

Khongjom Day observed with State Honour

IT News
Imphal, April 23:

Khongjom Day was observed with state honour today. The main event was held at Kheba Ching at Khongjom in Thoubal District, Manipur. The observation was started with guard of honour with gun salute at the Samadhi of Paona Brajabashi, who sacrificed his life during the final battle of Anglo-Manipuri War fought in the year 1891. The State has been observing this day of April 23 every year as a mark to commemorate the sacrifices of our brave heroes.

Floral tribute was also held with traditional rituals and tarpan at Khongjom River as a part of the observation. Governor of Manipur La Ganesan, Chief Minister of Manipur Nongthombam Biren Singh, Ministers, MLAs and other top officials of the government also attended the floral tribute.

Speaking as Chief Guest, Governor of Manipur La Ganesan maintained that Life is sacrifice, sacrifice is life. The sacri-



fices made by our forefathers should always be remembered and honoured. We should follow their footsteps and their dignity should remain protected. Conquering the heart of the people is also a unique character of our leaders which we should learn from them.

La Ganesan further stated that India is a land of difference which makes the country unique from other countries. Likewise, Manipur also has a different character of history amongst the Indian states. People should understand the reason why Khongjom Day is being celebrated,

he added.

Giving presidential speech, Chief Minister, Nongthombam Biren Singh said that the age-old history of Manipur and sacrifices made by our forefathers will always remain in our hearts. The present historical site of Khongjom particularly Tengol Lampak will be beautified and upgraded soon after a cabinet decision. The call of Nation First and United India which was advocated by our leaders should be respected. Being a federal country the respect to states by the centre is worth appreciation. The

renaming of Mount Harriet in Andaman and Nicobar island as Mount Manipur by union home Minister Amit Shah is a living example of respect to Manipur by the union government, Biren added.

Khongjom Lal, a play based on the battle of Khongjom, 1891 was showcased by the artists of Art & Culture Department as a part of the observation. Khongjom Parba, a traditional folk song depicting the Khongjom battle, was also presented to the gathering by renowned folk singer Sundari Devi and her team.

The Editorial: Paying tribute to the unsung war heroes of Anglo-Manipur War

The people of the state today paid fitting tribute to the martyrs who had sacrificed their life fighting to safeguard the freedom of the erstwhile kingdom at the battlefield of Khongjom in 1891. The courage and spirit of our ancestors is worth remembering and paying tribute to those martyrs is our pride to prove the world that we the Manipuri were courageous, hardworking people who had always wanted to live life with dignity. It is a known fact that, our ancestors of that time knows well that there was no possibility of winning the war against the huge army of the British Empire, but they still fought knowing that they will defeat in that war. Our ancestors like Paona Brajabashi, Bir Tikendrajit, Pukhrambam Kajao, Niranjan Subedar, Chrai Thangal and Maharaja Kulachandra and unknown soldiers of the erstwhile kingdom would certainly dream of a nation at which people from across the world have great respect.

Unfulfilled promises, threats to the free speech, threats to the existence of indigenous people VIP culture are what the people are experiencing today.

The greatest tragedy of our state is that nothing seems to move until and unless extreme measures are resorted to: be it implementing rules of law or conveying the aspirations and needs of the public. Add to

it the fact that we, as a collective, have yet to realize the undeniable truth that the centre is evidently more concerned with preserving its national territory rather than improving the welfare of its citizens when it comes to affairs of the north east region of the country, in effect, reducing the importance of the region to that of a mere geographical entity.

The peculiarity of the situations confronting Manipur: from its geopolitical to socio-economic conditions needs to be tackled in ways that involves innovative and unorthodox methods. This calls for a more alert, swifter and sterner government capable of dispensing its plans and proposals more smoothly and effectively. The frustrations being felt by the public for a long time now need to be addressed. Every aspect of public life and governance has been beset with corruptions, controversies, scandals, accusations of favoritism, despotism and cronyism. The sooner the present guardians of the state admit to the allegations and own up to such aberrations, the sooner it can address and rectify itself.

Bringing in a system of governance that takes into confidence its people and their needs rather than dispensing administration by tweaking the system to suit its every whim will eventually prove to be the spark that lit up the fire of frustrations trampled expectations.

People faced draught in non-rainy season and flood during rainy season. The drainage system constructed in and around Imphal city by spending huge amount of money do not serve its purpose. And every one of us knows that these moneys meant for construction of the public properties are hijacked by people who are near and dear ones with those in the government.

This situation is not what our ancestors had wanted. They might now feel shame of what we are no. A simple offering of floral tribute is really not enough to pay respect to our ancestors, we need to build a strong state if we really wanted a fitting tribute to our leaders.

Water Resource Minister inspects bank of Jiri River

IT News
Jiribam, April 23:

Water Resource Minister of Manipur Awangbow Newmei visited Jiribam District and inspected bank of Jiri River, so as to check the river embankment before the monsoon season.

During the visit, the Ministry said Jiribam is the border district of the State and the district



boundary is mainly marked by the Jiri River. The erosion of

riverbank was seen in many places of the river, it require for urgent em-

bankment so as to protect the district boundary from erosion, He added.

He also said, it is his first visit after holding the portfolio of Water Resource Minister in the government. He will discuss with the concern department experts the issues of river banks and will take necessary measures for it.

