

Drugs and counterfeit notes seized; 3 arrested

IT News
Imphal, August 24:

A team of Imphal East District Anti Drugs Special Team and a team of YADA volunteers conducted operations at Urup Kangthak, Keirao, and Kiyamgei areas today early morning.

3 persons, including a woman, were arrested along with drugs and counterfeit currency notes in the operation. A total of 5 Soap cases containing 60 grams of heroin, 3970 WY tablets, 26 bundles of Rs.500 counterfeit notes, 101 sheets for printing the fake currency, machines, and different items used in the printing of the fake notes were also seized in the operation.

AR assists MU in conducting International Conference

IT News
Imphal, August 24:

Keithelmban Battalion of Assam Rifles, under the aegis of Headquarters Inspector General Assam Rifles (South), assisted Manipur University in the conduct of three day International Conference on "Emerging Trends of Physical Education and Sports Science" (ICETPESS) 2022 at Manipur University today.

The main objective of the conference was to develop new thought processes in the field of physical education and to create a physically, mentally, and socially fit global society. In continuation with the efforts of Assam Rifles to reach out to youth and empower them, the unit assisted Manipur university in the smooth conduct of the conference and also in fulfilling its commitment to support people in the Northeast.

AR provides medical aid to Snake bite victim

IT News
Imphal, August 24:

Loktak Battalion, under the aegis of IGAR(S) extended life-saving medical assistance to a snake bite victim of Wangoo village, Bishnupur district on August 23.

A 39 years old male named Munindro was bitten by a snake on his left hand and middle finger while working in the field. The individual had minimal local swelling and pain at the site of the bite.

The individual was brought by relatives to the Unit hospital of Assam Rifles at 5:00 pm on August 23. The Medical staff examined and immediately rendered Essential medical care to the individual and stabilized his condition.

Nitish Kumar-led Bihar Govt wins Trust Vote in Assembly; RJD, JD(U) going to have never-ending partnership, says Tejashwi Yadav



Agency
Patna, August 24:

Bihar Assembly Speaker Vijay Kumar Sinha on Wednesday announced his resignation on the floor of the House after an emotionally charged speech in which he expressed anguish over the no-confidence motion moved against him by the ruling 'Mahagathbandhan' government. Sinha, who belongs to the BJP which now stands stripped of power in the state, left the House in turmoil as he adjourned proceedings till 2 pm.

He made a hasty exit from

the House, and MLAs of the BJP, almost all of whom were wearing saffron scarves and raising slogans like 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai' and 'Jai Shri Ram', followed suit. Earlier, Sinha spoke for nearly 20 minutes, claiming that after the sudden change of government he had decided to resign on his own but decided otherwise after he learned that a no-confidence motion had been moved.

Meanwhile, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar was accused of having lost "political credibility" by his former deputy and senior BJP leader Tarkishore Prasad. Prasad made the remark while taking

part in a debate on the motion of confidence brought by the new 'Mahagathbandhan' government.

The BJP leader mocked Kumar's "personal ambition to become the prime minister despite not having the ability to become the chief minister on his own steam". "Personal ambition caused him to ditch BJP in 2013 and again nine years later," said the BJP leader who also raked up sidelining of leaders like George Fernandes and Sharad Yadav by Kumar to make his point, drawing angry response from JD(U) members.

"He remains the CM though his deputy keeps changing. He is like a batsman who causes others to get run out to remain on the pitch. RJD should remember that its president Lalu Prasad had compared him to a snake that sheds its skin," alleged the BJP leader. Prasad also claimed that "jungle raj" has returned to Bihar where crime rate has risen ever since RJD clawed its way back to power and wondered whether allegations of corruption against the party's top leaders "do not matter anymore".

Nitish, who ended his alli-

ance with the NDA in Bihar and formed a government with the grand alliance earlier this month, faced a floor test to prove his majority in the assembly.

However, hours before the floor test, the CBI conducted raids across 15 locations in Bihar linked to RJD MPs and MLCs. The central probe agency is conducting raids in connection with the land-for-jobs scam in Bihar that allegedly took place during the tenure of party supremo Lalu Prasad.

The search operation was carried out at the premises of several senior leaders of the RJD including Sunil Singh, Ashfaq Karim, Faiyaz Ahmad and former MLC Subodh Rai, they said. The CBI has named the RJD supremo Lalu Prasad, his wife Rabri Devi, and daughters Misa Bharti and Hema Yadav, in addition to 12 people who were given jobs in Railway zones of Mumbai, Jabalpur, Kolkata, Jaipur, Hajipur in 2008-09 in the case, the officials said.

The 'Mahagathbandhan' has the support of 165 MLAs from the JD(U), Congress, RJD and left parties in Bihar.

Administrative Block Annex Building of RIMS inaugurated



IT News
Imphal, August 24:

Prof. A. Santa Singh, Director, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal, inaugurated the newly constructed Administrative Block Annex building today.

In his inaugural speech, Prof. A. Santa Singh stated that he was extremely happy to inaugurate the ground floor and the first floor of the Administrative Block Annex building since the current Purchase section was totally congested, making staff face problems in doing their respective duties. So, with this

new Administrative Block Annex building, staff will be able to get more space, thus giving them a good and comfortable environment to perform their duties. Further, Director also mentioned that he also has a plan to put up 3rd floor and 4th floor of the Administrative Block Annex building in the future.

The inauguration program was attended by Prof. N. Sanjib Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital, Imphal, Prof. M. Rameswar Singh, Deputy Director (Link), faculty members, and staff of Administrative Blocks.

600 rice bags seized from smuggling into Myanmar

IT News
Imphal, August 24:

A team of security personnel of 5 Assam Rifles in Moreh foiled the smuggling of 600 bags of rice from Manipur that were being transported on four trucks to Myanmar yesterday.

According to the report, suspicious activities were observed in a suspected DI vehicle, and a team of 5th AR interrogated the suspects. On further interrogation, the team of 5th AR came to know about the illegal transfer of rice bags as the drivers on the scene were unable to respond appropriately. The illegal transfer of government rice into Myanmar territory through unauthorised routes and



goods were detained and turned over to customs for further legal action and interrogation.

