

## Broad daylight robbery at Vety. & A.H. Services: Rs.19.45 lakhs worth incomplete works handed over with “completed” remarks; total bill cleared



IT News  
Imphal, August 5:

At what could be termed as an act of broad day light robbery, the office of the Technical and Promotion Cell (Valley-II), popularly known as TP Cell, Manipur had reportedly handed over an incomplete wall and drainage construction

for the compound of the Veterinary Hospital at Wangoi at the cost of Rs. 19.45 lakhs to the concerned department with remarks “Completed”.

When team Imphal Times visited the Wangoi Veterinary Office yesterday, the said compound wall and Drainage construction that has been handed over by the TP Cell to the Di-

rector of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Services, Government of Manipur stating the construction as completed was found left incomplete. Imphal Times reporter saw only some portion of wall, that too left incomplete at North Eastern side of the compound. There is no concrete wall construction seen at the west side (near the

main road) of the compound.

As per official sources procured through Right to Information Act (RTI), the TP Cell (Valley-II) issued the work order for construction of drain and compound wall at Veterinary Hospital, Wangoi in Imphal West district to a first class government contractor on March 20, 2021. Estimated cost of the work was Rs. 15,22,700/- even as the Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Services sanctioned Rs. 19,45,000.00/- . This was as per TP cell procedures. The official sources further added that the Executive engineer of the TP Cell (Valley-II) submitted a completion report of the Compound Wall and the Drainage construction on October 2021. Accordingly with the directives of the then Director Ch. Nandakumar Singh (Vety. & A.H. Services), the total bill amount was released.

## State Assembly Session adjourned Sine die

### Letter submitted to the Union Home Minister regarding the modalities of the conduct of census in respect of the State: CM

IT News  
Imphal, August 5:

2nd session of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly adjourned sine die today. On the last day of the session the House pass Manipur Appropriation Bill No 4, 2022 and also the amended Hill Area ADC Act (6 amendment) and submitted to the Hill Area Committee for approval.

The State Assembly also adopted establishment of Manipur Population Commission and enforcement of National Registration for Citizen. The house adopted the private member resolution moved by MLA Joykishan of Thangmeiband Assembly constituency. Leader of the house, while considering the private member resolution in the interest of all the members of the house gave no objection to the

passing of the private member resolution moved by MLA Joykishan,

In the morning session of the last day of the 12th Manipur State Legislative Assembly, replying to a question raised by MLA K. Ranjit Singh regarding the population census, Leader of the House N. Biren Singh informed that due to Covid-19 pandemic, population census which was supposed to be conducted in the year 2021 remain postponed. No particular date and month of conducting census is finalized yet, he stated.

Biren further informed that a D.O letter has been submitted to the Union Home Minister regarding the modalities of the conduct of census in respect of the state of Manipur. The Centre Government has also been requested to conduct census of the State based on biometric data collection technology. No

decision has been taken regarding linking of aadhaar with census. Previous paper mode along with electronically generated mobile app may be used this time, he added.

Answering to MLA Paolienlal Haokip regarding the issuance of patta and jamabandis in hill areas, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that it is not true that huge area of land in the hills have been subjected to revenue settlement under the MLR & LR Act 1960. Revenue records of parts of the hill area are properly maintained.

Responding to MLA Kh. Jaokisan N. Biren Singh said that there is restriction in sale and purchase of land in the state. An Office Memorandum dated 7th July, 2021 and order CNCL-203/1/2021-Cabinet-Confidential & Cabinet dated 10th September, 2021 has been served in the regard, he informed.

Minister Letpao Haokip said that it is not true that TA and Hills office in Ukhrul has been defunct. It is still functioning even if it is an old building. There is no existing plan to renovate the office and staff quarter. There are three working staffs out of twelve no. of sanctioned posts. Nine posts are vacant. Department of TA and Hills is preparing to fill up the vacant post. This was the reply given by Letpao Haokip to MLA Ram Muivah during the question hour.

Replying to the question raised by MLA Kh. Joykishan Singh, Forest Minister Th. Biswajit Singh said that total amount sanctioned by Union Ministry and State Government for development of Forest from 2017-2018 to 2020-2023 (till June 2022) are Rs. 10818.15 lakhs and Rs 13045.08 lakhs respectively. The State will be Rs. 867.20 lakhs.

## CM rewards JNIMS Renal Transplant Team

IT News  
Imphal, August 5:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today rewarded the Renal Transplant Team, Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences at the Chief Minister's Secretariat with a cheque of Rs. 5 lakhs only for successfully conducting Kidney transplant at the state-run JNIMS.