Symposium on "Role of Book in National Development" held at MU

IT News
Imphal, April 23:

Synchronizing with the Celebration of India's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Department of Library and Information Science and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Cell, Manipur University organized a One Day Symposium on "Role of Book in National Development" on Saturday at 10:30 am at the premises of the Department as a part of Observance of 'Khongjom Day' and 'World Book & Copyright Day'. The function was graced by Dr. O. Ranjit Singh, HoD, An-


cient History and Archaeology, Manipur University as Chief Guest and Moderator of the Symposium which was presided over by Dr. Ch. Ibohah Singh, HoD, Library and Information Science and Nodal officer of Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) Cell, MU.

On the Occasion floral tributes were given by around forty participants of the function to the Photograph of Paona Brajabashi and observed 2 Minutes Silence as a mark of respect to the departed souls of our martyrs who laid down their lives in the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891. Dr. H. Ajit Singh,

faculty of the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, Manipur University spoke on the significance of observing Khongjom Day. Dr. Ch. Ibohah Singh also spoke on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and significance of the World Book & Copyright Day. In the said symposium a total of 12 students and research scholars of Manipur University participated actively.

The following three participants got positions: Gyanajeet Yumnam (First Position), Kungliangliu Marenmai (Second Position), Leishangbam Reena Devi (Third Position).

Moderator and Chief Guest of the function and Jury members of the symposium distributed certificates and gifts to the participants of the symposium. While giving his observation Dr. O. Ranjit Singh highlighted the importance of observing the Khongjom Day and Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and the relevance of the theme of the symposium on the occasion of World Book & Copyright Day. The function was formally concluded with a vote thanks proposed by Dr. R.K. Sofia Devi, Faculty of the Department of Library and Information Science, Manipur University.




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Today,
on the historic occasion of
"KHONGJOM DAY"
2022

let us pay our humble
tribute and homage to the
brave sons of the soil
who made their supreme sacrifices
for the cause of our motherland
in the legendary battle of
Khongjom in 1891.

Khongjom War Memorial, Khebaching, Thoubal
April 23, 2022 9:00 A.M.



Directorate of Information & Public Relations
Government of Manipur

If you love reading books you're the best

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



I have been very fond of books and magazines since my childhood days. Be it in my city or in any other city, even today the most favourite places of mine are bookstores, maga-

zine stalls and libraries. Magazines are gradually disappearing from the stalls, but books are everywhere, from book shops to airports and your mobile phones. Reading e-books has its own benefits. They are easy to carry and do not require any space. From the very beginning, there was an inclination to buy books, so a small library has been developed in the house. The places of living kept on changing when I was working for the newspaper houses, but the stock of books kept traveling together. As soon as I get free time from the busy work schedule, I feel like picking up a book and start reading. Books transport you to another world. Last year, I had to stay in the hospital for a long duration, where my favorite books stayed with me. With this, positive, creative and happy thoughts kept coming in my mind. When doctors and nurses saw me reading a book, they used to leave with a smile and give good compliments.

Vani, a well-known journalist and author, whose second novel - "Seconds Letter" is in news these days, says that "She cannot even imagine a home without books. Reading books gives motivation to write, and books introduce her to the experiences of other writers. During the last two years, when everyone was forced to stay indoors, it didn't make much difference to the book lovers. They were happy to get a lot of free time to sit comfortably and finish their favourite books, which was not possible earlier." These days Vani is busy writing a self-help book for women. As food lovers feel good in a sweets shop, the book lovers get satisfaction in a bookstore. One day I said to the owner of the English Book Shop that you are fortunate to be surrounded by so many books; you can read any new book you want." Can you imagine what his answer was, he said, "I have studied only till 10th standard. That's why I cannot read all the books but I can smell and tell which book will sell more." There are people like him also.

If someone asks what are the benefits of reading books, people will tell you different benefits. I believe that the biggest advantage of reading books is that you can live many lives in one life. Different authors must have poured many years of experience in their books, the benefit of which you can get within a few hours only. For those who want to improve their language, learn new words, then reading is a good way out. Reading has great benefits for your mental health. Reading is like an exercise to the brain. While reading a story, your mind can indulge in imaginations. Reading is fun. That's why many movies and TV shows are based on books. Reading increases concentration and introduces new words. The more words one knows, the more intelligent that person is. If you make a habit of reading a book before going to bed, you will definitely get a good sleep.

Significance of World Book Day (Book Festival)



By: Vijay Garg

World Book Day is celebrated every year on April 23 as World Book and Publishing Rights Day. This day is celebrated with the aim of promoting reading and publishing books and protecting intellectual property through copyright.

The celebration of this day by UNESCO started on April 23, 1995. It is inspired by Catalonia (Spain). Prior to April 23, 1923, this day was celebrated in Spain as Rose Day. On this day, the Spaniards used to give each other roses. On April 23, 1923, following the death of the great Spanish writer Miguel Cervantes, the Spaniards lovingly offered

books in place of the traditional rose petals to pay homage to him. This event became the basis for the celebration of World Book Day. The great English writer William Shakespeare died on April 23, the Inca Garcas de la Vega from Peru, Teresa de la Merca from France, Josep Pala from Spain, and the great Russian-American writer Vladimir Nabokov from Iceland died on April 23. It is also the birthday of the late Lexness of France, Mahisa Duan of France, Avram Davidson of America, Manuel Meez and many other great writers. To commemorate all these great literary writers, UNESCO started celebrating World Book and Copyright Day on April 23, 1995. This day is celebrated with the aim of encouraging people from all walks of life, rich and poor, children, youth and the elderly to read books. This day is celebrated as a 'book festival' by writers, publishers, booksellers and book lovers from all over the world. This day is a day for writers, publishers, booksellers to build mutual literary relationship with book lovers, which becomes a means of creating, publishing and selling literature according to the interests of readers of all classes. This day also serves to increase the interaction between the writers for acquiring intellectual property. In today's age of internet the importance of books is decreasing. Readers are spending more time and money chatting on the Internet, social networking and playing computer games than books. As a result of which their body, eyes and mind are being adversely affected, the human being is becoming more selfish, intolerant and violent.