The detained individuals have been identified as Lourebam Sarat Meetei, 25, son of Lourebam Ingocha Meetei, Kharason Maning Leikai, Md Liyakat, 32, son of Taher Ali, Heibong Makhong Makhia Leikai, Leishungbam Kanhai, 49, son of

Leishungbam Nija Singh, Andro Khunou Leikai, and Laishram Lokeswor Singh, 45, son of Laishram Kulbidhu Singh, Kha Sanjenbam Makhia Leikai.

Approximately 600 rice bags (50 kg each) were discovered in trucks with the licence plates MN 04A 4063, MN 04C 0220, MN 02G 3108, and MN 03W 0164, according to the report.

"Amrit Udyan" Park in Guwahati inaugurated by Assam CM

IT News
Guwahati, August 24:

"Amrit Udyan," a park with various amenities built at the cost of Rs.14.81 crores on 4.6 acres of land in Guwahati's Hengrabari area, was inaugurated by Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma yesterday.

According to officials, the project was completed in a record time of one year, with construction activities beginning in August of last year.

The Assam government obtained the land for the project from the Assam Khadi and Village Industries Board, for which a payment of Rs. 25 crores was required, according to official figures.

According to CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, the first one was

built and inaugurated in Maligaon, while the Amrit Udyan was built in conjunction with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebrations.

The CM went on to say that a botanical garden will be opened in Guwahati's Fancy Bazar area by December-January. He said, "A botanical garden is going to come up at Fancy Bazar by December this year or January next. Another park along with a pond will be built on 3.3 acres of land nearby the Chandmari Bus Stand."

The Chief Minister stated that when he was the Minister for Guwahati Development Department in 2003, one of his top priorities was beautification and transforming the city into a truly smart one.

With the opening of Amrit Udyan and the inauguration

of Atal Udyan in Maligaon last year, the city now has two high-standard parks, and the third, a botanical garden at the old Central Jail complex in Fancy Bazar, should be open to the public by December, according to the Chief Minister.

Meanwhile, the CM praised Minister Ashok Singhal and his team for working around the clock to complete the park project on time.

As a mark of honour and tribute to the imminent Freedom fighters from Northeast India, the 8 statues of the freedom fighters installed at Amrit Udyan are of Bir Tikendrajit Singh, the commander of Manipuri Army that rebelled against the British power and was later hanged.

contd. on page 4

Congress Working Committee to meet on August 28 to approve exact schedule for party president's election

Agency
New Delhi, August 24:

The exact schedule of dates for the election of the new Congress president will be finalised on August 28 by the Congress Working Committee (CWC), party general secretary in-charge of organisation K.C. Venugopal said on Wednesday.

"A virtual meeting of the CWC will be held on the August 28, 2022, at 3.30 p.m., to

approve the exact schedule of dates for the election of the Congress President. Congress President Smt. Sonia Gandhi will preside over the CWC meeting," Mr. Venugopal said on Twitter.

The announcement came barely hours after the newsbreak by The Hindu on Tuesday that Ms. Gandhi had asked Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot to become the next party chief.

"I am also hearing about it

through the media as I have no knowledge of it," Mr. Gehlot told reporters in Ahmedabad at a press conference.

"Whatever responsibility the party high command has given me, I am performing them. I have been made a senior observer for Gujarat elections and that's why I am here. The other responsibility is that of being the Chief Minister of Rajasthan and there is no compromise there. Our

government is coming back to power there [Rajasthan]. I don't know anything else," he added.

However, with former Congress chief, Rahul Gandhi, refusing to take back the reins of the party and concerns over Ms. Gandhi's health and age, the party could be forced to look beyond the Gandhi family.

Gandhi family flies abroad Interestingly, just when the Congress is about to an-

nounce its presidential poll schedule, all three members of the Gandhi family — Sonia, Rahul, and Priyanka — have gone abroad for Ms. Gandhi's health check-up and visit her ailing mother.

If Mr. Gehlot agrees to the elevation, it will also solve the party's leadership tussle in Rajasthan where elections are due by the end of 2023. Former Deputy Chief Minister, Sachin Pilot, who has been aspiring to the top post could be

brought in as Mr. Gehlot's replacement.

However, the Gandhis will have to tread this path carefully as they were blamed for the party's disastrous results in Punjab earlier this year after they had unseated Captain Amarinder Singh (Retd.) a few months before the elections. And Mr. Gehlot, on more than one occasion, has shown his reluctance to accept the top party post.

Crypto currency mining and carbon footprint

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh

As currencies like bit coin and doge coin make digital currency as valid a form of payment as the U.S. dollar and euro, experts seek new environmentally-friendly solutions to the massive amounts of energy crypto currency consumes. Crypto currencies are digital currency that is not subject to a central authority that regulates the currency's value like Federal Reserve for the U.S. dollar or the European Central Bank for the euro. Despite fluctuating market values that are more volatile than most nationally backed currencies, crypto currency has taken a foothold in the financial world. The most popular crypto currency, bit coin, has a combined market value of \$653 billion U.S. dollars—equivalent to 1.8% of the combined value of the world's money supply, according to Investopedia. With each passing day, it seems as though the conversation on Bit coin's energy consumption rages on,

though new ground is rarely broken on the topic. Like bears to honey, media outlets flock to FUD stories on mining's electrical costs and doomsday predictions of a world driven to the ecological brink, thanks to bit coin mining.

There is a strong argument to be made, however, that far from plunging the globe into ecological disaster, crypto currency mining can be sustainable or, better yet, can be used to neutralize the carbon footprint of other energy intensive processes. Indeed, under the right circumstances, mining can produce a minimal carbon output. Moreover, its energy emissions can be recycled for other eco-friendly endeavors. Most of the energy expenditure of crypto currency comes from the process by which coins are made available known as mining. Mining involves computers with large processing power and energy consumption solve-

ing a series of mathematical equations that helps verify proof of transactions. Bit coin mining consumes around 110 terawatt hours per year, which is 0.55% of global electricity production, according to the Cambridge Center for Alternative Finance. This is roughly equivalent to the annual energy draw of countries like Malaysia or Sweden. Forbes reported that mining sometimes barely allows miners to break even with the crypto they receive for "validating transactions after considering the costs of power and computing resources." "There is a direct relationship between the price of bit coin and the energy consumption of its network," said Alex de Vries, a Dutch data scientist and founder of the crypto currency blog Digiconomist. Experts like de Vries are concerned that the average user of crypto currencies should be aware of the energy expenditure these systems utilize.