It may be mentioned that the Chief Minister had announced the reward soon after the successful conduct of the transplant. Altogether six kidney transplants have been successfully conducted at JNIMS, so far.

Congratulating and thank-



ing JNIMS, specially the team of doctors, nurses, technical and other support staff for the success, the Chief Minister also said that due to their hard work, we have received the permission to increase the number of MBBS seats in JNIMS by another 50 and that the Churachandpur Medical Col-

lege has also been approved. This means that altogether the MBBS seat will be increased to 250 excluding RIMS, he added.

The Chief Minister concluded by wishing them the best in their future endeavours.

Additional CS (Health) V. Vumlungmang said that all six patients are getting assistance un-

der the Chief Minister-gi Hakshelgi Tengbang (CMHT) and Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY including post transplant assistance.

Today is also a happy occasion as JNIMS has now received permission of the National Medical Commission to increase MBBS Seat from 100 to 150, he added.

The ceremony was also attended by Health Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh, Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Director Health Services Kh. Shasheekumar Mangang, Director, J.N. Institute of Medical Sciences Prof. L. Deben Singh, doctors, nurses among others.

## State Journalists protest NIA harassment to AMWJU President W. Shamjai; IJU condemns



IT News  
Imphal, August 05:

Except for one vernacular newspaper and government owned media, all media houses in the state of Manipur stopped publications and broadcasting for a day as journalist ceased work and staged protest against harassment to president of the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union (AMWJU), W. Shamjai by National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Thursday.

Members of AMWJU, Hill Journalists' Union and other district affiliated journalists' bodies have condemned the act of National Investigation

Agency (NIA) and Union and

wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Governor La Ganesan, the Press Council of India (PCI), and the Indian Journalists' Union (IJU), expressing 'strong resentment on such treatment meted out to Shamjai.

W. Shamjai was summoned to the NIA office at 10 am on August 2, 2022. He was again summoned to the NIA Office at Lamphel here in Imphal on August 4, 2022 again when journalists in the state were staging protest at Keishampat Leimajam Leikai Community Hall. Shamjai said that, on the first day, he was left alone in a room till around 12 noon when an official began

interrogating him.

The Indian Journalists Union has condemned the summoning and harassment of the President of All Manipur Working Journalists Union, Wangkhemcha Shamjai by the National Investigation Agency over past two days.

The IJU President Geethartha Pathak joined the protest held by AMWJU, Editors Guild Manipur (EGM) and Manipur Hill Journalists Union (MHJU) in Imphal demanding that the NIA desist from such arbitrary actions against journalists and respect the freedom of the press.

contd. on page 4

## MPCC joins Congress party's nationwide protest against price hike; confronts police



IT News/Agency  
Imphal, August 05:

As a part of the nationwide protest by Congress Party under the leadership of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, members of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) confronted the police at BT Road here in Imphal while trying to march a protest rally led by MPCC President K. Meghachandra Singh.

The large number of state congress leaders confronted with the police team in front of the Congress Bhavan at BT Road Imphal at around 1pm today when the police team tried to stop them at the gate of the Congress Bhavan. Interestingly the protest occurred on the last day of the 2nd 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly Session. K. Meghachandra, the Congress MLA managed time and led the protest during the lunch break of the ongoing session.

Speaking to media persons, K. Meghachandra condemned the police action to the democratic protest by the congress workers against price rise, unemployment and GST. The Congress workers were stopped by the police team at the Congress Bhavan gate from proceeding towards Raj Bhavan.

Congress workers shouted slogans against BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi while they confronted with the police team.

On the other hand agency report said that at Delhi, Congress MPs, led by party chief Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, staged a protest in the Parliament House complex and marched towards the Rashtrapati Bhawan as part of their nationwide stir against price rise, the GST hike on essential items and unemployment.

The protesting MPs of the opposition party raised slogans against the government de-

manding that the GST hike on essential items be withdrawn, with Sonia Gandhi standing with the women MPs of the party, holding a banner, outside gate number 1 of Parliament.

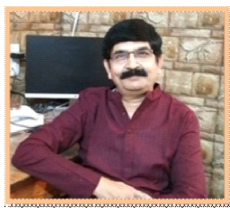
They were, however, stopped by the Delhi Police and not allowed to proceed towards the Rashtrapati Bhawan. Sonia Gandhi did not take part in the march. The other MPs were detained by police at Vijay Chowk.

Leaders and workers of the Congress assembled at the party headquarters at New Delhi to participate in the nationwide protest against price rise, the hike in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on essential items and unemployment.

The party is also protesting against the alleged misuse of probe agencies by the government to target its leaders.

Top Congress leaders, including Rahul Gandhi and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, reached the party headquarters in the morning.