While books provide a way for a human being to live a better life. Books accompany every moment of human life. Due to the importance of books, every year UNESCO gives the status of UNESCO World Book Capital to one city in the world. Starting from Madrid, Incheon is now ranked as the 15th UNESCO World Book Capital. The South Korean city of Incheon has been awarded the 2015 UNESCO World Book Capital for its book-raising programs, the contributions of all publishers who publish traditional books and modern e-books, and for book lovers to fall in love with books. Rated. New Delhi was also declared a UNESCO World Book Capital in 2003. Let's all work together today to develop a culture of reading books in all sections of society on World Book and Copyright Day. Buy and read books. Once purchased, the book lasts a lifetime. There is a need to create a trend of giving books instead of trophies or other expensive gifts in various occasions. There is a need to develop respect, love and interest in books. Having a personal library at home with books can make the home environment literary.

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Natural Ways to Maintain a Summer Glow

Summer is upon us in all its glory. There's nothing quite like glowy, dewy, radiant summer skin. Most of us, while taking care of our complexion during the warmer months can feel like a full-time job.

As the scorching summer rolls around, your skin's sebaceous glands start producing excess sebum (natural oil). The oil secreted gets stuck on the surface of the skin, leading to a whole lot of skincare issues like pimples, acne, rashes, stickiness, grease and blocked pores.

It's important to nourish your skin, particularly at this time of year.

It doesn't have to be expensive or difficult to keep up—you just have to make time and opt for simple and natural remedies while sticking to a healthy routine. Natural glowing skin doesn't just look good, it's a sign of vitality and wellness.

Try to keep your hands off your face

It can be very tempting but touching, picking or scratching your pimples will irritate skin, may make pimples worse and can spread to other areas. Every time your fingers meet your face, they transfer dirt and oils. It's a hard habit to break, but an important one.

Do not squeeze your pimples. Your hands aren't always clean, and dirt under your fingernails and improper squeezing can cause acne to spread or lead to further infection.

Pimples and blackheads shouldn't be picked at, scratched or pierced.

This usually leads to further inflammation and the spread of germs on neighbouring skin. Also, this will leave a bad pigmented scar. Ideally, stay away from irritating products, remain patient, and develop a regular skin cleansing regimen. One of the most basic tips for how to get rid of acne is simply to keep your hands to yourself.

Turmeric Powder

One of the best and simplest turmeric facial masks is to simply mix one teaspoon of turmeric powder in with two to three teaspoons of plain yogurt and a tsp of plain honey. Mix it well and make a paste of it. Apply this paste on face and other

affected areas and leave it to dry in natural environment. You can use it two three times in a week. Just remember one thing: never expose your body to sun rays after applying this. It may give you the reverse result. It gives best results at night.

Curd & Turmeric

mixture can not only remove all your acne, pimples or freckle but it can also give you a fair smooth skin.

Mix one part lemon juice to one-half part turmeric powder. Then stir the two ingredients together to make a smooth paste. Apply the paste on face using cotton pad and wash with cool water after 30 minutes.

Lemon juice is a natural antiseptic and anti-bacterial agent. It also helps to even out skin tone, which can reduce the appearance of older acne scars.

Hot turmeric milk (Haldi doodh) is a traditional haldi recipe in India. Just add a teaspoon in a cup of hot water and drink it daily night before going to bed. It will treat acne, provide glow to your skin and aid in digestion. Milk contains lactic acid that has a mild exfoliating effect. This mixture can keep your skin acne-free and make it soft.

Eat a healthy Diet

The relationship between diet and acne has been debated for years. Recent research suggests that any foods with a high glycemic index such as white bread, sugary soft drinks, cakes, doughnuts, pastries, candies, sugary breakfast cereals, greasy foods and other processed foods etc that cause a spike in insulin can lead to inflammation and an acne flare.

Regular consumption of high GI foods raises insulin levels, which may stimulate sebum production and inflammation, and raise androgen levels—all of which contribute to acne.

These studies suggest that a low-glycemic healthy balanced diet such as fruits, barley,



By: Shahnaz Husain

soybean sprouts and fibre-rich food, vegetables, legumes, nuts and whole or minimally processed grain may be helpful for individuals with acne-prone skin.

Neem Leaf

Take some Neem Bark and soak it for 5 minutes in the water. After that, outwear it on something and apply that paste on only the affected area.

Do it regularly for 2 week and you will see your spotless, acne free fair skin without any side effects.

Take two tablespoons of neem powder and sandalwood powder each, and add a little water and one tablespoon of rose water to make a paste. Apply it as a face pack and leave it on for 20 minutes. Wash with cool water and wipe clean. Alternatively you can use fresh leaves if you want. Boil neem leaves in water and filter the water from leaves, once it cools down. Mix sandalwood in neem water to form a thin paste. Apply on face and neck and leave to dry for 15 minutes and wash with clean water.

Boil about 20 neem leaves in half a litre of water till the leaves are soft and discoloured, and the water turns green. Strain and store in a bottle. Dip a cotton ball into it and wipe your face.

Stay hydrated

Dehydration also gives your skin a dull appearance and promotes inflammation and redness.

If you're dehydrated, your body may signal your skin's oil glands to produce more oil making it easier for acne sores to heal and reduces the overall risk of outbreaks.

