

## Two persons including a police constable arrested with a huge amount of Brown Sugar

IT News  
Moreh, April 3:

A team of Tengenoupal district police arrested two persons including a Police constable with a huge quantity of brown sugar worth around Rs. 2 Crore 20 lakhs, while trying to smuggle inside the territory of Manipur from Moreh side.

According to a police source, the seized brown sugar from the two persons weight around 3.795 Kg and was packed in 92 soap cases who came in a Honda City Car, bearing Registration number MN02B 6350. The police constable has been identified as D. Letkholun Haokip, 37 yrs (constable No. 1802127 of Ccpur Police Reserve Line), S/o D. Dongthang Haokip of Lajangphai village, Churachandpur. The one who was driving the car has been identified as Ngamkhohao Haokip, 22 yrs, s/o Seikhohun Haokip of Songpoh village, Ccpur. Soon after the seizure and arrest of the police con-



stable and his company Tengenoupal district Superintendent of Police Goliamang informed the SP of Ccpur about the Transportation of Drugs by one of its police personnel.

As per information from the Tengenoupal district police, the two along with the

drugs were arrested at around 8 am yesterday morning while checking the Honda City car which was suspicious coming towards Imphal from border town Moreh by a team led by Sub-Inspector A. Biren Singh at Tengenoupal police checkpoint.

The police have registered

a case under FIR No. 18(3)22 TPL-PS u/s 21(c)/29/60(3) NDPS Act.

The police team is investigating to nab the drug lords/Kingpins.

Cash reward was also handed over to the team of the SP of Tengenoupal district Police for the seizure.

## 10-year-old girl attends school while babysitting her sister; Minister Biswajit extends support

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

Pleased with her dedication, Thangam Biswajit Singh, Minister of Agriculture of Manipur, has determined to deal with her training until she graduates.

A ten-year-old woman's wrestle to attend college whereas babysitting her sister in Manipur is successful hearts on social media.

Meiningslinliu Pamei from Tamenglong attends college and in addition babysits her sister, as her dad and mom exit for farming, preserving her youthful sister in her lap.

As soon as the photograph of little Meiningslinliu surfaced on social media, Thangam Biswajit Singh, Minister of Agriculture of Manipur, shared it with prime minister Narendra Modi, dwelling minister Amit Shah and different BJP leaders. He expressed his amazement on



Twitter, saying, "Her dedication for training is what left me amazed!"

"As quickly as I observed this information on social media, we hint her household and requested them to carry her Imphal. Spoke to her household that I'll personally deal with her training until she graduates. Pleased with her

dedication," added the minister.

Government of India's initiative to promote girl child education, Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, has seen a significant rise in number of girls being sent to schools now, and such examples of dedication towards education will only help to take the program forward.

## NSF denounces Govt. for removal of AFSPA from a few selected area in NE

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

The Naga Students' Federation (NSF) outrightly rejected the ploy of the Government of India (GOI) to please some few sections of the North-Eastern people by lifting the draconian Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act 1958 from some pockets of the region while still allowing the inhumane Act to be in operation in almost all parts of the Naga homeland.

"While there is no denying that areas falling under 15 police stations in the state of Nagaland is set to benefit from the above stated policy of the GOI, the Federation is appalled that a major chunk of the Naga homeland spread across the four Indian States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur and Nagaland are yet again classified as Disturbed Areas", a statement of the Federation said.

The statement said, "It es-

capates the reasoning of the Federation as to what yardsticks were used to lift the Act from certain areas of the NE region as police stations within the Naga homeland which have almost perfect law and order record(s) thereby projecting a relatively peaceful and tranquil environment are completely left out".

This step of the GOI is rubbing more salt into the wounds of the Naga people who are still reeling under the shock of the Oting incidents wherein 14 innocent Naga souls were mercilessly massacred by the Indian armed forces in a botched military operation. The Federation is, thereby, left to wonder as to whether the GOI has any regard or respect for the lives, emotions and sentiments of the Naga people, the NSF continues.

The Federation reiterate its earlier stand that the Naga people does not merit the Act which has empowered the In-

dian military and para Military war machines with unlimited powers to extend their evil claws and judicial impunity to arrest, torture, kill and to commit everything inhuman. Further, The Federation vehemently denounced the very oppressive, repressive and inhuman instrument being used by the GOI to further their colonial mindset of subjugating and dividing the Naga people.

The Federation demanded to ensure that AFSPA is repealed by the GOI or completely lifted from the entire Naga Homeland. Towards achieving this end, the Federation shall be undertaking a series of democratic agitation(s) in consonance with the collective aspiration of the Naga people, it added.

The Federation also condemns act of armed forces high handedness at Chasa village of Tirap district, Arunachal Pradesh wherein two young Naga youths

Nokphua Wangpan and Ramwang Wangsu, while they were returning from the river after fishing, were critically injured when 12 Para Special Forces fired upon without any warning whatsoever. Such acts of the Indian Armed forces trampling upon the dignity, existence, freedom and happiness of the Naga people without any remorse under the protection of AFSPA cannot be accepted by the Federation in particular and the Naga people in general. The Federation demands that justice be delivered to these innocent victims by awarding befitting punishments to these trigger-happy Armed forces personnel. Justice should be delivered at the earliest.

The Federation would like to remind the Naga people to refrain from extending any sort of co-operation towards the Indian Armed Forces or paramilitary forces until AFSPA is repealed or completely lifted from the Naga homeland.

## NEFIS criticizes the union Government's decision to remove AFSPA selectively

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) criticized the Union Government for removing of Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 from few selected areas of the North-East states.