In 2016, de Vries created the Bit coin Energy Consumption Index to make the increasing energy usage and effects on climate change of bit coin mining and transactions known by its users. "The purpose is to inform people about the energy footprint of the network," he said. "Ultimately, if you are a bit coin user you are not the one paying for the electricity bills; the miners are. [Users] don't really see the footprint of the system they're using in a bit coin transaction." The annual carbon footprint of all bit coin is over 66 metric tons of carbon dioxide, according to de Vries index. This is a footprint comparable to that of Israel according to the index. The index also catalogs the electronic waste that crypto currencies produce from frequent replacements to the high intensity computers used to mine bit coin across the world. According to the index, bit



coin produces over 6 kilotons of electronic waste annually, comparable to electronic waste produced by a country the size of Luxembourg. Disposing of electronic waste by way of burning can release harmful chemicals into the air that exacerbate the effects of climate change, according to climate.org. The effects of climate change intensify when the energy used to mine bit coin and other crypto currencies comes from non-renewable sources like fossil fuel combustion. A 2020 Cambridge Center for Alternative Finance study "The leading sources [like Cambridge] have always indicated that the majority is coming from fossil fuels," de Vries said. He said that the areas that do use carbon neutral sources of energy do not use them year-round. For example, he said Chinese bit coin miner's utilized coal in the winter and hydroelectric power during the summer when it was more efficient before the practice was banned in the country. "Bit coin miners don't just love cheap energy, but they also love constant sources of power," de Vries said. "That tends to be a little bit complicated when you're trying to combine that

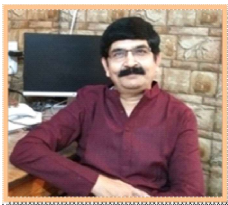
with renewable energy sources." Experts like de Vries see crypto currency in its current state as a detriment to the world's environmental health. He said the system currently in place that involves massive mining operations is "extremely inefficient." "These systems grow by a lot. Bit coin went from a negligible energy consumer several years ago to consuming as much energy as a country like Argentina now," he said. "We're now in a time where we need to actually reduce our energy consumption, and we also need to avoid carbon emissions." Multiple crypto currency mining organizations joined the Crypto Climate Accord—modeled after the Paris Climate Accord—with an ultimate goal of reducing the carbon footprint of mining. The Accord is supported by over 150 companies and individuals across the energy, finance and climate sectors. The Accord incentivizes the use of alternative energy sources like solar and wind power to achieve carbon neutral energy consumption within crypto currency networks by 2030. The system currently utilized for verification by most crypto currencies is known as proof of work.

This is the energy-hungry method utilizing mining that de Vries' index primarily focused on with bit coin. He said the alternative could reduce energy consumption by 99.95%.

"Running on proof of work is extremely inefficient. But there are alternatives and they're already being used without mining," de Vries said. The most popular alternative to that kind of system is called proof of stake. In these systems there is no incentive to use energy consuming hardware because your chance of winning depends on how much wealth you have rather than how much computation power. "Proof of stake systems use a network of contributors that spend their own crypto in exchange for a chance to validate new transactions and earn a reward, according to Coinbase. Proof of stake is utilized by currencies like Ethereum 2.0 as a faster, more energy efficient and environmentally friendly method of decentralized currency." "If you run a crypto currency on such an algorithm it doesn't have to be a threat for climate change," de Vries said. "I don't see renewable energy so much as a solution for it. Hydroelectric power has earned its own place at the crypto conservationist's table. Chinese mining farms have long drawn cheap surplus energy from hydroelectric dams, especially in the Sichuan Province. One of the oldest, BW, for instance, helped to pioneer the practice Founded in 2014, the mining operation has drawn renewable energy to power its rigs since 2015. The best solution is to make that change from proof of work to an alternative like proof of stake. Because they don't need that hardware at all anymore. You solve not just the energy use, but also the electronic waste issue."

(Writer can be reached to: sjugheshwor7@gmail.com)

IKIGAI - The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy Life



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Yesterday I got an opportunity to read a very nice book "Ikigai". The Japanese Secret to a Long and Happy Life and found it very incredible. While going through the book I found that it really realises the value of a purposeful life and helps us to find our purpose in life. It makes us more positive from within and motivates us to feel at peace with ourselves and our life. On reading the title "Ikigai" one feels what it means. It means "Life to be worthwhile" or "Purposeful Life". "Ikigai" is a Japanese concept that means "your reason for being". Here "iki" means "Life" and "gai" means "Value" or "Worth". I found the book "Ikigai" worth reading as it contains many powerful and proven concepts that can help us to live a purposeful life and it also leads us to our way of living.

We all have observed that today Japan has the highest life expectancy in the world and a particular region named "Okinawa" in Japan has a higher life expectancy than the national average. Why do they live longer lives? Because one thing among them is common is they have purpose in their life. The current life expectancy for Japan in 2022 is 84.91 years, a 0.14% increase from 2021 as per the United Nations projections till 2100. The life expectancy for Japan in 2021 was 84.79 years, a 0.14% increase from 2020. The life expectancy for Japan in 2020 was 84.67 years, a 0.14% increase from 2019. The Japanese live with 'ikigai' - an ancient philosophy that preaches that one must seek some joy and purpose in life instead of merely existing. It's about having a practice that guides you towards fulfillment. It is not about instant gratification but surely about defining your purpose in life, your personal mission, and discovering your full potential. Japan is one of the most rapidly ageing societies in the world. A quarter of the population is 65 or older. In Tokyo alone, some 3.1 million residents will be 65 or older by 2025, according to the health ministry.