Daily intake of Eight glasses of clean and normal water/juice, soup, coconut water, Lassi magically clears your skin. Being hydrated also ensures new skin cells develop correctly as sores heal. Drink more after exercise, if you're pregnant or breastfeeding or you spend time in a hot, humid environment.

Lemon

The simplest and most ubiquitous of ingredients, lemon juice is one of the most super effective and inexpensive at-home acne remedies.

Lemon juice is the best natural cleanser. Take a lemon and put its juice in a bowl. Take some cotton, with the help of it apply it on the face. Leave it until it gets dry. Wash it off. If you have dry skin then use it only once a week.

Other ingredients like sandalwood, basil (tulsi), mint (pudina), neem (margosa) can be used to treat eruptive conditions of the skin, like acne. They can be good protective and preventive treatments for oily skins.

Mix a few drops of lemon juice with honey and apply twice daily to the affected areas, let it absorb for over 15 minutes, and wash your skin with fresh water.

Moisturize

Moisturizing is a very important part of treating acne as moisturized skin tends to loosen sebum built up inside pores.

Many acne products contain ingredients that dry the skin. When your skin becomes dry, your body makes more oil. The extra oil can clog your pores, which may lead to more breakouts which is another reason to keep skin balanced by applying a moisturizer.

The right moisturizer can prevent your skin from becoming dry and irritated. Hydrating the skin surface can re-balance oil glands and help control acne and improve healing.

Always buy a lightweight, oil-free moisturizer that won't clog your pores.

Applying it after you wash helps to maintain hydration in your skin.

Apply skin treatments to your torso and limbs. Our feet have the largest pores on the body, so rub some of your healing creams and cleansers on the soles of your feet. Try an essential oil by blending pure frankincense with your favorite cream or rosehip oil, then rub it on the bottom of your feet.

(The author is international fame beauty expert and is called herbal queen of India)

May Day this year throws up big challenges for Indian working class

Central Trade Unions have to jointly defend their rights and livelihoods

By: Krishna Jha

May Day is here again. The central figure of the day, that is proletariat, is engaged in production and also in keeping alive the basic moving force of class divided society, which is its struggle against the capital. In the continuing thread of evolution going through phases which is called by Prof Maurice Dobb as the 'crucial watershed between the old mode of production and the new', the Day has its own significance. Among the twists and turns of the historical process of class struggle, the Day with its international significance, stands high replete with the memories of sacrifices and invincibility with which the working class has kept moving ahead.

The proletariat was discovered with its role in production with a scientific precision by Karl Marx and called revolutionary, an attribution based on facts, and not on emotions. Contrary to the anarchism that held even those not engaged in production, as revolutionary, Marx said absence of employment is a phenomenon of capitalism which is needed for its growth. It may seem contradictory, but the crowd of the unemployed at the factory gates facilitates its bargaining process. Poverty itself may create discontent and anger but involve-

ment in production process is the only merit that makes labour revolutionary, because it is this section of the society that creates value, which is material and also cultural, the identity to the society that capitalism gives to it.

It is the labour that causes the watershed for the shift, which is also revolutionary. It offers a collective in the society that is engaged in the vital process of production and keeps getting larger with maturing of industrialisation, where the ownership is in the hands of few. For the first time in the history of evolution, there remain only two sections in the society, facing each other, barely and openly. There is no third force at this stage. It is the final watershed, where larger masses of labour with a revolutionary zeal, take over the society. It is possible through labour only, no one else. The essential point here is not motion and change which exists in all socio-economic formations, but that it views motion and change based on two opposites, the classes at the roots, in a relationship of unity and struggle.

May Day has been one pointer among many when the working class took a step towards a new phase, a challenge, a consistent struggle for limiting the working time to eight

hours, which was earlier limitless for all age groups and inclusive of women and children. The victory at the end was blood soaked but decisive. It was in 1886, in Chicago where a conspiracy was hatched to trap the striking workers. A bomb was exploded where the workers were having a peaceful meeting. Innocents were killed and injured. Leaders of the movement were tortured and hanged. The unprecedented restraint and consistent struggle on part of the workers brought the opponents to accept the demands which were accepted by the entire world.

In our country, trade union activities had started in the last decade of nineteenth century. The All India Trade Union Congress itself was formed in 1920. Its president was Lala Lajpat Rai, a Congress leader. After independence, there were several bouts of strikes and struggles for the formation of labour laws that were finally granted. For building up self sufficient economy, the basis was created with public sector enterprises coming up in mining, steel, electricity and other sectors. In last more than seven decades, capitalism has got matured and so has been democracy. It is at this juncture that the challenge has come. It is the challenge to our national ethos, to

our multiplicity we have been so proud of, to our Constitution that has explained our democracy as sovereign, socialist, secular, republic. Our minorities face the danger of elimination. Our majority faces loss of vision.

The three pillars of democracy are to be merged in one, without any separate identity for judiciary, executive and legislature. For those employed, which is only a select few, the Labour Act is invalidated. It has been replaced by four labour codes. The centuries old Chicago victory has been reversed. Working hours are stretched up to ten to twelve hours, and in return, what they get is not enough even for the fuel to reach factory. So far as unemployment is concerned, according to CMIE data, it was on February 17, 2022, 7.55 percent, up from 6.57 percent in January this year. The disaster was caused by not taking into account the 6.6 million thrown out of job. The frightening reality of unemployment level on the ground forebodes horror. Yet the last word remains with the working class as no less than twenty crore of them came out on the streets in protest against the injustices inflicted upon the masses in the country on March 28-29.