A statement of the forum said that the act has been removed selectively from the North-East and in most of the areas the act continues to stay

implemented. AFSPA, it should be noted, is a draconian, undemocratic law that has been actively used by the armed forces to suppress dissent and kill people with impunity. The democratic movements in the North-East have been demanding its removal as well as its complete repeal for a long time now, the statement added.

"Selective removal of AFSPA from certain areas while keeping it imposed in other areas is a step which seeks to perpetuate a di-

vide among the people of the region. True unity among the people and communities of the region can only be achieved when AFSPA is completely removed from all the areas of the North-East", the NEFIS said.

The NEFIS demanded demilitarization of the region and immediate removal of as well as complete repeal of the draconian law, AFSPA. It added that NEFIS would be intensifying its struggle against this draconian law in the coming days.

## Science cum career guidance seminar conducted

IT News  
Churachandpur, April 3:

A science-cum-career guidance seminar was organized at EBC Gospel Centre, New Lamka by Dis-

trict Administration, Churachandpur in collaboration with Society for Creating a Difference (CAD), Delhi on Saturday.

Encouraging the students to ask questions about their

chosen careers, the Deputy Commissioner of Churachandpur Pawan Yadav said that the District Administration has been planning to start a program to dissipate the fear associated with Science and Maths subjects. "We are willing to start some programs so that this fear of Science and Maths can be expelled from our mind so that more engineers and doctors will come out from Churachandpur" he said.

Pawan Kumar, Abhishek Kumar, Vikas S. Rathore, and Amit Kumar made presentations to motivate and orient students towards science and career guidance. Based on the presentations, a quiz programme was also conducted and prizes were also distributed to the 10 shortlisted students.

Students from different schools, teachers, DLOs, and staff from the education department participated in the event.

## RNSO election

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

Rongmei Naga Students Organisation (RNSO), Manipur is conducting elections for the office bearers of the organization for the term 2022-2025 on April 22.

A press statement of the student organization said that the venue of the election shall be intimated after the nomination paper for the various post has been field. For further information, all members are appealed to contact the General Secretary at mobile number - 8414862163.

## 1st Edition of 'Eikhoigi Imphal International Film Festival' begins

Special financial assistance from Govt must for success of EIIF: Eminent Filmmaker Aribam Syam Sharma

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

The 1st edition of 'Eikhoigi Imphal International Film Festival' that kicked off today at Palace Auditorium of Manipur State Film Development Society, MSFDS manifested as a new feather in the cap of Manipuri Cinema as it completes 50 years.

The 5-day non-competitive festival is being organised as part of the yearlong golden jubilee celebration of Manipuri Cinema.

Speaking as the Chief Guest

of the inaugural ceremony of the festival, eminent Manipuri Filmmaker, Aribam Syam Sharma categorically pointed out that special financial assistance from the Government is a must for success of the festival in its future editions.

Syam, who has been associated with Manipuri Cinema since its inception, lamented that the Government had always exuded indifferent attitude towards the growth of Manipuri Cinema. Nevertheless, he drew attention of the Government to make the Manipur State Film and Televi-

sion Institute fully functional at the earliest to facilitate professionalism and production of good films in the State.

MSFDS Secretary, Sunzu Bachaspatimayum, while delivering the keynote address, stated that the festival has been conceived to catalyse the amplification of motion picture storytelling in Manipur.

He further expressed immense joy over realising the dream of an international film festival where one experiences world cinema which slices life and intrinsic cultural and politi-

cal experiences beyond one's boundaries and transpires invaluable knowledge.

Meanwhile, Commissioner of Art and Culture, Government of Manipur, M. Joy stated that the Eikhoigi Imphal International Film Festival marks the new beginning for Manipuri Cinema even if the yearlong golden jubilee celebration is coming to a close.

He also exuded confidence that the festival will fill up the void of a voracious cinematic culture in Manipur.

Deputy Director of Director-

ate of Film Festivals, Tanu Rai; Assamese Filmmaker, Utpal Borpujari; Khasi Filmmaker, Pradip Kurban among other prominent figures were also present during the inaugural function.

Eminent Filmmaker, Romi Meitei's award winning film "Eikhoigi Yum", in its Imphal Premier opened the festival. Prior to the screening, contemporary dance performance "Meepao", a tribute to the pioneer filmmakers, choreographed by Surjit Nongmeikapam was also showcased.

# Content marketing has less cost and more benefits

## Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



In this age of social media, content is called the king and there is no doubt about it. Today, OTT platforms and Youtube channels have left behind traditional cinema on the basis of rich content. Millions of people search the internet for new information every day and blogs fulfill this hunger for information to a great extent. That is why content marketing is gaining importance. Content marketing costs 62% less than traditional marketing, while getting three times more leads. Those who wish to popularize their brand should focus on content marketing. Content should be written in such a way that people like it and it is also of their use. Videos are being liked more than written posts. The videos are also watched by less educated people or those who do not understand the language. More than one billion hours of videos are watched on YouTube every day. At least short video clips should be posted by every blogger. Building your personal brand is also very important.

People who have established themselves as a brand on social media become influencers, on which companies like to spend thousands of rupees. Top social media influencers get the same importance as a movie star. Corporate companies spend lavishly on influencers to improve their reputation. In return their sales increase. According to the Influencer Marketing Factory, there are about 50 million online creators in the world. Children, teenagers and youth are present in large numbers in this segment. In the year 2021, the value of the creator market was more than Rs 7.44 lakh crores. This army of creators has come into existence especially in the last ten years. Twitch started in the year 2021, when the foundation of the creator economy was laid. Platforms such as Fans Only, Twitch, Patreon and Substack offer creators the opportunity to earn from the subscription model, while also charging commissions ranging from 10 to 50% of their earnings.