If one is positive the effect on others may or may not be positive and the environment may not necessarily become positive. But when a person is negative the effect definitely rubs on others and the environment becomes negative. Each one of us is negative or positive at some point in our life. Through awareness and perseverance we can turn the tide and begin to focus on living positively. It's never too late to make alterations or transitions in your life. It is said that there is little difference in people, but that little difference makes a big difference. The little difference is attitude. The big difference is whether it is positive or negative.

Today the man is bombarded by a number of distractions. His mind is torn into different directions by a variety of distractions. Long hours of thinking are not possible for everyone but one has to be a think-tank for himself for three hours a day. In order to stimulate your mind, spend time with people who are successful. Today, everyone wants to be happy but how can one be happy in life? Happiness is an emotional state characterised by feelings of joy, satisfaction, contentment, and fulfillment. Everyone experiences both positive and negative emotions, feelings, and moods. According to Aristotle Happiness could be achieved through the golden mean, which involves finding a balance between deficiency and excess. Happy people still feel the whole range of human emotions—anger, frustration, boredom, loneliness, and even sadness—from time to time.

The Japanese have an advanced healthcare system. Regular health campaigns that guide people to incorporate healthy lifestyles like reducing salt consumption, and free treatment for TB are a norm. Hence, to attain a healthy mind and a healthy body, we should eat healthy food. One should keep a check on the lifestyle disorder by modifying food habits, making exercise as part of life, reducing the intake of junk food and adopting relaxation techniques to keep stress at bay. There is a tendency to excessive eating of certain kinds of food that contain a lot of fat, sugar and salt. This fact causes many problems. One should eat as many various foods as possible to get all the vitamins and minerals and should drink water, milk and 100% natural juices as the main drinks. Eating healthy foods and getting plenty of exercise are the two most important things a person can do for their body to maintain a healthy weight. Healthy foods assist a person in enhancing their physical and mental well-being. These foods are full of nourishment and enhance growth. Health in reproduction is therefore of great importance for the well being of families and communities and therefore it can be rightly said that health is not everything but health affects everything. Can't we lead a long and happy life as Japanese live?

Salman Rushdie attack – the religious disorder that hurts



By: M.R. Lalu

Should the world have voiced its sentiments louder against the stabs that Salman Rushdie had on his neck and face? The versatile author with critical wounds cautions the world about the extent into which religious fanaticism has stretched its ugly claws. Should there be a sensible effort to quell the madness that distorted spiritual theories pounce on the world with? Can there be a solution at all in this regard? I suspect the laxity with which the world deals such ruthlessness. Universal epithets to narrate freedom of speech and expression could be seen fading into insignificance. The effect of such live narratives is not probably meant for religions with exclusive mindset. The slow death of Salman Rushdie would accentuate the power centers that enjoy decreeing fatwas and essentially their belligerence would grow manifold and unquestioned. The New York stabbing on one of the most celebrated writers would leave an ugly question destined to remain unanswered forever. Why do clerics go scot-free after every fatwa and the execution that follows? A life in exile since 1989, Salman Rushdie must have known the real threat that awaited him. The Ayatollah fatwa took 33 years to spill blood, slitting the old man's wrinkled skin. Though he kept ascending to fame after every book that he wrote, the inner core of the writer must have sensed the dead man in him. Rushdie's wounds would make people sense the

abnormality that is plaguing the contemporary world. His book the Satanic Verses for which he was awarded a fatwa profoundly spoke of the anomalies and hypocrisies that the world of faith sinking in us.

Another instance of brutality, loaded with religious madness was on 7 January 2015. This time it was Charlie Hebdo, the French Satirical weekly newspaper that had the darkest day in its history: 12 people were killed and 11 injured in a terrorist attack which was known to be a reaction on cartoons published on the Islamic prophet Muhammad. There are many examples of violent extremism to that effect and can be narrated here. But there is a question that significantly sticks out silently with remorse and reprisal. Is violence a legitimate response to religious offence? Can religions easily discard human rights in a world that stands more scientific than religious? A world mostly pluralistic in essence cannot justify disrespect of any religion. But why such instances should not be treated with civility within the framework of modern and available judicial processes? Of course the essential impact of a radical outrage by anybody cannot be narrated as the common behaviour of a particular community. The absence of a civil dialogue in a world of diverse tendencies must be seen as one reason. But the solution should not be limited to a controlled periphery but there should also be consistent cultural exchanges among diverse beliefs. What happened to Charlie Hebdo cannot be singled out. There were selective attacks on writers and news offices multiple times before.

The 'Lajja' author Taslima Nasreen also had the same fate. Her novel depicted the persecution ran on innocent Hindus by Muslim radicals during the Babri Masjid demolition in 1992 in her home state Bangladesh. The price she had to pay

for being truthful was heavy. She had to flee her country and later made many countries her home including India in exile for almost three decades. Feel the real sense from her words. She says, "I have lived in exile since I was banished. Now, this is how it seems my life will draw to a close as well, as if I am destined to live the rest of my life on foreign soil. Book bans, Islamic fanatics, fatwas and feminist silences-I bore the brunt, but nothing could force me down. But now I know I will never be home again." For Muslims, Prophet Muhammad is adorned with a divine sanctity and questioning his greatness would bring wrath of the believers. Blasphemy against him is unquestionably punishable in Islam and the world irrespective of its secular credentials bows to the practice that a particular religion holds supreme. Though the Iranian government officially distanced itself from the recent attack on Rushdie, the festivity that the attack brought to many people in the country was actually provocative. Satanic Verses was published more than thirty years ago when Hadi Matar, Rushdie's attacker, was not even born. So essentially, if the fatwa could not ignite fire of vengeance in the young man, what he was probably intoxicated by was the hallucinatory ideals of his faith which gave him the audacity of hope and a reason to plunge for the crime.