(IPA Service)

COVID fourth wave scare: India sees 2,527 new infections, 33 deaths in last 24 hours; Delhi worst-hit

Agency
New Delhi, April 23:

As many as 2,527 new infections of coronavirus were reported in India in the last 24 hours, taking the country's overall tally to 4,30,54,952, as per the Union Health Ministry's data on Saturday morning.

With new infections, the active tally in the country has reached 15,079, while the death toll has climbed to 5,22,149 as 33 more people succumbed to the deadly disease, the health ministry said. The active cases comprise 0.04 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has been recorded at 98.75 per cent, it added.

It further stated that the daily positivity rate has been recorded at 0.56 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at

Mizoram reports 112 new Covid-19 cases

Agency
Aizawl, April 23:

Mizoram's COVID-19 active caseload currently stands at 672 with 112 more people being diagnosed with the virus in the last 24 hours, a health official said on Saturday.

The fresh cases, which outnumbered the previous day's cases by 21, raised the total count to 2, 26,702, the official said.

0.50 per cent. As many as 1,656 people also recovered from the deadly disease during the same time, taking the tally of patients who have recuperated from the disease to 4,25,17,724.

The national capital has

The state did not report COVID-19 death for the third consecutive day on Saturday and the toll now is 694, he said.

The fresh cases detected from 858 sample tests put the single-day positivity rate at 13 per cent against 8.97 per cent on the previous day, he said.

As many as 2, 25,336 people have recovered from the infection so far, including 54 people on Friday, he said.

The recovery rate among

COVID-19 patients stood at 99.39 per cent and the death rate at 0.30 per cent.

The northeastern state has so far tested more than 19.15 lakh samples for COVID-19.

Over 8.43 lakh people have been inoculated till Thursday and out of this 6.77 lakh people have received the second dose and 33,141 people received the precautionary dose, according to the health department.

department.

With this, the active cases in the national capital breached the 3,000 mark and currently stand at 3,253. This is the highest since February 15 when the active cases in the city stood at 3,397.

44 AR celebrates World Earth Day : Van Mitra Abhiyan



IT News
Imphal, April 23:

In continuation to its long drawn efforts to promote afforestation and create awareness amongst the locals regarding benefits of tree plantation, 44 Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ 22 Sector AR/ IGAR (East) organized a drive to re-visit last year's saplings planted by the battalion. Last year through various initiatives under Vanmahotsav, the battalion had planted 82,000 sapling in various parts of Tamenglong and KPI district.

The Van Mitra Abhiyan aims at revisiting last year's

planted saplings to ascertain their growth, nutritional requirements, cutting, pruning and weeding process. The event witnessed jawans of the unit planting fresh saplings to replace the dead ones. One of the objective of this drive was to spread awareness among locals and troops about importance of trees and also of the secondary advantages acquired like prevention of soil erosion and landslides. These saplings included local varieties like Parkia (Bitter bean), Palm, Orange, Tamarind, Lemon, Guava and Jackfruit. The fragile ecology of Tamenglong requires concrete

efforts by all residents at all levels. Spreading awareness and working together with locals, Assam Rifles desires to initiate a change, a change for sustainable development alongwith balancing the ecology of the region.

Addressing the participants of this drive Commandant, Tamenglong Battalion stressed on the ownership of the saplings planted by each individual. This initiative by the unit will go a long way in creating a healthy green zone for locals of Zeliad region. He further called upon youth to be the one, to take the lead in plantation drive.

Two Suicide attackers, a CISF officer Killed in an encounter in Jammu



The security personnel patrolling the Sunjwan area. (Inset Left: ASI Patil). (Right): A portion of fideyen vest recovered by police from the encounter site.

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, April 23:

Two terrorists and a CISF inspector was killed and security personnel were injured, in an encounter on Friday, ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Samba in Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday.

A Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) S P Patil was killed and five others were injured when a bus carrying 15 CISF personnel going for morning shift duties was attacked by terrorists at about 4.25 hrs near Chaddha Camp in Sunjwan area of Jammu on Friday. The terrorists fired at the bus and lobbed grenades injuring ASI Patil and others. Patil succumbed to injuries while others are admitted to the local hospital.

The CISF averted the terror-

ist attack, retaliated effectively, and forced the terrorists to run away. After that the terrorists and took shelter in the house of a local resident. Later they attacked CISF personnel while going for an ongoing cordon and search operation.

The gunfight began when terrorists opened fire on the search party. In the retaliatory firing, two terrorists were killed. They were identified as Jaish-e-Muhammad (JeM) militants wearing fideyen (suicide attackers) vests, whose aim was to inflict maximum damage on forces. Defence PRO Colonel Devendra Anand, Jammu told the **Imphal Times** that the encounter was carried out by the J & K Police and armed forces were coordinating with police and other security forces.

Dr. Anil Pandey, DIG Operations, CISF told the **Imphal**

Times that while ASI Patil was killed, five others were injured, one of them grievously, in the attack. Our 13 companies are deployed in law and order support duty against J&K, he added.

"DG CISF and all ranks salute the supreme sacrifice of #Braveheart ASI S P Patil who laid down his life while valiantly fighting terrorists @ Jammu. Your indomitable courage and selfless sacrifice would remain an abiding source of inspiration for us. We stand with the aggrieved family" CISF said in a tweet.

Director-General of Police (DGP), J&K **Dilbag Singh** said that the slain militants were tasked to carry out a major suicide strike to sabotage the upcoming visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Both the militants were foreigners and were tasked to either target a security

camp or to engage a large number of security forces to inflict maximum casualties.