A question that is often asked is what is the right size for a video or a post? Many people think that by posting long videos or writing long posts, they will get more response, which is not true. People don't want to see or read posts longer than 5-10 seconds. That is, this is an era of snackable content, so focus should be on making it a lunch or dinner type content, so that people can read even big posts with pleasure. One solution to this problem is that bloggers should bring to the fore untold and unheard stories. They should offer the content that the traditional media never pays attention to. The human mind is deeply engrossed in stories. People remember the story and forget the information. That is, a blogger should try to tell the things in the form of a story or by connecting it to a story. By doing this, the readers of that post or blog will increase and you will get thousands or millions of likes on such posts on social media. There are 1.8 billion websites worldwide, of which over 600 million are blogs. Blogs can be on any subject and in any language. A blogger is the writer, editor, photographer and storyteller – all rolled into one.

# Need to upgrade assessment methodologies



By: Vijay GarG

Imagine a report card in which, on a scale of one to ten, getting a four or a five would not imply you have scored low. It would just mean that the subject is not suited to your palate. Unfortunately, the testing and evaluation methodologies used in our education system are presently distant from such an assessment.

Since students' talents and how they utilise them is the foundation of contemporary society, the assessment framework in education should be geared towards helping them develop their individual strengths. While every student has a

different learning style, the prevalent system only tests learners on their ability to recall information.

## Help build skills

Imposing learning expectations on students is a problem as this prevents them from investing their formative years in building skills, which will be their most valuable asset when the time comes to pursue a profession or realise their aspirations. An assessment system must take this into account and ensure that students, who might score low on paper but high in terms of application, must be encouraged to learn further.

## Strengthen weak students

Assessment will help identify students who are falling behind and enable appropriate technical assistance and teaching via learning improvement programs. Appropriately constructed learning evaluations have the potential to have a profound effect on the future direction of our educational policy.

## Need to set standards

National Education Policy 2020 envisages the establishment of a national measurement centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development). This will be a standard-setting body that will help achieve the objectives of establishing norms, benchmarks, and recommendations for student assessment and evaluation to promote and enhance learning.

PARAKH is being setup in NCERT as a constituent body and will be monitored with inputs from an oversight committee comprising of experts from various fields and organisations.

The rough work section of any exam is the most important and yet least evaluated portion of any test. When we start assessing children not just for results but also for their approach and methodology, evaluation in education can witness new horizons. With this and many more initiatives, the aim of NEP 2020 to move from the rote learning system to comprehensive learning will be realised in due course of time. Hopefully, in the years to come, major assessment-related reforms would lead to discussions by students on how much they enjoy and learn from their assessments instead of fearing or being stressed by them.

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# General saving principles and 'Saving' in National (Small) Savings Schemes: An Overview

By: Rojendrakar Nongthomba (MFS)

## Rational Principle of Consumption and Saving:

At the outset, it may be useful to understand the concept of consumption demand. Consumption demand indicates the quantities of a good (or service) which the household would be willing and financially able to purchase at various prices, other things remaining the same also known as "ceteris paribus" (a Latin phrase). This conditional phrase is so important that demand (or consumption demand in our case) would refer to the entire relationship between price and quantity as long as other things remain the same. However, in real life, consumption demand is not only determined by the price of the commodity itself (own price) but by other factors also. Some other factors are:

1. Change in prices of other goods e.g. an increase in the price of heating oil results in an increase in the demand for natural gas.

2. Changes in income: a rise in the consumer's income raises the demand for a commodity.

3. Changes in tastes & preferences e.g., Americans, imitating the British, start drinking tea more often or when one switches from plain clothes to designer clothes.

4. Changes in weather e.g., demand for ice cream keeps rising on sunny days.

5. Changes in expectations: it may include, inter alia, future uncertainties/exigencies, speculation.

As we go towards saving, we may study income-consumption relationship. When income increases, consumption also increases but by less than the increase in income. This is called APC (average propensity to consume). In other words, income consumption relationship is non-proportional. It implies that the entire increase in income is not spent on consumption only; the remaining is saved. So, the increased income will be divided in some proportion between consumption expenditure and saving.

To understand the concept of saving better, we may, here, mention the two types of consumption i.e. 1. Autonomous Consumption and 2. Induced Consumption. Autonomous consumption may simply be understood as expenditure taking place when disposable income levels are at zero. This expenditure issued to fund consumer necessities, thereby causing consumers to borrow money or withdraw from savings account (i.e., dissaving). This type of consumption is independent of the level of one's income, i.e. it is not related to the level of income one earns. Even if a person is broke, he still has basic needs like food, shelter, utilities, health care, and transportation. When a consumer is in this situation, he is forced to spend more money than he earns, resulting in dissaving. And Induced Consumption is the portion of consumption that varies directly with disposable income i.e. a change in disposable income induces a change in consumption on goods and services. The amount spent on autonomous consumption may be different from person to person. However, when one is faced with a situation of 'dissaving' it is quite commonsensical to minimize one's expenditures so that one would avoid resorting to heavy borrowings at exorbitant interest rates especially from the non-institutionalized money lenders or liquidation of one's assets for meeting his expenditures on autonomous consumption. And it will also be logical if one takes the immediate corrective action to come out of such a situation as quickly as possible by applying commonsense knowledge of accounting and skills of financial management.