## The genius of Einstein leads to Hiroshima



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

The first nuclear weapon was used in August 1945, after World War II ended. Hiroshima Day is celebrated on 6th August every year. Did you ever imagine how devastating the day was? This day is considered one of the darkest days in human's life. Hiroshima Day commemorates the day of August 1945, when an atomic bomb was dropped on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, and a few days later, another fell on the city of Nagasaki. More than 100,000 people, mostly civilians, were killed instantly and for years afterwards, from horrible burns and radiation sickness. Although nuclear weapons were not used against people after that, the USA conducted tests in the Pacific Ocean which involved nuclear and hydrogen bombs. This Day is an opportunity to raise awareness about the threat of nuclear weapons and the dangers of nuclear energy. Today the atomic bombings on the Japanese cities occupy an important place among the most controversial events in the history of humanity. As early as in 1954, Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India called upon the nuclear powers to stop the test-jag of nuclear weapons. U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and U.K., the three nuclear powers of that time a moratorium on nuclear testing during 1958-61. The number of deaths from the direct impact of the explosion varied from 70 to 80 thousand people. By the end of 1945, due to the action of radioactive contamination and other post-explosion effects, the total number of victims ranged from 90 to 166,000 people.

Recognizing that there are enough nuclear weapons to destroy the planet, most nations signed the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), agreeing to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons and work to eliminate them. The world continues to live in the shadow of nuclear weapons. Nine countries have approximately 24,000 nuclear weapons. According to official Japanese data at the end of March 2009, more than 235,000 people have suffered from the effects of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The number of deaths in total is more than 413,000 people (263,945 in Hiroshima and 149,226 in Nagasaki).

After more than 30 years of nuclear power plants, there is still no sure way to get rid of the contaminated nuclear materials that are produced. Thousands of nuclear weapons remain on alert, ready to be fired at any time. The world nowadays is in danger of nuclear conflicts.

The Soviet President, Mr. Mikhail Gorbachev, and the U.S. President, Mr. George Bush, signed the historic strategic arms reduction treaty in Moscow in July 1991 in order to reduce their nuclear arsenals by about 30 percent. The signing of the treaty has strengthened the world desire that the mad race for arms should be stopped as early as possible. It is important to forbid the manufacture and purchase of nuclear weapon or the nuclear power states must reduce and eradicate the weapon.

War Countries remain in a constant state of preparation for war. There is also a danger of nuclear device exploding and annual war erupting because of human or mechanical error. What we need today is world peace and international stability. Unless the countries will follow the policy of disarmament, nothing good can be achieved. Every country wants guarantees of safety and the means of global control for itself. In other words, countries fear that, by giving up their warheads, they will risk to become weaker. The impact caused by the nuclear explosion is frightening. The rigid manner to encourage the reduction of nuclear weapon could be done by an international ban toward nuclear power states.

Today more and more people demand a world without nuclear weapons, and voices are heard. This day has now become a focus for discussions and demonstrations against war and against nuclear weapons.

## Children need to have a good mental health status



By: Vijay GarG

Today, more than ever, in the pandemic times, early childhood educators are being asked to provide young children with access to a nurturing, enriched, high-quality environment that will support positive growth, learning, and developmental outcomes for all children. The mental and psychosocial wellbeing of children promotes quality learning. World Health Organisation (WHO) norms for physical, mental, social and spiritual wellness are well placed and nations are expected to take it up in letter and spirit. However, this is not the case, especially in India, where holistic approach towards education is

lacking big time.

While more attention is given to students with physical disabilities by schools and teachers, the mental and emotional aspects of both abled and disabled students are widely ignored. School students encounter common emotional and behavioural problems some time during their school days. Adolescents in particular have moderate to severe mental health difficulties.

There is an urgent need to also look into the mental benefits of physical activity at school, which has been a rather neglected theme in health promotion research during recent decades. This is unfortunate as mental health has been proclaimed as one of the most important health concerns of the 21st century. The benefits of physical activity for the mental health and well-being of children and young people are well-established. Increased physical activity during school hours is associated with better physical, psychological and social health and well-being. Unfortunately many children and young people exercise insufficiently to benefit from

positive factors like well-being.

In both South Asian countries, including India, disciplinary, learning-related, bullying, school refusal, fear/anxiety, attention deficit and conduct disorder problems are commonly seen in schools. Students committing suicide after failing the final exams and dropping out are closely connected to lack of mental health education and counselling in school. Intellectual disability among school children is a great challenge for routine teaching-learning activities. It is scientifically proven that students with intellectual difficulties need specific education in a separate setting.