Acting on the information about the presence of militants in the Sunjwan area, a cordon was laid by the police and CISF personnel and the militants' bid was foiled. As of now, there are no inputs to suggest that the slain militants were planning to attack the PM's upcoming rally at Samba on April 24.

Three AK-47 rifles, grenades, magazines, eatables, medicines, energy drinks, etc were recovered from the militants. These are normally found on fideyen. Since they had no old history, it seems they had infiltrated recently just to carry out a big strike," the DGP Singh added.

In the meanwhile Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit Pali Village in the Samba district on the occasion of Panchayati Raj Diwas on Sunday. Over 700 panchayats across the country will be connected virtually to the main function at Pali Panchayat. On the occasion the PM will address over 30,000 members of J & K rural bodies. He is also scheduled to launch the industrial development projects with an investment of Rs 70,000 crore. He will also inaugurate a 500 KV solar project to provide clean electricity to 340 odd households. The plant has been set up under the Gram Urja Swaraj program by a Public Sector Undertaking functioning under the Department of Scientific and industrial research.

AR organises Recruitment Rally Awareness Camp

IT News
Imphal, April 23:

Loktak Battalion under the aegis of IGAR(South) organised a recruitment rally awareness camp at Kangvai, Churachandpur district yesterday.

The camp was organised to spread awareness amongst the youths and locals about Assam Rifles Meritorious Sports Person Recruitment Rally 2022. During the interaction, youths were encouraged

to explore career opportunities in Armed Forces.

Village authorities and local Youth Association members attended the event and expressed their gratitude for such informative events.

Assam Rifles conducts Medical Camp and Legal Awareness Programme

IT News
Imphal, April 23:

Churachandpur Battalion under the aegis of IGAR(South) organised Medical Camp and legal awareness programme in collaboration

with District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) at Chongkhazou, Churachandpur District yesterday.

The event was organised on the occasion of World Earth Day to provide legal guidance

and awareness to the local populace.

The awareness program was followed by a medical camp. The health checkup of 150 locals was carried out by medical team from Assam Rifles.

Nagaland Government increases retirement age of doctors

Agency
Kohima, April 23:

Guided by the announcement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in May, 2016, the Nagaland Government decided to increase the retirement age of all medical

doctors, including AYUSH and dental doctors, from 60 to 62 years of age through re-employment as a consultant, senior consultant and specialist to work in the hospitals and clinics, officials said here on Friday.

An official of the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said that the State Cabinet took the decision on Thursday, guided

by the pronouncement made by the Prime Minister at Saharanpur on May 26, 2016, and the decisions taken by the Central Government subsequently.

The Central Government had issued an order on May 31, 2016 enhancing the age of superannuation of various categories of medical officers of the Central Health Service (CHS) to 65 years, the official said.

All NE capitals to be linked with Delhi by 2024: Raosaheb Patil Danve

Agency
Agartala, April 23:

All the Northeastern State capitals would be connected with the national capital by railway network by 2024, Minister of State for Railways, Raosaheb Patil Danve, said here on Friday. The Minister, who is on a three-day visit to Tripura, said that ever since Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister in 2014, the Centre has taken up an ambitious project to extend the railway network in the Northeast-

ern region in a mission mode.

"To connect the State capitals of all the Northeastern States by railway network with the national capital, projects are under implementation. Over 60 per cent work on these projects have already been completed and the remaining 40 per cent work would be completed by 2024," Danve told the media.

Guwahati (adjoining Assam's capital Dispur), Tripura capital Agartala and Arunachal Pradesh's Nahaarlagun (adjacent to the State capital Itanagar) are

already connected with Delhi by rail.

Danve also said that by December this year, the work on the Agartala-Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway project would be completed in the Indian territory.

"Once the Agartala-Akhaura railway project is commissioned, people of the Northeastern States, especially Tripura, can go to Kolkata by rail saving 22 hours of travel time. Currently, the people of the region, especially those in Tripura and its adjoining areas,

go to Kolkata via Guwahati by rail, spending more than 38 hours," the Minister pointed out.

Earlier on Friday, Danve visited the under-construction 12.24 km Agartala-Akhaura railway project on the outskirts of Agartala.

The Agartala-Akhaura railway line would facilitate ferrying of goods to and from both the countries and greatly benefit India's land-locked Northeastern States.

Officials in the Northeast

Frontier Railway (NFR) said that the journey time between Agartala and Kolkata, via Bangladesh, would be reduced by a third, from 1,613 km through the Northeastern States via Silguri, to a mere 514 km.

The NFR is the nodal agency of the Rs 1,000 crore Agartala-Akhaura railway project, which was finalized in January, 2010 when Bangladesh premier Sheikh Hasina met then Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during her visit to New Delhi.

Document Lost

I, Rana Das have lost my original Marksheet, Registration Card and Admit Card of High School Leaving Certificate Examination, 2010 (Private), bearing Roll B10 No. 3025, issued by the Board of Secondary Education, Assam on the way between Bhutangkhali to Jiribam bazaar on April 19, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Rana Das
Bhutangkhal, Jiribam
Contact No. 9383114326

Work of removing AFSPA underway since 3-4 years in northeastern states, says Rajnath Singh in Assam

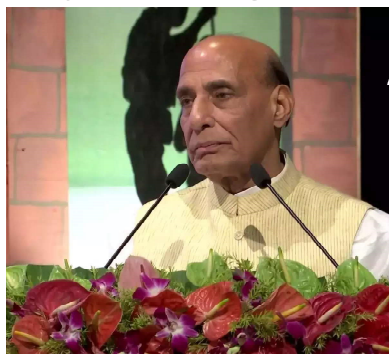
Agency
Guwahati, April 23:

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, who is on a day-long visit to Assam, on Saturday lauded the Centre and the state government for significantly reducing the footprint of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the northeast.