Savings can be viewed as a buffer stock; added to when times are good in order to maintain consumption when times are bad. Yes, it's true that

when income increases, consumption also increases but by less than the increase in income. Because in a normal circumstance, a rational man never spends/exhausts his disposable income indiscriminately as if the end of the world is imminent in the next few days. As said above, in a normal situation, average propensity to save of an individual household increases when its income increases, but by less than the increase in income. Obviously, increased income is divided in some proportion between consumption expenditure and saving. Thus, income saved by the individual households is normally invested in many investment instruments. However, many a time people either due to lack of education and knowledge or intentionally take anomalous decisions in regard to consumption of certain goods and services. Very often, we come across instances of individual tastes and preferences influenced by the prevailing environments such as advertisements and fashions and intention of imitating others. For instance, a daily wage earner may decide to send his or her child to a costly reputed private school rather than sending to a reputable government-run school, where school uniform, books etc are provided free of cost up to a certain standard, just because his neighbors are sending their wards to the private school. He simply wants to follow what others are doing no matter whether he can afford doing so. And in the process, he ends up with spending more than what he earns and as a result, when he runs deficit, he curses his fate for the wrong decision he had taken. Such paradoxical behavior of individual which is termed as Demonstration Effect in economics should never be encouraged. In money matters, it is always better to listen to your brain than to your heart.

It is very obvious that Government frames economic and financial policies and programmes for improvement/upliftment economic and social conditions of the average citizens of the country. However, since the resources are limited it has to distribute/allocate its resources in different sectors of the economy in such a judicious manner that the needs of different sections of the society are met at the maximum level. And while doing so it has to strike a balance between the current requirement for meeting social and public welfare priorities and the requirement for investment in those sectors of economy that will bring about socio-economic goals of the country in the long run. In a similar way, a common man has to allocate his wealth (resources) judiciously among different needs. An individual may have numerous wants/needs. But as every one of us may not have the means (i.e. wealth), to procure everything at one time, there comes the necessity of economizing one's resources and prioritizing consumption of goods and services. And what is expected of a rational man is that if compelled by the circumstances, he should be able to readily compromise his level of utility that is drawn from consumption of a certain set of goods and services. From the simple discussion above, it is believed, one may have learnt the complex relation that exists between income (resources), and saving and consumption patterns and accordingly, one would always keep the importance of saving in mind while one makes expenditure out of one's disposable income.

## Asset allocation and Diversification as a way of risk management:

Whenever a person undertakes investment, his investment portfolio should be designed in such a way it has good mix of all types of asset classes so that risk of big fluctuations/volatility in returns from these asset classes in totality is minimized. Asset allocation means provision of different

'investment asset classes' in one's investment portfolio or asset portfolio and while diversification of assets means owning a variety of investment types within a particular asset class. For example, one may, in his investment portfolio, allocate his investment in the different asset categories such as bond and equity and within the category of 'Bond' he may diversify his investment in the form of 'corporate' and 'government' bonds. Such management of portfolio of wealth will surely minimize risk and maximize returns on the investments, individuals make in various such investment opportunities as equity, debt, precious metals, real estate as the different asset classes react differently to the economic upheavals. Investors choose and pick the investment financial instruments after factoring in considerations of income (rate of interest and periodicity of interest), safety and liquidity (including interest and credit risks), long and short term returns and also the tenure of the investments i.e. emergency funds and short term financial goals etc. It may also be mentioned that investors who keep abreast with latest situations of political and financial and economic scenarios (both domestic and global) do well in wealth or asset management because many would not want to invest in the risky assets. During war like situations many would prefer safe investment like gold over other investment assets. The art and science of asset allocation and distribution need to be thoroughly mastered before one makes investments. Financial investment options are abundant and one needs to have a sound knowledge of money and capital markets (stock bourses) and functioning of overall financial system of the country. Some of the investment options are Equity, Bonds, Gold, Mutual Funds, Fixed Deposits, Index Funds, Exchange Traded Funds, Real Estate and REITs (Real Estate Investment Trusts), Insurance Plans, National Small Savings Schemes and out of these, investors can, after proper analysis of merits/demerits of each of these investment options, pick the instrument/s which suit his or her requirement the most. Both for trading and investment in stocks and other investment instruments which are listed in the Stock Exchanges, one needs to open a Demat Account. Now even the retail investors can directly buy and sell the government bonds (G-Securities) by opening Retail Direct Gilt (RDG) Account with the Reserve Bank of India.

## National (Small) Saving Schemes: why should one invest in them?

The National (small) Savings Schemes are one of the safest and most secured instruments of saving. They are products of Ministry of Finance, GoI (Government of India) hence, these fixed income investments are backed by the sovereign guarantee. The rates of interests are attractive compared to other similar instruments and schemes available in the financial markets. The gains/returns of these instruments are not influenced by market volatility. They are basically debt instruments. By investing in these instruments, people are also indirectly participating in the process of nation building. These instruments have certain lock-in periods and some of the schemes offer income tax exemptions in respect of interests earned and rebate in many cases. The schemes are structured in such a way to cater to the needs of different sections of the Society, especially the lower and middle class sections of the society. It may therefore be safely said that for the middle- and lower-income groups who are risk averse and do not want exposure to risks and at the same time getting regular reasonable returns in their in-

vestment of their hard-earned money without getting any tension of losing their money, these schemes are the most suitable investment options. Apart from branches of Post Offices, account for some schemes such as NSC, SCSS, SSA and PPF can also be opened at certain designated banks (both nationalized and private banks).

A brief discussion of 9 (nine) National (Small) Savings Schemes is given below and, since accounts (schemes) are need-based, one can pick and invest in the schemes as per one's requirements subject to fulfilling the eligibility criteria.

## 1. Post Office Savings Account:

- Account can be opened with minimum Rs.500 and there is no maximum limit for deposit of amount in the account.