Girls entering puberty at school face the shameful problem of dealing with their menstrual cycle. It sometimes creates psychological pressure and is misconstrued. Physical changes in girls and boys are natural, but they remain unanswered and difficult matter for school adolescents. Migration, changing schools and parents fighting at home are other shared causes for students' conversion disorder. Lack of awareness about mental

health and misconceptions about its treatment are another big challenge. A minor psychological reason might bring about a serious and harmful result if not dealt with timely. Yet, there is little or no space for matters related to mental health in the school curriculum in comparison to physical health and hygiene.

Children need to have a good mental health status if they are going to live up to their full potential and truly live a life that is filled with positive experiences and the willingness to do what is best for themselves and the people around them. Mental health education in school is basically for preventive and promotional purposes. As students' emotional and social skills are crucial for a successful future career, school education should include mental health-related topics. Schools need to give due attention to the psychosocial wellbeing of students before real classroom teaching. Some basic ideas about mental illness and its treatment will be better disseminated in society if students are taught about it in school.

## A warm smile is the universal language of kindness

By: Jaswinder Pal Sharma

The world we live in today has been through a lot of things from world wars to epidemics, but one thing which remained constant throughout was resilience and kindness. Moreover, it was the spirit to fight back and help out each other. Kindness must be an essential and universal quality to make the world a better place. Through an essay on kindness, we will go through it in detail.

### Importance of Kindness

Kindness towards nature, animals and other people has the ability to transform the world and make it a beautiful place for living. But, it is also important to remember that kindness towards you is also essential for personal growth.

Kindness is basically being polite, compassionate and thoughtful. Every religion and faith

teaches its followers to be kind. Most importantly, kindness must not limit to humans but also to every living creature.

Even nature has its own way of showing kindness. For instance, the trees grow fruits for us and provide us with shade. One must not see kindness as a core value but as a fundamental behavioural element. When you are kind to your loved ones, you create a stable base.

As people are becoming more self-centred today, we must learn kindness. We must try to integrate it into ourselves. You might not know how a small act of kindness can bring about a change in someone's life. So, be kind always.

### Kindness Always Wins

There is no doubt that kindness

always wins and it has been proven time and again by people. Sid is a greedy man who does not share his wealth with anyone, not even his family members.

He also does not pay his workers well. One day, he loses his bag of gold coins and loses his temper. Everyone helps him out to search for it but no one finds it. Finally, his worker's little son finds the bag.

Upon checking the bag, he sees all the coins are there. But, his greed makes him play a trick on the poor worker. He claims that there were more coins in the bag and the worker stole them.

The issue goes to the court and the judge confirms from Sid whether his bag had more coins to which he agrees. So, the judge rules out that as Sid's bag had

more coins, the bag which the worker's son found is not his.

Therefore, the bag gets handed to the worker as no one else claims it. Consequently, you see how the worker's son act of kindness won and paid him well. On the other hand, how Sid's greediness resulted in his loss only.

### Conclusion of the Essay on Kindness

It is essential for all of us to understand the value of kindness. Always remember, it does not cost anything to be kind. It may be a little compliment or it can be a grand gesture, no matter how big or small, kindness always matters. Therefore, try your best to be kind to everyone around you.

(The author is S.S. Master, GSSS Hakuwala, Sri Muktsar Sahib)

## Tier II & III cities to become the epicenter of digital revolution in India

By: Shri Arvind Kumar

The world is witnessing the rise of 'New India', propelled by the big aspirations, astonishing skills, and unflinching diligence of millennials which is the largest group of working population in the country. Besides the youth power, the growth story being scripted by India can be attributed to the swift penetration of the internet across the length and breadth of the country, which is stimulating digital revolution at an unimaginable pace. People of the country, irrespective of their location, education, and age, are reaping the benefits of this digital storm which has been gaining immense thrust from tier-II and tier III cities. As tier-I cities have reached a point of saturation, now it becomes vital to boost the infrastructure of Tier-II & III cities and equip them with all the required facilities to further augment the growth.

A report by IAMA-Kantar ICUBE 2020 estimates that active internet users will grow by 45% in India over the next five years and reach 900 million users by 2025, up from 622 million in 2020. Tier-II & III cities constitute a larger part of the population that is joining the digital world steadfastly for its day-to-day needs, making digital revolution firm in India. According to reports, rural

India will have more internet users than urban India by 2025. As a result, the digital ecosystem would have to adapt to cater to the needs of this new demographic.

As per the estimates of the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI) Digital Adoption Index, India is the second-fastest growing digital economy among the 17 leading economies of the world. A NASSCOM report titled 'Future of Technology Services- Winning in this Decade' highlights that over 50 digital initiatives in diverse sectors such as finance and banking, healthcare, IT/ITES are fueling India's digital dream and are contributing 8% to the economy. Moreover, the Covid-19 pandemic too has accelerated digitization and tier-II and tier III cities are the strongest force behind this thrust in the digital economy of the country.