Rushdie, one of the most celebrated writers with some of the finest writings, has been identified as anti-Islamic. The agony of the Booker Prize winning writer with his best ever written novels Midnight's Children, Shame, The Moor's Last Sigh and The Enchantress of Florence literally evokes the quest for freedom that no religion would probably dare to slit open to wounds. The Indian born writer's misery is the price that he pays for his literary brilliance and eminence. The Rushdie experience

and the exile that Taslima Nasreen was forced into pose significant challenges to all the liberal democracies across the globe. The idea of freedom among cultures and the freedom of speech that the world is blindly vocal about are seriously threatened and the effect of the sneaky Islamic fundamentalism is penetrating into the social jurisdiction of societies terribly pulling the edifice of coexistence. Is there a glimmer of hope when countries like Saudi Arabia steps in for elementary changes giving more freedom to its citizens to express and expose? A religious ruling by Sheikh Abdul Rahman al-Barrak calling for the execution of two writers for apostasy in Saudi was met with severe criticism. The act was termed as "intellectual terrorism by clerics of darkness" and the criticism was documented with more than 100 human rights activists daringly putting their signatures from the region. A world bouncing in tandem with the madness of radicalism is truly thickening around. The assassination of the Egyptian writer Farag Foda in 1992 was a result of a fatwa by radical Muslim clerics and an attempt to murder the Egyptian Nobel prize-winner Naguib Mahfouz in 1994 was the effect of another fatwa. With its largest pluralistic population, India should have reacted to what the Rushdie incident has provoked. But there was a studied silence among the political leadership in the country which probably thought not to condemn the brutal violence on the India born writer. We should have stood in solidarity with the writer. Our choosing to remain passive on the crime tells us those unwritten facts of compulsion that the world's largest democracy is in. India's celebrated 'freedom of speech' seems to have become a paper tiger.

(The author is Freelance Journalist/Social Worker)

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times'

can be sent to our e-mail: imphaltimes@gmail.com.

For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-3590330 (O). For time being readers can reach the office at Cell Phone No. 9862860745 for any purpose.

AAP alleges 4 MLAs offered Rs 20 crore to switch sides, Rs 25 crore to get others join BJP

Agency
New Delhi, August 24:

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Wednesday alleged that the BJP has threatened four of its MLAs that they will have to face "false cases, the CBI and the ED" if they do not switch sides and join the saffron party.

Addressing a press briefing, AAP's national spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh claimed that his party legislators—Ajay Dutt, Sanjeev Jha, Somnath Bharati and Kuldeep—have been offered Rs 20 crore each by the BJP if they switch sides and Rs 25 crore if they bring other party leaders with them.

He claimed that the AAP MLAs were approached by leaders of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with whom they have "friendly relations".

"They have been offered Rs 20 crore each if they join



the party and Rs 25 crore if they bring other MLAs along with them," Singh said, PTI reported.

"They (BJP leaders) told our MLAs that if they do not accept the offer and join the BJP, they will also have to face false cases, the CBI and the ED like (Delhi Deputy Chief Minister) Manish Sisodia is facing," he added.

The AAP MP accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of trying to bring AAP legisla-

tors into the BJP-fold "by hook or crook" and making efforts to bring down the Arvind Kejriwal-led government in Delhi.

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal also claimed that some AAP MLAs have told him that they are being threatened to quit the party, terming it a "serious matter".

"In the last two to three days, some AAP MLAs have told me that they are being given the threat of CBI and

ED, they are being lured with money to leave AAP, this is a very serious issue. We have called a meeting of our political affairs at 4 pm to discuss this," he said.

Earlier, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia claimed that he was approached by the BJP with the offer to close all CBI and ED cases against him if he joined their party. Sisodia is facing heat over alleged corruption in Delhi Excise Policy.

India logs 10,649 new Covid cases in 24 hours, active cases decline to 96,442

Agency
New Delhi, August 24:

India logged 10,649 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,43,68,195, while the active cases declined to 96,442, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday.

The death toll has climbed to 5,27,452 with 36 fatalities which includes four deaths reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.22 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.59 per cent, the ministry said.

A decline of 64 cases has

been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.62 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 3.32 per cent, according to the ministry.

The number of people who have recovered from the disease surged to 4,37,44,301, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry, 210.58 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination drive.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on Septem-

ber 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on January 25 this year.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4 and three crore on June 23 last year. It crossed the four-crore mark on January 25 this year.

The 32 new fatalities include nine from Delhi, seven from Maharashtra, three from Punjab, two each from Haryana, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh and one each from Chandigarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and West Bengal.

PM Modi inaugurates 2,600-bed Amrita Hospital in Haryana's Faridabad; to visit Punjab

Agency
New Delhi, August 24:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated 2,600-bed Amrita Hospital in Haryana's Faridabad.

Managed by Mata Amritanandamayi Math, the su-

per-specialty hospital will be equipped with 2600 beds and cutting-edge technology, read a statement from the Prime Minister's Office.

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala and others attended the

event.

Addressing the event, PM Modi said that the combination of technology and modernisation will lead to progress in the healthcare sector.

"India is endeavouring that governments, others on mission mode can transform health and

education sectors. India is a country where healthcare and spirituality closely linked," he said.

He further said that COVID-19 is an example of a successful spiritual-private partnership that helped create awareness and implement the world's largest vaccination drive.

Career Guidance

Choose offbeat courses after XII



By: Vijay GarG

If you have completed your twelfth standard but have not yet been able to choose a career, then now is the time for you to take the right decision and move forward in that direction. While choosing a career, the most important thing is to identify your interest and ability and prepare yourself for success. Generally, parents push their children towards becoming doctors, engineers, lawyers etc. after twelfth, but seeing the tough competition in these fields, they are now ready to take the risk of choosing an offbeat career alternative. They are giving priority to the hobby and interest of the students in these courses. If you are also looking for new alternatives in a field full of possibilities, then know about offbeat courses.

Cinematography is literally defined as recording motion. Every scene that appears on the screen is the result of cinematography. A cinematographer brings reality to any scene imagined by a film director or script writer. A genre made up of art and technology, cinematography is a separate part of film making. It plays an important role in his success. Job

opportunities there are opportunities to work as cinematographer, video editor, director and photographer, cameraman, videographer etc. in this field. Cinematographers have excellent job opportunities in TV and web series, filming units, film studios, video businesses, etc. Course You can do one year PG certificate course in electronic cinematography, two year PG diploma in cinematography for EDM, three year PG diploma in cinematography. You from the twelfth after graduation in any subject, you can take admission in these courses by passing the entrance exam. Some institutes offer BSc in Cinematography, Advanced Diploma in Cinematography, PG Diploma in Cinematography along with Film Making. Advertising a great way to promote anything. It is the preferred alternative chosen by companies and brands to market their products/services.