- A minor above 10 years can open account in his own name.

- Interest @4% per annum (upto for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022) on single and joint accounts.

- Subsequent deposit should not be less than Rs.10 and

- Rs.50. is the Minimum withdrawal amount.

- Rs.3,500 tax exemption for single post office savings account and Rs.7000 in case of joint account holders is an additional benefit that one can claim in one's ITR after claiming Rs.10,000 deduction available under Section 80 TTA of the income tax act.

- Account may be treated as dormant/silent if no transaction for three financial years but can be revived.

## 2. National Savings Recurring Deposits account:

- Its maturity period is 5 Years.

- Interest rate is 5.8% per annum (currently upto for the quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022). Compounding is done quarterly.

- Minimum of Rs.100 per month or any amount in multiples of Rs.10.

- Maximum no limit.

- Deposit is to be done between 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> of every month and account opened after that before end of month

- Default charge of Rs.1 per 100 rupee denominations after four defaults account becomes discontinued.

- Any number of accounts can be opened. (Joint or single)

- Six and twelve months' advance deposits earn rebate at a prescribed rates.

- Loan: After 12 installments and account is continued for 1 year, loan upto 50% of the credit balance at the account can be available.

- Loan interest (2%+RD interest)

- Premature closure allowed subject to conditions.

- Can be closed after three years from the date of opening the account. (Post Office Saving interest).

- Can also be extended after maturity with/without deposit. (for further five years)

## 3. National Savings Time Deposit account:

- Maturity periods are 1,2,3,5 years. Minimum of Rs.1000/- and in multiples of Rs. 100. No maximum Limit. (Single or joint).

- Current interest rates for 1 yr, 2 yr and 3yr accounts are 5.5% and for 5yr is 6.7% (till quarter ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022)

- Any number of Accounts can be opened.

- Interest calculated in quarterly basis and payable annually.

- Tax rebate under 80-C of IT Act is available in 5 year TD account.

- Account can be extended. And the interest rate applicable to respective TD account on the day of maturity should be applicable to the extended period.

- On premature closure before 1 year PO Savings Account rate shall be applicable.

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# India sees 1,096 fresh Covid cases, 81 deaths in 24 hours

Agency  
New Delhi, April 3:

India reported 1,096 fresh coronavirus cases in the last 24 hours, a drop of 13 per cent from the previous day's tally of 1,260. The country registered 81 deaths, taking the overall deaths since the start of the pandemic to 5,21,345. So far, India has logged 4,30,28,131 cases. According to the government's latest data, 13,013 cases are active as of present.

Over 184.64 crore vaccine doses have been given so far in the country, with more than 11 lakh doses being administered till 7pm Saturday, the latest data by the health ministry showed. Over 1.84 crore vac-

cine doses have been given to the 12-14 age group so far across the country.

The active cases comprise 0.03 per cent of the overall infections, while the national recovery rate stood at 98.76 per cent, the health ministry said. Covid-19 cases in India have been declining after the country witnessed the peak of third wave in mid-January. The third wave of the pandemic was largely fuelled by the Omicron variant, considered highly infectious.

Amid a drop in cases, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) has said no formal orders under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, will be issued by it any longer

regarding the containment of Covid-19 in the national capital, given the overall improvement in the pandemic situation.

A reduction of 432 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

Even as India registers a fall in infections, the world is still witnessing a surge in parts of the country. According to the World Health Organization (WHO)'s latest report, a new strain of Covid-19 known as XE—first detected in Britain—may be more transmissible than any strain of Covid-19 reported so far. The XE strain is a recombinant variant of BA.1 and BA.2 sublineages of Omicron, the WHO said.

# Assam Rifles apprehends UGs

IT News  
Imphal, April 3:

Mantripukhri Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) in a joint operation with Manipur Police apprehended two Overground Workers (OGW) of proscribed group PREPAK from Patsoi, Imphal West on April 1.

Based on specific inputs, Assam Rifles troops along with Manipur Police launched a search operation jointly and apprehended two sympathisers of insurgent group of PREPAK.

Both the apprehended suspects were handed over to Lamphel Police Station for further investigation.

Meanwhile, Moreh Battalion of Assam Rifles under



the aegis of IGAR(South) apprehended an active cadre of PLA from Moreh on April 1.

Based on specific input, a joint team of Moreh Battalion

and Moreh Police launched an operation in general area Muslim Basti near Border Pillar 79, Moreh and apprehended an insurgent of the

proscribed group PLA.

The apprehended cadre was handed over to Moreh Police station for further investigation.

# Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru, Assumes Charge as Deputy Chief of the Naval

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, April 3:

Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru, took over the charge as Deputy Chief of the Naval Staff (DCNS) from Vice Admiral Ravneet Singh who retired after over 36 years of service on Thursday.

Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru is an alumnus of the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla. He was commissioned into the Indian Navy on January 01, 1985, and is a Submarine and Navigation Specialist. In his career spanning over 37 years, he has held a variety of Command and Staff appointments both ashore and afloat. He

has commanded INS Shalki, a Type 1500 Shishumar Class submarine, Cadets Training Ship INS Krishna, and Destroyer INS Rajput.

He has also commanded INS Satavahana the Navy's Submarine Training Establishment (at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh) where he set up the School for Advanced Underwater Warfare. In his staff tenures, he served in the Directorate of Submarine Operations and Directorate of Nuclear Submarine Acquisition (IHQ) Ministry of Defence (Navy). He also carried out duties as Naval Assistant to FOC-in-C (West) and FOC-in-C (South).



(LEFT): Vice Admiral Ravneet Singh handing over the charge to the incoming DCNS Vice Admiral Sanjay Mahindru. (RIGHT): Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor handing over the charge of Commandant, NDA to Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar.