Earlier, most of the business activities, especially IT/ITES, used to remain centered around metropolitan cities such as Gurugram, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, etc. With several conducive factors including superior infrastructure and skilled workforce, Tier-II and III cities have emerged as new loci of growth recently. The groundwork laid by the Electronics Commission envisaged

the creation of regional computing centers to spur software and intellectual capital development in India. And, the establishment of the National Task Force on Information Technology and Software Development and New Telecommunication Policy provided the roadmap further to catalyze the growth of the IT/Tier sector. Meanwhile, a spate of infrastructure development has also made these cities the most sought-after destinations for IT/ITES investments and other businesses.

Likewise, the Digital India and Startup India campaigns, the JAM trinity, and Smart Cities Mission have also accelerated the transformation of these cities. It is estimated that there are more than 61,000 recognized startups in India, across 55 industries, with 45% of them located in Tier II and Tier III cities.

The state governments have undertaken various initiatives to attract IT firms and provide a conducive ecosystem by establishing industrial clusters, SEZ, and various skill development initiatives to stay ahead in the digitization process. Industry bodies such as NASSCOM, ASSOCHAM, TIE have created access to financial assistance, mentorship, incubation, and network opportunities to support path-breaking ideas from the hinterlands. According to an estimate by Zinnov (a leading management consultancy), about 976 MNCs

have set up 1,257 Global In-house Centres (GICs) in India, out of which 68 GICs are in Tier-II locations. The relaxation in the Department of Telecommunications' compliance guidelines allowing IT firms to work from anywhere amid Covid-19 is also set to provide a fillip to this trend.

Moreover, with an aim to foster an IT ecosystem in tier-II and III cities, STPI has launched the India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS). This scheme seeks to incentivize the establishment of 48,300 seats in respect of BPO/ITES operations across India. The government provides financial support of up to Rs 1 lakh per seat under two plans—India BPO Promotion Scheme and North East BPO Promotion Scheme. The scheme is distributed among each state in the proportion of state and population with an outlay of Rs. 493 crores. There are special incentives in the scheme to promote employment for women and specially-abled persons, the participation of local entrepreneurs, setting up operations in non-capital cities, etc. Such a combination of the rising middle class, a shift in consumption patterns and technological innovation augurs well for tier-II and tier III cities to emerge as growth engines of the Indian economy.

The upcoming large-scale developments such as Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), Metro Neo and Metro Lite, Haryana Orbital Rail

Corridor will bolster connectivity and put tier-II and tier III cities such as Sonapat, Jaipur, Dehradun, etc. on the infrastructure map. On the technological front, the proposed roll out of 5G technology also augurs well for the IT/ITES industry in these cities. A Datacenter Policy is also in the pipeline that will escalate the digital transformation process in India.

Also, the 'work from home' model amid the Covid-19 pandemic has set off a trend of reverse migration. As a result, firms are moving to tap talent in Indian hinterlands instead of workforce migrating to Tier I cities for employment. It has led to the emergence of the 'hub and spoke' and 'edge' model wherein tier I cities serve as hubs while tier II and tier III towns form the spoke network, and the edge implies the work that can be done remotely. This model allows leading IT firms to diversify their operations at comparatively lower costs in Tier II and Tier III cities while retaining their clientele in tier I cities. Another emerging trend is the gig economy, wherein firms are looking to diversify their workforce through contract employees who impart flexibility and agility to their operational models. Moreover, leading multinational firms are embracing the idea of expansion in these cities due to multiple advantages including cost-effectiveness, lower land and labor

costs, availability of a large talent pool, and low attrition rate of the workforce. Besides serving as a consumer market, the cities such as Jaipur, Indore, Lucknow have emerged as an education hub, thereby generating skilled human capital employed in various firms.

Bolstered by these factors, tier II and tier III cities will emerge at the forefront of the digital revolution. This trend will have a multiplier socio-economic impact in the region in terms of employment generation, curbing migration to metropolitan cities, boosting the local economy, improving living standards, and bridging regional disparities in economic development. This will also lessen the burden of mega cities which are facing problems due to limited resources and influx of people from around the corner of the country in the pursuit of quality life.

However, it will be critical for these cities to sustain the digitization wave. Focusing on strengthening infrastructure, encouraging skill development among the youth, fostering an entrepreneurial ecosystem, and catalyzing innovation through ground-breaking ideas, and augmenting industry-academia collaborations, efforts will help these cities to reap tangible benefits of digitization.