Therefore, today advertising is a big industry in the country, which is always profitable. After digitalization, this sector has expanded further and new opportunities have been created in it. If you have the ability to do something creative and think differently, then you can advance yourself in this field. Work opportunities You can work in this field as a copy writer, creative director, art director, production manager, media planning manager, PPC etc. You can work in any advertising company. It also has the option of working as a freelancer. Course With graduation in any subject after twelfth by improving

communication skills and English, you can enter this field by doing diploma or post graduation diploma courses in Advertising and Communication, Marketing and Advertising, Advertising Management, Advertising and Public Relations. Interior designing It is currently one of the most attractive career options. Be it home or office, hotel or mall, interior designers play an important role in making it colorful and beautiful. Job opportunities Architectural firm, construction firm, real estate company for interior designer.

There are opportunities to work in Town and City Planning Bureau, Design Studio, Hotel and Restaurant, Designing Institute. You can get a job in a firm by working as an interior designer. This field gives an opportunity to work independently and create an identity. Course After 12th you can do Bachelor of Interior Designing or BSc in Interior Designing. Courses like Diploma in Interior Design, PG Diploma in Interior Design and Decoration, Advanced Diploma in Interior Design are also preferred for making a career in this field. Chartered Accountant (CA) is popular as a good career. CAs handle financial accounting and tax management for any organization or business unit.

A common perception about Chartered Accountant is that students with commerce or mathematics subjects choose this career, whereas those who have passed twelfth in any subject can take the CA exam. Job opportunities After the implementation

of Goods and Service Tax i.e. GST in the country, the demand for CA has increased a lot. CAs have many opportunities to work independently as a CA you can work with public and private sector banks, public limited companies, auditing firms, finance companies, stock broking companies etc. animation With increasing technology, animation has become one of the most scoped career options these days.

Animation is concerned with designing, drawing and producing graphics or multimedia video. Animation has a lot of potential for those who like to create magic in a character. Animation in a wide variety of work from entertainment to the field of advertising. Job opportunities are available for professionals. Employment opportunities Animation professionals are in high demand in the advertising department, film and television sector, cartoon production, online and print news media, video gaming, e-learning sectors. Course BSc in Animation and Multi Media, BSc in Animation and Game Technology, BA Hons, BA in 3D Animation, BA in Animation and Graphic Design, BSc in Animation after 12th. Advanced Diploma in 3D Animation, Advanced Diploma in Animation Can do Visual Effects, Advanced Diploma in Animation Engineering. After graduation, you can lay the foundation of a strong career in this field by doing MSc in Animation and Multi Media, Post Graduate Diploma in 3D Animation, PG Diploma in 3D Communication.

Agency
Shillong, August 24:

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Tuesday ruled out any plans of changing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Assam and Meghalaya to resolve the first phase of the border dispute.

Sangma's response comes at a time when organisations are demanding that the government should either revise or scrap the MoU. The Khasi Students' Union (KSU), Federation of Unbok Jaintia and Garo People (FKJGP), Association for Democracy and Empowerment (ADE), Federation for Achik Freedom (FAF) and several other stakeholders met with the CM on Tuesday to discuss the matter.

Speaking to the media, Sangma said that after hearing the concerns of the organisations, the government has shown them the historical facts and how, based on the

2011 report, the entire discussion happened.

Sangma added that he explained to them (leaders of the organisations) that it was difficult to change the report that was submitted by the Meghalaya government in 2011.

"It was a huge challenge, but we had to move forward with the 2011 report. They have understood the issue now, but concerns still persist, like people's will and desire to remain in Meghalaya, and they would like to see if some steps can be taken to work on those matters," stated Sangma.

The three villages brought up by the organisations are Joyrup, Salbari and Huwapar. Sangma said since the talks for the second phase have just started, it remains to be seen how to move forward on this issue.

FKJGP Garo Hills Zone President Pritam Areng said they will continue with their demand that these villages remain with Meghalaya.

He added that it wouldn't be a challenge since Assam never disputed these areas and that this was a mistake that can be rectified.

Dundee Khongsit, President of the FKJGP, said the state government should take this opportunity to include the three villages in Meghalaya since the second phase of talks is ongoing. Khongsit added that the Meghalaya government could approach the Assam government to discuss the many areas of difference.

Lambok Mangar, President, KSU said the student body has always suggested that the government should take historical facts and ethnicity into consideration and listen to the autonomous bodies and concerned stakeholders' suggestions.

He said that though it is hard to revisit the MoU, "We all know that Assam and Meghalaya are in India. So I believe there is a way to work this out and we leave it to the government to solve this."

IN THE COURT OF THE SPECIAL JUDGE (ND&PS)(FTC), MANIPUR AT CHEIRAP COURT COMPLEX

ANNEXURE - 1

Schedule 1 VIII, Form No. 100
High Court Criminal Process No. 4

SPECIAL TRIAL CASE NO. 110 OF 2022

Ref: Spl. T. no. 78/1995/17 of 2019

FIR No. 29(2)/1986 MRH-PS

U/S 25/27 ND&PS ACT.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF THE ACCUSED (Section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure)

- Name, Description and address of the accused:

Shri N. Kanan Madraji (23) S/o N. Nataranjan Madraji of Redding Village, Madras at present, Moreh, Prem Nagar, PS Moreh, Tengnoupal district

Whereas complaint has been made before me that N. Kanan Madraji has committed the offence punishable Under Section 25/27 ND & PS ACT (FIR. No. 29(2)/1986 MRH-PS) and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon stating that N. Kanan Madraji cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said N. Kanan Madraji has absconded to avoid the execution of the said warrant.
- Name of the accused:

N. Kanan Madraji

Proclamation is thereby made that the said N. Kanan Madraji is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complain on the 25th day of August, 2022.
- Place:
Imphal, the 14th July, 2022

Sd/-
(Alek Muivah)
Special Judge (ND&PS)(FTC),
Manipur

Transgender Persons to get Composite Healthcare services under Ayushman Bharat- PMJAY

PIB
New Delhi, August 24:

In a landmark decision today, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between National Health Authority (NHA) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment to provide an inclusive and composite health package for Transgender Persons under Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY. The MoU was signed by Dr. R. S. Sharma, CEO, National Health Authority (NHA) and R. Subramanyam, Secretary DoSJE in presence of Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare and Dr. Virendra Kumar, Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.