On promotion to the rank of Rear Admiral in 2015, he tenanted the appointments of Flag Officer

Submarines and Flag Officer Maharashtra Area and Chief Staff Officer at Headquarters, the

Strategic Forces Command (HQSF). On elevation to the rank of Vice-Admiral in 2019, he held the challenging appointment of Deputy Commanding-in-Chief of the Strategic Forces Command before taking over the present appointment as Deputy Chief of Naval Staff at IHQ MoD (N).

He has attended the Joint Services Staff College, UK, and the College of Naval Warfare Mumbai and has a MA (Defence Studies) from Kings College, London, and M Phil (Defence Studies) from Mumbai University.

Outgoing Vice Admiral Ravneet Singh, during his tenure as DCNS, witnessed several significant achievements that have elevated India's global maritime stature and are a testimony of his resolve, professional competence, and dedication. These include the high tempo operations to ensure safe passage of Indian Flagged Merchant Vessels (IMFVs), Operation Samudra Setu II, Operation Sagar, and establishing India's position as 'preferred security partner and first responder' in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).

Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar takes over as the Commandant, NDA

In another development, Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar took over the charge as the Commandant, National Defence Academy (NDA), Khadakwasla in

Maharashtra from Air Marshal Sanjeev Kapoor, on Friday.

As an alumnus of the NDA, Vice Admiral Ajay Kochhar was commissioned in the Indian Navy on July 01, 1988. He is a graduate of the Defence Service Staff College, Wellington, Naval War College, Karanja (near Mumbai), and Royal College of Defence Studies in the United Kingdom.

In a career spanning 34 years, the Flag Officer held various important and challenging command and staff appointments. He has been the Fleet Commander of the Western Fleet, the sword arm of the Indian Navy where he led the Fleet for critical operational missions, foreign bilateral exercises, and major humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief (HADR) tasking. He has commanded India's only Aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya and during his tenure, the carrier was de-

ployed extensively for Operations on both East and West coasts. The officer has the distinction of commissioning a frontline frigate for the Navy at Kaliningrad, Russia. His other command appointments include INS Kirpan, a missile Corvette, and missile vessels during Operation Parakram.

His staff appointments include Joint Director, Naval Plans and Director of Staff Requirements at Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence (Navy), wherein he formulated the future maritime perspective and capabilities enhancement plans for the Indian Navy.

Now he at the helm of affairs, NDA will gain immensely with his vast experience and exposure in all areas of operations, training, and human resource management, an official statement said.

Contd. from Page 2

# General saving principles and 'Saving'.....

## 4. National Savings (Monthly Income Account) Scheme:

- Maturity period is 5 years. Minimum of Rs.1000/- and in the multiple thereof. Maximum of Rs.4.5 lakhs in a single account and Rs.9 lakhs in Joint.
- Current interest rate is 6.6 % per annum and interest is paid every month.
- Can be prematurely (subject to conditions) closed after completion of one year from date of opening account.

## 5. Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS):

- Maturity period is five years. Minimum of Rs.1000/- & in the multiples thereof with maximum of Rs.15 lakhs.
- Interest rate is 7.4% per annum (till 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022) and interest is payable quarterly.
- Persons who have attained 60 years of age can open.
- Person who retired under VRS if attained 55 years or above but less than 60 can open
- Retired personnel of Defence Services can open irrespective of age limit subject to fulfillment of other specified conditions.
- Account can be opened jointly with spouse only
- Account can be extended on maturity for 3 years (within 1 year from the date of maturity)
- Income tax rebate under section 80C of IT Act is available
- Interest is taxable if it exceeds 50,000/- in a financial year and TDS is done at the prescribed rate. However, if relevant form H is submitted then it will be deducted as the income is less than the income tax slab.

## 6. National Saving Certificate (NSC) (VIII Issue):

- 5 years is its maturity period. Minimum of Rs.1000/- & in multiples of rs.100 & no maximum limit
- Account can be single or joint.
- Current interest rate is 6.8% compounded annually but payable at maturity.
- Tax rebate under 80C of IT Act is available.
- Any number of Accounts can be opened.

## 7. Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP):

- Minimum of Rs.1000/- and in multiples of Rs.100 & no maximum limit.
- Can be open single or joint.
- Any number of accounts can be open.
- Current interest rate is 6.9% and compounded annually.
- Money doubles on maturity.
- At the current rate the money doubles in 124 months.

## 8. Public Provident Fund Scheme (PPF):

- 15 years is its maturity period. Minimum of Rs.500/- & maximum of Rs.150000/- in a FY.
- Single account can be opened.
- Deposits can be made in lump sum or in installments.
- Current interest rate is 7.1% per annum (compounded annually)
- Tax free interest. Income tax rebate under Section 80C of IT Act is available.
- Facility of withdrawal and loan is available after prescribed period.
- Account can be extended

in block period of five years.

- Loan after expiry of one year (25%)

## 9. Sukanya Samridhi Account (SSA):

- 21 years is its maturity period. Minimum of Rs.250/- & maximum of 150000/- in a FY.
- Interest rate is 7.6% per annum, calculated yearly basis (compounded annually)
- Tax free interest. Income tax rebate under 80C of IT Act is available.
- Deposit can be made maxi-

mum up to completion of 15 years from the date of opening.