[The author is Director General, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)]

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# Minister Awangbow inaugurates renovation and installation of seven pumps of Loktak Lift Irrigation

IT News  
Imphal, August 05:

Water Resource and Relief & Disaster Management Minister, Minister Awangbow Newmai yesterday inaugurated Renovation and Installation of 7 pumps at Pump House 1, Bishnupur of Loktak Lift Irrigation in the august presence of Works and YAS Minister Govindas Konhoujam, PHED and CAF & PD Minister L. Sushindro Meitei and MLA Moirang AC, Thongam Shanti Singh.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Awangbow said that under the initiative of Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh and Minister Letpao Haokip, the

installation of machines was made. He stated that the revival of the State's major water irrigation project is one way of pushing the agricultural lands for self-sufficiency in food grain production.

The Minister also assured that the Phase II of LLIP for giving irrigation water to Imphal High Level Canal (IHLC) and Moirang High Level Canal (MHL) is under process and is expected to be completed very soon. He also said that the Department is trying its best level to supply irrigation water through High Canals in the next season. Awangbow further said that the problems faced by the

farmers regarding water shortage have been solved now.

Works Minister Govindas Konhoujam said that the problems of water faced by the people of Bishnupur AC, Part of Moirang AC and Part of Oinam AC will now be solved with the installation of Pump House 1. He also said that if the irrigation system is good, the economy of the state will improve.

P.H.E.D. Minister L. Sushindro said that Loktak Lift Irrigation Project is the most important and valuable project. He also said that under the initiative of CM N. Biren Singh, the remaining work of Loktak Lift Irrigation

Project will be taken up at the earliest. The Minister further said that the water shortage faced by the farmer has been solved and believed that food production will now be increased in the state.

Moirang AC MLA Thongam Shanti Singh believed that under the initiative of CMN. Biren Singh there will be mass production of food grain in the state with the installation of the pumps.

WRD, Commissioner, T. Ranjit Singh, Water Resource, Chief Engineer G. Robindro Sharma, concerned officers, officials and staff of the water resources department also attended the programme.

# "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan - Nashe Se Azadi" program were organised



IT News  
Imphal, August 05:

NSS-Cell, Manipur University Canchipur, Imphal With Ministry Of Social Justice And Empowerment celebrates "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan" on August 4 2022. Program was started with a Cycle Rally from Traffic Island near Maharaj Gambir Singh Statue Manipur University.

The Program Flag off by Prof. N. Lokendra Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University, Prof. M. Premjit Singh, Dean of Students' Welfare, Manipur University, Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh, Registrar, Manipur University from Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment representative Shivangi Garg & Nadeem and Dr. M. Nodiyachand Singh, NSS-Cell Coordinator, Manipur University at 7:30 am.

All dignitaries and NSS Program Officers and Volunteers participated the Cycle Rally. There were three villages adopted by NSS Units of Manipur University. The first visited village was Thongju Part-II under the Jurisdiction of SEVA club. There was a formal awareness

programme presided by Sunil Singh, President SEVA Club and Dr. Maibam Nodiyachand Singh was the Chief Guest.

The Second adopted Village visited was the Kyamgei and third was Langthabal. These last two village also conducted Awareness program on "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan - Nashe Se Azade". All volunteers and official back to VC-Court Hall of MU.

All participants and University Authority lead by Prof. N. Lokendra Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University listened the address by the Union Minister of Social Justice & Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar (Live Telecast) at 10:00am to 11:20 am. At 11:30 had lunch and started lecture program and interaction started. At 12:30 a

formal function of "Nasha Mukht Bharat Abhiyan - Nashe Se Azadi".

In function Prof. N. Lokendra Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University, Prof. W. Chandbabu Singh Registrar, Manipur University, Dr. R.K Lenin Singh Prof. & Head Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology RIMS, Imphal and Dr. M. Nodiyachand Singh, NSS-Cell Coordinator, Manipur University were the Chief Guest, Guest of Honours and President of the function.

Prof. & Head Psychiatry and Clinical Psychology RIMS, Imphal. Dr. R.K Lenin Singh spoke on the topic - Nashe Se Azadi. Program completed by giving presidential address and vote of thanks by Dr. M. Nodiyachand Singh.

# India records 20,551 Covid-19 cases, 70 fatalities in last 24 hours

Agency  
New Delhi, August 05:

With 20,551 new coronavirus infections being reported in a day, India's tally of COVID-19 cases has risen to 4,41,07,588, while the active cases have declined to 1,35,364, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday.

The death toll has climbed to 5,26,600 with 70 new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.31 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was

recorded at 98.50 per cent, the ministry said.

A decrease of 1,114 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 5.14 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 4.64 per cent, according to the ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,34,45,624, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry, 205.59 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 September 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 December 19.