Terming this as a momentous day, Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya hailed this MoU as one of its kind in the country which will give impetus to ensuring rightful and respectable place for transgender community by accessing healthcare services under AB-PMJAY. "This MoU has laid the foundation for a landmark transformational re-

form in the society. The move which provides special healthcare benefits to the Transgender Community goes beyond ensuring equality for the disadvantaged community", he highlighted. Noting that the transgender community suffers stigma and exclusion, he stressed that the provision of healthcare services under AB- PMJAY is a significant and firm step towards an inclusive society. "It is only apt that the MoU is being signed at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre today, as he championed for an inclusive society with equality across all population groups in the country", Dr. Mandaviya stated.

He reiterated commitment and dedication of the government under leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi towards Antyodaya, where the last person in the chain of delivery of services gets benefits of decisions and actions of the government. Dr. Mandaviya emphasized that the government is working in a decisive way to not only recognize rights of the transgender community but has taken various systematic steps for their welfare. He congratulated the

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for taking several initiatives for the transgender community, be it "The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019", Garima Greh, PM Daksh program or other schemes/initiatives taken recently. Urging all sections of society to join hands in efforts of the government towards an inclusive society under vision of "New India" of Hon. Prime Minister, he stated that "Disadvantaged communities can progress with dignity and self reliance with collaboration of "Sarkar and Society".

Dr. Mandaviya said that today's MoU between National Health Authority (NHA) and the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (MoSJE) will extend all healthcare benefits to transgender persons (holding a transgender certificate issued by the National Portal for transgender persons) across the country. MoSJE will fund Rs.5 lakh insurance cover per transgender beneficiary per annum. A comprehensive package master is being prepared for transgender category including the existing AB PM-JAY packages and

specific packages (Sex Reassignment Surgery (SRS) and treatment) for transgenders. They will be eligible to seek treatment in any of the AB PM-JAY empanelled hospitals across the country, where specific packages are available. The scheme would cover all transgender persons not receiving such benefits from other centre/state sponsored schemes.

Dr. Virendra Kumar, Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment said that transformative change is happening in the country with strong political will to implement this change. He enumerated several steps taken by MoSJE for implementing package of five assurances: Education, Life with dignity, Health support, Opportunities for livelihood and Skill Enhancement. These steps have been taken to ensure that marginalized and disadvantaged sections of the population can emerge from restrictive social constructs by providing them dignified life and livelihood, he stated.

Senior officials from two ministries and members from transgender community were also present at the event.

ED recovers 2 AK-47 in raids on Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren's close 'aide'

Agency
Ranchi, August 24:

Two AK-47 rifles and 60 cartridges were recovered by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) from the home of Prem Prakash, an alleged close associate of Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, officials told India Today.

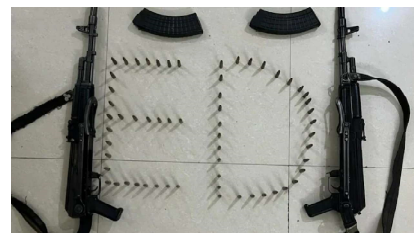
The ED sleuths, while searching Prem Prakash's Jharkhand residence in the illegal mining case, said they found two AK-47s kept in an iron Almirah.

Vinod Kumar, SHO Argora Police Station, said the arms recovered (AL-47) from Prem Prakash's residence belong to security personnel with the police.

Officials have told India Today that after specific information about Prem Prakash and his alleged association with Hemant Soren, searches were conducted at his residence.

Apart from Prem Prakash's premises, 16 other premises are being searched by the ED in Jharkhand, Bihar, Tamil Nadu and Delhi-NCR over the illegal mining case. According to sources, CM Hemant Soren is also under ED's scanner in this case.

"The evidence collected during the course of the investigation, including statements of various persons, digital evidence and documents revealed



that the seized cash along with the bank balance was derived from illegal mining being rampantly done in the Sahibganj area, including the forest area. A trail of further Rs 100 crore of proceeds of crime generated from illegal mining has also been unearthed and being worked upon," the financial probe agency had earlier said in a statement.

The ED had also seized Rs 11.88 crore from 37 bank accounts of Hemant Soren's close aides, including his MLA representative Pankaj Mishra, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Jharkhand's Sahibganj, Barhet, Rajmahal, Mirza Chauki and Barharwa, and seized incriminating documents with Rs 5.34 crore in unaccounted for cash on July 8.

The ED had also seized five stone crushers which were being illegally operated from the site and five illegal firearm cartridges.

In May, the ED searched 36 locations connected with the MNREGA scam and seized Rs 19.76 crore in cash.

The searched premises included those of IAS officer Pooja Singhal and her associates.

"Evidence collected during the course of the investigation, including those collected during the searches and statements of various persons, revealed that the major chunk of the seized cash was derived from illegal mining and belonged to senior bureaucrats and politicians," the ED statement said in an earlier statement.

Pooja Singhal and her Chartered Accountant Suman Kumar were arrested by the ED and are currently in jail.

So far, Rs 36.58 crore allegedly generated illegally from mining has been seized by the agency.

PM Modi to travel to Japan to attend former PM Shinzo Abe's state funeral on September 27

Agency
New Delhi, August 24:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will travel to Japan on September 27 to attend the state funeral of former Japanese PM and his good friend Shinzo Abe. This was confirmed by a government source to news agency ANI on Wednesday.