Speaking at the felicitation ceremony of 1971 War Veterans in Guwahati, he said the work of removing AFSPA is underway for the last three to four years in northeastern states.

"It's no small thing that for the last 3-4 years, the work of removing AFSPA is being done in the northeastern states. Recently AFSPA was completely removed from 23 districts of Assam," ANI quoted the Defence Minister as saying.

"AFSPA was removed from 15 police stations in Manipur



and Nagaland. That in itself means a lot. This is the result of durable peace and stability in this area," he added.

The Central government had recently announced the withdrawal of AFSPA from 15

police station areas in seven districts of Nagaland; 15 police station areas in six districts of Manipur; 23 districts entirely and one district partially in Assam.

"In a significant step, Gol

under the decisive leadership of FPM Shri @NarendraModi Ji has decided to reduce disturbed areas under Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) in the states of Nagaland, Assam and Manipur after decades," Union Home Minister Amit Shah had said in a tweet.

The Assam government has organised the award ceremony to honour the sacrifices of soldiers who took part in the 1971 Bangladesh Liberation War. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, his cabinet colleagues, and senior government officials were also present at the event.

The Defence Minister will also attend the 7th India Industrial Fair (UDYAM 2022) at the veterinary field, Khanpara in Guwahati later in the day. Tight security arrangements have been made in Guwahati for the Defence Minister's visit.

Rescue countries facing debt stress in uncertain times: FM to World Bank

Agency
Washington, April 23:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has underlined the need to rescue countries facing debt stress due to the uncertainty caused by the pandemic and the recent geo-political developments.

During a meeting with World Bank Group President David Malpass on Friday, Sitharaman said India remains concerned about the risks to global recovery due to rising uncertainty amidst enhanced geopolitical tensions.

The Finance Minister, who is visiting the US to attend IMF-WB Spring Meetings 2022, suggested that multilateralism has become more critical as the world is undergoing a phase of exceptional uncertainty, a finance ministry statement said.

"On account of the pandemic and the recent geo-political developments, there is a need for the World Bank to come to the rescue of countries facing debt stress. In particular, the World Bank needs to pay special attention to Sri Lanka, which is facing an unprecedented economic situation," she said.

Sri Lanka, a neighbouring nation of India, is grappling with its worst-ever economic crisis compounded by forex shortages and a balance of payments crisis.

The country's economic crisis is caused in part by a lack of foreign currency, which has meant that the country cannot afford to pay for imports of

staple foods and fuel, leading to acute shortages and very high prices.

The island nation is witnessing large-scale protests against the government's handling of the debt-ridden economy – the worst-ever economic crisis in Sri Lanka's history.

During the meeting, the Finance Minister stated that India's pandemic response has focused on the twin goals of saving lives and livelihoods.

India has been successfully running the world's second largest vaccination programme, administering more than 1.85 billion doses of vaccine, she said.

She also discussed the impact of the Russia-Ukraine conflict on the world economy and India in particular; economy and role of the World Bank Group; Single Borrower Limit and exploring the possibility of Guarantees from other nations and India's G20 Presidency.

Sitharaman highlighted India's roadmap for infrastructure development and said the country looks forward to World Bank's continued support for financing investments for the National Infrastructure Pipeline and Gati Shakti programme.

Last year, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a Rs 100 lakh crore national master plan for multi-modal connectivity that aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.

PM Gati Shakti targets to cut logistic costs, increase cargo handling capacity and reduce the turnaround time. The plan

aims to lend more power and speed to projects by connecting all concerned departments on one platform.

Participating in the 105th Meeting of the Development Committee Plenary, the Finance Minister said India's economic growth in the current year is robust and highest among all large economies and reflects India's resilience and strong recovery.

As per the Economic Survey 2021-22, the Indian economy is expected to grow by 8-8.5 per cent in the fiscal beginning April 1, and is well placed to meet the future challenges on the back of widespread vaccine coverage, supply-side reforms and easing of regulations.

The items on the agenda included Digitalisation & Development, Making Debt Work for Development & Macroeconomic Stability and World Bank Group's Response to Global Impacts of the War in Ukraine: A Proposed Roadmap, a separate statement said.

In her intervention at this session, the Finance Minister underlined that India voluntarily offered COVID Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoVIN) platform to all countries and stands willing to provide assistance for other public-goods platforms recognising the importance of replication of proven and scalable digital platforms.

She also drew attention of the distinguished gathering in the meeting to the unprecedented situation in Sri Lanka and hoped for decisive relief to the island nation.

Blood Donation camp held

IT News
Imphal, April 23:

A blood donation camp was held yesterday at Blood Bank, RIMS. It was organised by Group Center, CRPF, Langling, Imphal and supported by Indian Red Cross Society, Imphal West Branch, Manipur.

The Blood Donation Camp was held as a part of CRPF Yearly Calendar Activities Shree Madan Kumar DIG, CRPF Group Centre Langling.



Yesterday the blood donation were contributed by Re-

spected DIGP, SH Madan Kumar, Deputy Commandant

M. Somorani Devi along with 20 CRPF personnel.

Sports

I-League: Stubborn Indian Arrows hold on for point against TRAU

Agency
Kalyani, April 23:

A cagey encounter between TRAU and Indian Arrows ended in a goalless draw, here at the Kalyani Stadium. The result means that TRAU and Arrows have now played a 0-0 draw against each other in both the phases of this season's Hero I-League.

