but we cannot be so insensitive and overpowered by our passions that we ban food randomly. Ban on food items cannot be the new normal. It would be the interest of all that the ban should be lifted.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,
Sauro Dasgupta
UG 3

Department of International Relations
Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times' can be sent to our e-mail: imphaltimes@gmail.com. For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-3590330 (O). For time being readers can reach the office at Cell Phone No. 9862860745 for any purpose.

Buddha Purnima

By: Sanjoo Thangjam

moon of May, with the rising of the morning star, Siddhartha finally attained nirvana, the state of permanence. He thus became the Buddha "One who is fully Awake."

Gautam Buddha was not a god and the philosophy of Buddhism does not entail any theistic worldview. The teachings of the Buddha are solely to liberate human beings from the misery and sufferings of life. According to the Buddhism, sorrow and desire are the main cause of all the evil and suffering of this world. Lord Buddha advocated the Eightfold Path consisting of precepts like right conduct, right motive, right speech, right effort, right resolve, right livelihood, right attention and right meditation to gain mastery over suffering. It is only after following this path one can reach the ultimate aim of Nirvana. Nirvana is the transcendental state of complete liberation. Gautama Buddha lived and taught in northern India in the 6th Century B.C.

Buddha travelled far and wide teaching hundreds of followers. Even after death, his disciples continued to spread his teachings. Rich and poor alike were attracted by the simplicity of Buddha's teaching and his emphasis on complete equality of all, a notion antithetical to the existing Hindu caste system. The Mauryan Emperor Ashoka espoused the Buddhist religion in the 3rd century B.C. and helped in spreading it far and wide. Sarnath and Bodhgaya are two of the most important pilgrimage centres for the Buddhists.

Though Buddhism originated in India and the religion has gained tremendous popularity throughout the Far East in Asia, there are very few practicing Buddhists in the country. The number of Buddhists in the world ranges "from less than two hundred million, to more than five hundred million, with the lower number closer to reality."

On this day, the pilgrims come from all over the world to Bodhi Gaya in Bihar to attend the Buddha Purnima celebrations. Apart from Bodhi Gaya, it is also celebrated in Lumbini, Kushinara and Sarnath (U.P.) as they are the holy places connected with Buddha. The day is

marked with prayer, sermons, religious discourses, group meditation, processions, and worship of the statue of Buddha. The Mahabodhi Temple wears a festive look on the occasion.

The Mahabodhi Temple wears a festive look and is decorated with colorful flags and flowers. On this Holy day, the Buddhists bathe and wear only white clothes. They gather in their viharas for worship and give alms to monks. Many spend their entire day at the vihara listening to discourses on the life and teachings of the Buddha or invite monks to their homes.

The Buddhists eat kheer, rice cooked in milk and sugar, which they share with the poor. They set up stalls in public places to offer others clean drinking water and also show kindness to animals. Birds are freed from cages. Fruits and clothes are distributed among the sick and abstinence is observed on eating meat. The Bodhi tree is revered. Its branches are decorated with garlands and colored flags. Rows of lamps are lit around the tree, and milk and scented waters are sprinkled on its roots. The rituals include prayers, sermons on the life of Gautam Buddha, continuous recitation of Buddhist scriptures, meditation by monks and devotees, and worship of the statue of Buddha. Offerings of incense, flowers, candles and fruit are made by believers, who prostrate several times in front of the idol.

Buddhists also reaffirm their faith in the five principles called Panchsheel. These five principles are:

- Not to take life
- Not to steal
- Not to lie
- Not to consume liquor or other intoxicants
- When the Buddha was 80 years old, he told his friend and cousin Ananda that he would be them soon. And so it came to be that on the night of full moon, in Kushinagara, he ate some spoiled food and fell ill. He went into deep meditation under a grove of sala trees and died. His last words were...

The writer is a Social Activist for People Who Use Drugs (PUDs)

More News

More than 1.84 crore doses still available with States/UTs to be administered

PIB New Delhi, May 27:

As part of the nationwide vaccination drive, Government of India has been supporting the States and UTs by providing them COVID Vaccines free of cost. In addition, the Govt. of India has also been facilitating direct procurement of vaccines by the States/UTs. Vaccination is an integral pillar of the comprehensive strategy of Government of India for containment and management of the pandemic, along with Test, Track, Treat and COVID Appropriate Behaviour.

Implementation of the Liberalized and Accelerated Phase-3 Strategy of Covid-19 Vaccination has started from 1st May 2021.

Under the Strategy, in every month 50% of the total Central Drugs Laboratory (CDL) cleared vaccine doses of any manufacturer would be procured by Govt. of India. It would continue to make these doses available to the State Govts totally free of cost as was being done earlier.

Government of India has so far provided, both through the free of cost category and through direct state procurement category, more than 22 crore vaccine doses (22,16,11,940) to States/UTs.

Petrol crosses Rs 100/litre in Thane, hits Rs. 99.94 in Mumbai

Agency New Delhi, May 27:

Petrol price on Thursday crossed the Rs 100-a-litre mark in Thane district of Maharashtra, while it was hovering a tad below that level in Mumbai, after fuel prices were raised again.

Petrol price was increased by 24 paise per litre and diesel by 29 paise a litre on Thursday, May 27, 2021, according to a price notification of state-owned fuel retailers.

The increase -14th this month- took petrol and diesel prices to an all-time high across the country.

The price of petrol, which had already crossed the Rs.100-mark in several cities in Rajasthan, Madhya

Pradesh and Maharashtra, breached the psychological barrier in the Thane district of Maharashtra on Thursday.

In Thane, petrol now comes for Rs. 100.06 a litre and diesel comes for Rs. 91.99 per litre.

In neighbouring Mumbai, petrol price increased to Rs. 99.94 per litre, while diesel rates soared to Rs. 91.87.

Local taxes Fuel prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes such as VAT and freight charges. Rajasthan levies the highest value-added tax (VAT) on petrol in the country, followed by Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

In Delhi, petrol price rose to Rs. 93.84 a litre and diesel to Rs. 84.61.

Relief, Rescue operations underway as Cyclone leaves trail of destruction in Odisha & West Bengal

Agency New Delhi, May 27:

In Odisha, district administration of the cyclone hit areas has stepped up their relief and restoration efforts. While road communication in many parts of the affected areas in north Odisha have been restored, works related to the electricity and water supply are also in full swing. Meanwhile,

Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has made an aerial survey of the affected districts today to assess the extent of the cyclonic damage.

In West Bengal, after the severe cyclone Yaas, high tide due to the full moon or purnima, known as 'bhora kotal' further damaged low lying coastal areas last night. Rivers were swollen and resulted in inundation of areas further. People were advised to

stay at relief centres and not to return to their homes. Hundreds of villages in the coastal areas of the Sundarbans are submerged.

In East Medinipur, the impact of Yaas left a trail of destruction at tourist places like Digha, Mandarmoni, Tajpur and Shankarpur along with coastal villages. Disaster management personnel are engaged in rescue and relief operations.