It has been confirmed that PM Modi will be in Japan for only a day.

The Japanese government will be organising a state funeral for Abe on September 27. The ceremony will be held at the Nippon Budokan arena in the Kitanomaru National Garden in the capital Tokyo.

Japan's Kyodo news agency has reported that PM Modi will likely have a meeting with his Japanese counterpart Fumio Kishida during the one-day visit.

It may be noted here that India and Japan maintain close

ties, both diplomatic as well as economic. In fact, the two close partners are members of the four-nation QUAD grouping which also included Australia and the United States.

India-Japan ties grew considerable when Abe was PM. The trend continued after Abe demitted office.

When PM Modi paid an official visit to Japan in 2018, then PM Abe invited him to his family home in the Yamanashi prefecture - a move that indicated

warm ties between the two leaders.

In May this year, Modi met Abe when he had gone to Japan to attend the in-person QUAD Summit. This was their first meeting in nearly two years after Abe stepped down as the Japanese PM.

Abe died later in July when he was attacked on the 8th of the month in the Japanese city of Nara while delivering a campaign speech.

Following Abe's assassi-

Contd. from Page 1

"Amrit Udyan" Park in Guwahati.....

Rani Gaidinliu, a Rongmei leader and freedom fighter, who was arrested and sentenced to life by the British, Dimas leader Sambhudhan Phonglo, an Indian independent freedom fighter who fought against British rule in Assam, and was later killed by the British in 1883, Moje Riba

from Arunachal Pradesh who was arrested by the British for resisting their colonial rule, Rani Ropuliani of Mizoram who was captured and held captive for two years before she died, U Tirot Sing Syiem, the Khasi chief who fought the British in early 19th century but was captured in January

1833 and deported to Dhaka where he died, Helen Lepcha alias Sabitri Devi, the great freedom fighter from Sikkim whose revolutionary zeal shook the foundation of British empire, Bidrohi Ratanmani Reang of Tripura, who led the famous Reang revolt against the British.

Sports

Durand Cup 2022:

Sunil Chhetri on target as Bengaluru FC beat Indian Air Force 4-0; Odisha FC stun Kerala Blasters FC 2-0 to register second win of tournament

Agency
Kolkata/Guwahati, August 24:

Sunil Chhetri and Roy Krishna found themselves on the scoresheet again as Bengaluru FC recorded a commanding 4-0 win over Indian Air Force FC at the Kishore Bharati Krirangan in Kolkata on Tuesday (August 23).

Faisal Ali and Sivasakthi were the other scorers on the day as the Blues enjoyed a great day at the office. Krishna and Chhetri showed signs of an understanding straight away in the game as the two combined to carve out an opening just five minutes into the game, but the final pass just evaded the BFC captain.

Another new signing Aleksander Jovanovic though provided an inch-perfect diagonal ball to Krishna who controlled it beautifully, escaped his marker and scored past the Indian Air Force goalkeeper to give Bengaluru FC the lead in the 8th minute.

Bengaluru FC had

Gurpreet Singh Sandhu to thank to keep the scores level as he made a fine save from Aqib in the 21st minute. Two minutes later, Chhetri squeezed in a cross from Prabir Das to make it 2-0 in Bengaluru FC's favour. The Blues had no problems preserving the lead going into the interval, Simon Grayson freshened up the team early on in the second half and Ali who came on from Krishna made an instant impact as he scored Bengaluru FC's third goal after he was fed by Udanta Singh in the 68th minute.

Sivasakthi then rounded off a fine evening for the Blues by adding a fourth goal in stoppage time after a brilliant through ball from Suresh Singh Wangiam. Grayson's side will now get a week-long break before returning to the field against fellow Hero ISL side FC Goa next Tuesday.

In another match, Odisha FC recorded a solid win over Kerala Blasters FC in the Durand Cup 2022 on Tuesday to strengthen their bid for a



place in the quarter-finals. Odisha FC picked up from what they had left against NorthEast United FC as their dominant display against Kerala Blasters FC ensured a 2-0 victory at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati on Tuesday (August 23).

Two fine strikes from Isaac Vannalsawma (52') and new

signing Saul Crespo (74') broke open the Tuskers' defence to hand them a secure victory as they remained at the top of the points table. The game remained static in the opening minutes of the game, with neither team dominating the play, keeping their respective side defensively compact.

Odisha FC started to find

pockets of spaces through the Blasters' midfield and Jerry Mawimhanga curled one in from his left foot but his shot lacked power and landed in the keeper Sachin Suresh's hands. With constant troubles being handed to Tomas Tchortz's side, Odisha FC continued to find their way through in the final third but

the Blasters were resolute and kept composure off the ball.

In the 23rd minute, Isaac received a ball inside the box from Nandakumar Sekar and took a shot but the midfielder failed to hit the target in what was the side's first big chance of the game. The Juggernauts continued to threaten the Blasters' defence, through Jerry again who found Nandakumar Sekar open and unmarked on the left, but the latter's header was effectively denied by Suresh who made clever use of his legs to keep the score level.

Diego Mauricio, who got subbed on for Pedro Martin, became the key differentiator for Odisha FC as he helped his side find the opener of the game six minutes into the second half. The striker ran down the right after getting past a defender and found Isaac in the box with a cutback as the midfielder made no mistake in slotting it home to put his side through. The chances kept coming for Josep Gombau's

men as Saul Crespo managed to put a line-breaking pass to Mauricio who was through on goal but his shot was clamped down by Tejas who managed to make a block well within time.

Minutes later, Odisha FC opened the floodgates for another goal after a sloppy defensive clearance by the Blasters led to Saul Crespo capitalising on the ball and comfortably finding the back of the net from a tap-in. A brilliant one-two between Akshunna Tyagi and Diego Mauricio gave the Blasters a scare for a third goal but Sachin Suresh had nerves of steel as he made himself big to save the Brazilian's shot.

The Kalinga Warriors were inches away from getting the third one of the day as Tyagi's shot hit the crossbar from a decent position. Josep Gombau's men will clash against Sudeva Delhi FC a week later while the Blasters will take their guard against NorthEast United FC on Sunday.