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 70 new fatalities include seven from Maharashtra, four each from Delhi and West Bengal, three each from Karnataka and Punjab, two each from Manipur, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh and one each from Assam, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim and Uttarakhand.

Additionally, 26 deaths have been reconciled by Kerala as per guidelines of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

# Indian Navy Eves Break the Barriers Fly an All-Women Maritime Surveillance Aircraft

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Aug 05:

Five women officers of the Indian Navy based at Naval Air Enclave, Porbandar (Gujarat) achieved the feat of completing the first all-women independent maritime reconnaissance and surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea onboard a Dornier 228 aircraft.

The aircraft flown on Wednesday, was captained by the Mission Commander, Lt Cdr Aanchal Sharma, comprising pilots, Lt Shivangi and Lt Apurva Gite, and Tactical and Sensor Officers, Lt Pooja Panda and Sub-Lieutenant Pooja Shekhawat. Indian Naval Air Squadron (INAS ) 314 is a frontline Naval Air Squadron based at Porbandar and operates the state-of-the-art Dornier 228 maritime reconnaissance aircraft. The squadron is commanded by Commander SK Goyal, a Qualified Navigation Instructor.

INAS 314, the sixth Dornier aircraft squadron, was commissioned in November 2019. The squadron has a very strategic location and serves a crucial role in enhancing its surveillance footprint in the North Arabian Sea.

Calling the mission a symbol of 'Nari shakti' (women's power), the defence ministry said the women officers received months of ground training and comprehensive mission briefings in the run-up to this historical sortie.

This first-of-its-kind military flying mission was unique and is expected to pave the way for women officers in the aviation cadre to assume greater responsibility and aspire for more challenging roles. It marked a unique achievement for the Armed Forces that a crew of

only women officers undertook an independent operational mission in a multi-crew maritime surveillance aircraft, an Indian Navy statement said.

The Indian Navy has been a front-runner in driving transformation in the Armed Forces. Its impressive and pioneering women empowerment initiatives include induction of women pilots, selection of women Air Operations Officers into the helicopter stream, and conducting an all-women sailing circumnavigation expedition across the globe in 2018, the statement added.

## IN THE COURT OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS; JIRIBAM, MANIPUR

Cril. (P) case No. 04 of 2020  
Ref:- F.I.R. No. 51 (11) 2018 JBM-P.S.  
U/s. 14A(b) Foreigners Act

The State of Manipur  
-Vs-

Kushida Begum (19) yrs., D/o Md. Jolo Uddin of Buthidang, Rakhine State  
Myanmar and another

.....Accused Persons

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (Under section 82 Cr.P.C)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that **Kushida Begum (19) yrs., D/o Md. Jolo Uddin of Buthidang, Rakhine State, Myanmar** has committed that offence of Cril. (P) case No.04 of 2020,

Ref: F.I.R. No. 51(11) 2018 of JBM-P.S. under section 14A(b) Foreigners Act, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issue that the same warrantee **Kushida Begum (19) yrs., D/o Md. Jolo Uddin of Buthidang, Rakhine State, Myanmar** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused **Kushida Begum (19) yrs., D/o Md. Jolo Uddin of Buthidang, Rakhine State, Myanmar** has been absconded or concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **accused Kushida Begum (19) yrs., D/o Md. Jolo Uddin of Buthidang, Rakhine State, Myanmar** is required to appear at Jiribam before this court to answer the said complaint on this the 11th day of August, 2022.

Dated, this the 22nd day of July, 2022.

**Bonny Laishram**  
Judicial Magistrate First Class  
Jiribam, Manipur

## IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS, IMPHAL WEST-I, MANIPUR

Assam Schedule VIII, Form No. 100  
ANNEXURE-10  
High Court Criminal Process No. 4

**CRIL. (P) CASE NO. 10/2005/134/2013**  
Ref. FIR. No. 108(09)2003 City-P.S.  
U/S. 457/380/34-IPC.

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

1. Name, description and address of the accused

Whereas the complaint has been before me that **Huidrom Jugindro Singh, aged about 43 years, S/o Late H. Hiramani of Iram Siphai (Nungei) Mamang Leikai, P.S. Lilong, Thoubal District** has committed the offence of FIR. No. 108(09)2003 City-P.S. punishable under Section 457/380/34-IPC.

2. Name of the accused

and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest there upon issued that (2) **above accused person** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said (2) **above accused person** has absconded/or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant.

3. Place

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **above accused person** of ..... is required to appear (3) before this court at **JMFC/Imphal West-I** to answer the said complaint on the **6th August 2022**.