- 50% balance can be withdrawn for higher education after attaining of age of 18 years or passing of tenth standard, whichever is earlier.
- Eligible upto two girl children below the age of 10 years.
- Interest earned is tax free
- Scheme was launched as part of 'beti bachao beti padhao' campaign

(The writer is a Director, Small Savings, Manipur)

# AR provides Medical assistance to an injured civilian

IT News  
Ukhrul, April 3:

Somsai Battalion under the aegis of IGAR(S) extended life saving medical assistance to an injured victim of Nungbi Khullen Village, Ukhrul district yesterday.

The civilian while working in

road construction sustained severe injuries. The individual was immediately taken to Assam Rifles Unit Hospital at Awangkasom and was rendered emergency medical aid to stabilise his condition.

On stabilising the condition, the individual was sent back to home at Nungbi Khullen village.

# PEACE Crafts Bazar

Venue : Khoyol Keithel Moirang Lamkhai  
Bishnupur District, Manipur

Date : 26th March to 4th April 2022  
Time : 10:30 a.m.

## Item Display of Sales

\*Cane & Bamboo \*Kouna Crafts \* Hand Embroidery \* Artistic Textile  
\* Woolen Shoe \* Doll & Toys \* Other Decorative Items



Organised by:-  
People's Education for Awareness & Community Empowerment Organisation (PEACE)  
Thangmeiband Meisnam Leikai, Imphal - 795001  
Manipur, India



Sponsored by:-  
Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft)  
Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India, New Delhi  
R.K. Puram - 66





# Petrol, diesel prices hiked by 80 paise; rates up by Rs 8 in less than two weeks

Agency  
New Delhi, April 3:

Petrol and diesel prices were on Sunday again hiked by 80 paise a litre each, taking the total increase in rates in less

then two weeks to Rs 8 per litre.

Petrol in Delhi will now cost Rs 103.41 per litre as against Rs 102.61 previously, while diesel rates have gone up from Rs 93.87 per litre to Rs 94.67,

according to a price notification of state fuel retailers.

Rates have been increased across the country and vary from state to state depending upon the incidence of local

taxation.

This is the 11th increase in prices since the ending of a four-and-half-month long hiatus in rate revision on March 22.

In all, petrol prices have gone up by Rs 8 per litre.

# With AFSPA lifting, Northeast has joined mainstream: Rijiju

Agency  
New Delhi, April 3:

Describing the Centre's decision of lifting the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) from "major areas" of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur as a "revolutionary step", Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday said that for the first time, it is felt that the Northeast has joined the mainstream of the country.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters, Rijiju said that in the remaining few places where the law is still in force, things will be back to normal soon.

"For the first time, it is felt that the Northeast has joined



the mainstream. Recently, a decision has been taken to lift the Armed Forces Special Powers Act from the major areas of three states of Northeast—Assam, Nagaland and Manipur—which is a revolutionary step."

Rijiju said that lifting of the AFSPA means that peace has been restored in those

areas.

He said that AFSPA was brought in view of insurgent activity in Naga areas in 1958. "This has a long history. After so many years, peace has been restored in those areas," he said.

Rijiju said that few areas are still left where the AFSPA is in force but things will be back to normal in those areas soon. With this, the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to make northeast AFSPA-free will be completed, he said, adding that the people of northeast including civil society members have welcomed this move, while expressing gratitude towards the Prime Minister for the move.

Rijiju, who is a Lok Sabha MP from Arunachal Pradesh, said that several important agreements including Bodo Accord, NLFT, Bru-Reang Agreement have been reached in the last few years. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi's two-pronged approach of development and dialogue with insurgent groups in dealing with various challenges in the region has paid dividends," he said.

He attacked the Congress and said that the party had left the region "devastated".

On March 31, 2022, Home Minister Amit Shah had announced lifting of the AFSPA from the certain areas of Assam, Nagaland and Manipur.

# Amid African Swine Fever Outbreak, Mizoram bans import of Pork products

Agency  
Aizawl, April 3:

In the wake of new cases of African Swine Fever (ASF) being detected in the state, the Mizoram government has banned the import of pigs and pork products.

As per the official notification, there will be a complete ban on the import of live pigs, fresh pork and all other pork products, including frozen pork, from other

states and other countries until further orders.

"The Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department will ensure mandatory disinfection of pig-rearing premises and enforce strict hygiene measures and isolation of suspected pigs," the notification read.

The department will also ensure the safe disposal of pig carcass in accordance with the National Action Plan for Control, Containment

and Eradication of African Swine Fever, it added.

Intensive physical surveillance and immediate reporting of any unusual mortality of pigs or wild pigs to the department helpline No. 0389-2336441, 9436142908, 9436151203 and 8794206212 should be affected, it said.

According to data released by the state animal husbandry and veterinary department, 384 pigs and piglets have died so far since

the last part of January.

Of the 384 pig deaths, 64 in the Champhai district were already confirmed ASF, it said.

The fresh pig deaths were reported from 24 villages and localities across five districts.

The ASF had claimed 33,417 pigs between March and November last year causing monetary losses to the tune of Rs 60.82 crore.

## Sports Corner

# Jakhonov, Pritam on target as Rajasthan United beat TRAU FC

Agency  
Naihati (West Bengal), April 3:

Sardor Jakhonov and Pritam Singh were on target as Rajasthan United FC defeated TRAU FC 2-0 in I-League 2021-22 on Saturday, here, at the Naihati Stadium. Following this victory, Rajasthan United moved to the fifth spot on the table.

TRAU started the match on a high note and their passing was also on the point and it seemed they would be the ones to break the deadlock. TRAU's first chance came as early as the third minute when Krishnananda Singh made an unsuccessful attempt and his shot went for a goal-kick across the line.

Rajasthan United FC's first attempt came in the 8th minute through Sardor Jakhonov but it went off target.