The game got off to a very cagey start with both sides testing the waters in the opening few minutes. Nearing the 10-minute mark, TRAU had a glorious opportunity to put their noses in front when Roger Khuman picked Salam Johnson Singh out with a superb long ball into the Arrows' box. Singh's initial effort was saved brilliantly by keeper Zahid Bukhari. The rebound fell to Singh again and the striker's second attempt came off the upright as TRAU failed to capitalise on a golden opportunity.

A minute later, Douglas Veloso came close but ended up clattering with the keeper and conceding a foul. Md Fayazuddin and Roger Khuman were able to find Veloso at the end of their passes but on both the occasions, the Brazilian put it over the crossbar. Fernandinho also tried his luck from range but it was wayward.

Arrows were kept in their own half for majority of the time but did dare to trot for-



ward midway through the first half. Arrows' skipper Taison Singh stood over a free-kick on the right flank, on the edge of the box and whipped in a cross that was too deep and missed the heads of all players and went out for a goal kick. To add to their woes, Arrows also lost Leewan Castanha to an injury just before half-time.

The second half started off exactly the way the first half did. Neither of the keepers were really tested till the 51st minute when Parthib Gogoi forced Bishorjit Singh to make a save. Arrows launched another attack in quick succession, this time Viben Mohanan could not keep his effort on target.

After dealing with consecutive attacks, TRAU

played the ball forward. Salam Johnson Singh tried his luck from an acute angle but his effort was deflected out for a corner. Raj Basfore was defensively astute for Arrows, consistently dealing with TRAU attacks and long balls into the box.

Minutes past the hour mark, with options on either side, Brijesh Giri went for goal himself but his effort was palmed over the bar by Bishorjit Singh. Fayazuddin delivered another cross towards Douglas Veloso, at the other end, and the Brazilian failed to keep it on target again.

Substitute Premkumar Meitei almost put TRAU in the lead when he took the ball away from keeper Zahid Bukhari and took a shot at goal. His effort was heroically

denied by Arrows' substitute Abdul Hannan who got his head in the way and ensured that the ball went out for a corner.

Eight minutes from time, Fernandinho made a mazy run into the Arrows' box but he was thwarted by the defence and the ball went out for a corner that resulted in nothing. Defences were on top and finishing was not up to par as the game ended in a goalless draw.

A point takes TRAU above Real Kashmir in the Relegation Playoff Table. Both sides are level on points, TRAU have a better goal difference. A point takes Indian Arrows above Sudeva Delhi. Again, both sides are level on points but Arrows have a better goal difference.

Rajasthan Royals beat Delhi Capitals by 15 runs



Agency
Mumbai, April 23:

Rajasthan Royals beat Delhi Capitals by 15 runs in their Indian Premier League match here on Friday. RR posted an imposing 222 for 2 after being asked to bat, riding on a magnificent 116 from opener Jos Buttler, and then restricted DC to 207 for eight.

Chasing an imposing target, DC captain Rishabh Pant top-scored with a 44 while Prithvi Shaw and Lalit Yadav contributed 37 each. For RR, Prashidh Krishna took three wickets while Ravichandran Ashwin got two.

Delhi Capitals skipper Rishabh Pant won the toss and elected to bowl against Rajasthan Royals at Wankhede Stadium. It is a crucial game for Delhi who are badly affected by COVID-19 as their head coach Ricky Ponting is also observing isolation after his family member tested COVID positive. While Delhi decided to go unchanged against Rajasthan to not disturb their winning combination. It was the same case for Rajasthan as they play with the same XI from the last match.

Despite getting hit by COVID-19, Delhi bounced back in emphatic fashion against

Punjab Kings to register a 9-wicket win as their bowlers were too good for Mayank and Co. However, things will not be the same when they clash against Rajasthan Royals who are in great form this season with Jos Buttler leading the charge with the bat, Yuzvendra Chahal troubling batters with his spin. The RR camp has both the Orange Cap and Purple Cap holder and Delhi Capitals need to be wary of that on Friday.

Rajasthan have covered all their bases this season and are putting some collective performances this season, while Delhi Capitals' middle-order has been an area of worry for them. Having a destructive duo of Prithvi Shaw and David Warner at the top, Delhi have their own struggles in the middle-order which have failed to live up to their expectation so far this season.

For Delhi, Kuldeep along with Axar Patel and Lalit Yadav would like to stem the run-flow but stopping Buttler will be on

top of their agenda on a Wankhede track that is expected to be good for batting.

For Chahal, how he varies the pace against a rampaging David Warner or the ever-attacking Prithvi Shaw and skipper Rishabh Pant will be a delight for the fans.

In the past five years, life has come to a full circle for 'Kul-Cha' who were the 'taste' of the nation between 2017 and 2019 when wrist spinners were in vogue during the Ravi Shastri-Virat Kohli era.

Mustafizur Rahman's cutters and Khaleel Ahmed's clever change of pace could also shake the likes of Sanju Samson and Rryan Parag.

Similarly, if Trent Boult gets one to tail in first, Shaw's response and technique will be tested in earnest.

But Royals have now got a calm death bowler in West Indies' Obed McCooy, who was brilliant while bowling the final over against KKR.

Migration Certificate Lost

I have lost my Original Migration Certificate issued by Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, bearing Roll No. 182808 of 2019 on the way between my residence and Canechpur on April 21, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-

R.K. Lembisana Chanu
D/o (L) R.K. Tombisana Mangang
Yaikul Sanakhwaon Kollap