TRAU's biggest opportunity in the first half came in the ninth minute when Joseph beat rival players with his pace on the right to set the ball for Ferdinandinho. However, the Brazilian playmaker failed in converting the shot.



They were punished for the same as a minute later Rajasthan United went 1-0 up, courtesy of a magnificent goal from Sardor Jakhonov from outside the box. The ball was set up by Aman Thapa.

TRAU's missed opportunity and Rajasthan United's conversion increased the pace of the game as the two teams fought for the possession of the ball in the middle. Rajasthan striker Pritam Singh looked to double his side's

lead as he attempted a shot from outside the box in the 24th minute but it went over the bar.

Six minutes later, Jakhonov and Pritam Singh teamed up to create another chance but it was easily picked by Bishorjit Singh, resulting in a goal-kick.

TRAU and Rajasthan increased their counterattacking as the game progressed to the final ten minutes of the first half. While TRAU looked for an equalizer, Rajasthan United

were biding their time. In the end, Rajasthan's strategy worked as they were leading the game at the break.

Much like the first half, TRAU started the second half on the front foot while Rajasthan United were happy to play the counterattack. The way TRAU were passing the ball at the start of the second half it seemed it would not be long before they will level the contest. But, the equalizer came never came.



## MANIPUR STATE POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

(Regd. Office : 3rd Floor, New Directorate Building, near 2nd MR Gate  
Imphal - Dimapur Road, Imphal, Manipur)

CIN: U40101MN2013SGC008343

Summary of Tariff Schedule approved by Commission for FY 2022-23 for Manipur State Power Distribution Company Ltd (MSPDCL) and to be effective from 01.04.2022 :

### A) Approved Subsidised Tariff for FY 2022-23

Table 8.2: Category wise Subsidised Tariffs approved by the Commission for FY 2022-23

Sl. No	Consumer Category (FY 2019-20)	Existing Tariff		Approved Subsidised Tariff	
		Fixed Charges (P.M)	Energy Charges (Rs./kWh)	Fixed Charges (P.M)	Energy Charges (Rs./kWh)
1	IT SUPPLY				(Rs./kWh)
	Kutir Jyoti		Rs./Connection		
	All Units (Upto 45 kWh/ 3 Month)	25 (Connection)	2.10	25.00	2.10
2	Domestic		Rs./KW		Rs./KWh
	First - 100 kwh/Month	65.00	5.10	65.00	5.10
	Next 100 kwh/Month	65.00	5.95	65.00	5.95
	Above 200 kwh/Month	65.00	6.75	65.00	6.75
3	Non-Domestic/Commercial		Rs./KW		Rs./KWh
	First - 100 kwh/Month	85.00	6.55	85.00	6.55
	Next 100 kwh/Month	85.00	7.25	85.00	7.25
	Above 200 kwh/Month	85.00	7.65	85.00	7.65
4	Public Lighting	70.00	9.55	70.00	9.60
5	Public Water Works	105.00	9.80	105.00	9.80
6	a) Agriculture (Individual)	65.00	4.55	65.00	4.55
	b) Irrigation (others)	65.00	4.55	65.00	4.55
7	Small Industry	70.00	4.85	70.00	5.60
	HT SUPPLY	Rs/kVA	Rs/kVAh	Rs/kVA/PM	Rs/kVAh
1	Commercial	105.00	8.75	105.00	8.90
2	Public Water Works	105.00	9.50	105.00	9.60
3	a) Agriculture (Individual)	105.00	4.75	105.00	5.15
	b) Irrigation (others)	105.00	4.75	105.00	5.15
4	Medium Industry	105.00	7.20	105.00	8.00
5	Large Industry	105.00	8.80	105.00	9.10
6	Bulk Supply	105.00	8.80	105.00	9.25

### B) Approved Full Cost Tariff (FCT)

Table 8.3: Category wise Full Cost Tariff (without subsidy) for FY 2022-23 as approved by the Commission

Sl. No.	Category & Consumption Slab	Full Cost Tariff	
		Fixed Charges (Rs./pm)	Energy Charges (Rs./KWh or KV/h)
1	Kutir Jyothi (FCT)	Rs./Connection	Rs./KWh
	All Units (upto 45 kWh/3 Months)	25 per Connection	9.01
2	Domestic	Rs./KW	Rs./KWh
i)	First 100 kWh	65	9.73
ii)	Next 100 kWh	65	9.57
iii)	Balance > 200 kWh	65	11.76
3	Non-Domestic/Commercial	Rs./KW	Rs./KWh
i)	First 100 kWh	85	11.04
ii)	Next 100 kWh	85	12.59
iii)	Balance > 200 kWh	85	13.47
4	Public Lighting	70	13.39
5	Public Water Works	105	13.16
6	a) Agriculture (individual)	65	0.00
	b) Irrigation (others)	65	0.00
7	Small Industry	70	11.28
	HT Supply (FCT)	Rs./KVA	Rs./KVAh
1	Commercial	105	10.78
2	Public Water Works	105	11.57
3	a) Agriculture (Individual)	105	9.27
	b) Irrigation (others)	105	9.27
4	Medium Industry	105	10.48
5	Large Industry	105	11.00
6	Bulk Supply	105	11.65

Note: 1) "Fixed charge is per KW of contracted load for LT supply except KJ while in case of HT Supply, it is per KVA of Billing Demand. Energy charge is as per KWh for LT supply and per KVAh for HT supply and LT high value services provided with MDI meters. The above table depicts fixed and energy charge only. Tariff Charges description in detail are given under the Tariff Schedule chapter."

( Ng. Subhachandra Singh)  
Managing Director  
MSPDCL

IT(B)-30x5 days