(Seal of the Court)

Dated this 6th day of July, 2022

Magistrate

## Passport Lost

I, the undersigned, **Kongbrailatpam Khoneychandra Sharma** have lost my Passport, issued by the Government of India on the way between DM College Campus to Manipur University, Canchipur on August 2, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
**Kongbrailatpam Khoneychandra Sharma**  
Sagolband Tera Yengkhom Leirak, Imphal West  
Mobile No. 7005053689

# NMC accords approval for Churachandpur Medical College to start functioning: CM

IT News  
Imphal, August 5:

Leader of the House, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh yesterday informed the House that National Medical Commission (NMC) had given positive nod for Churachandpur Medical College to start functioning for 100 seats of MBBS from the Academic Session 2022 and added that the Commission had asked the State Government to submit necessary documents to the former.

N. Biren Singh was replying to a calling attention motion raised by MLA of Sugnu AC K. Ranjit Singh on the 10th day of the second session of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly, regarding the custodial death of one goldsmith from Sagolband Kangbam Leikai on 2nd May, 2022. The Chief Minister stated that the State Government had assured to provide a job to the next of kin (NOK) of the deceased on humanitarian ground and

continued that job appointment order would be given after taking a cabinet decision by the end of this month.

Works and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Govindas Konthoujam, while replying to the starred questions raised by MLA of Saikot AC Paolienlal Haokip, informed the House that the State Government had started process for construction of Government Quarters having multi-storey buildings at different locations to overcome the shortage of accommodation facility to be provided to elected Members of the Assembly and Government employees. On a starred question raised by MLA of Ukhrul AC Ram Muivah, regarding the dilapidated condition of Youth Hostel building, Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYK), Ukhrul, the Minister informed that most of the Youth Hostels are maintained by NYK and added that State Director, Nehru Yuva Kendra had al-

ready sent a proposal and subsequent reminders to Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sport for major repairing of the same. The Government would try to renovate the building once the approval is accorded by the Ministry, he assured.

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Yunnam Khemchand Singh, answering to starred question raised by MLA of Sugnu AC K. Ranjit Singh, stated that the Central Government had disbursed fund amounting to Rs. 756.49 crore for MGNREGS for the year 2022-23 on 23rd June, 2022.

Relief and Disaster Management Minister Awangbow Newmai informed the house that the Department had provided assistance to the victims of flood occurred in 2017 in Lilong AC. He continued that 195 victims had already received assistance while 3,198 are yet to receive the same. He was replying to a starred question raised by the MLA of

Lilong AC Md. Abdul Nasir.

Medical Health & Family Welfare Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan, while replying to starred questions raised by MLA, Ukhrul AC Ram Muivah stated that the work agency for the construction of CHC at Nongada (Napet Palli) is Manipur Development Society and the overall physical progress is 90%. He further informed that 1.25 acres of land for the same was donated by local people while purchase of another piece of land measuring 0.75 acre is under process.

Leishangthem Susindro Meitei, who is in-charge of the Public Health Engineering Department, informed the house that the number of water supply projects/schemes constructed in Imphal West District is 87. Out of this 26 have been completed and 61 are ongoing. He was replying to a starred question raised by MLA of Thangmeiband AC Kh. Joykisan Singh.

# House passes seven Demands for Grants amounting to Rs. 27,435,592,000

IT News  
Imphal August 5:

On the 10th day of the 2nd Session of the 12th Manipur State Legislative Assembly, the House yesterday unanimously passed seven Demands for Grants amounting to Rs. 27,435,592,000.

The Demand for Grants include Demand No.17-Agriculture (Rs.380,47,21,000), Demand No.26-Administration of Justice (Rs.104,75,07,000), Demand No.30-Planning (Rs.139,92,08,000), Demand No.36-Minor Irrigation (Rs.343,67,00,000), Demand No.39-Sericulture (Rs.32,89,00,000), Demand No.45-Tourism (Rs.292,70,78,000) and Demand No.50-Information Technology (Rs.195,14,78,000).

Policy Cut Motions were raised by MLA of Sugnu AC, K.

Ranjit Singh, MLA of Wangkhem AC, K. Meghachandra Singh, and Th. Lokeshwar Singh of Khundrakpam AC on four Demands including Demand No.17 - Agriculture, Demand No.36-Minor Irrigation, Demand No.39-Sericulture and Demand No.45-Tourism.

Ukhrul AC MLA, Ram Muivah, Kakching AC MLA, Mayanglambam Rameshwar Singh and Keishamthong AC MLA, Sapam Nishikanta also gave observations during the policy cut motions in the house.

While giving clarification On Policy Cut Motion raised on Demand No.45 - Tourism, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said Manipur has lot of Tourism potential. Development of road and improvement of Law and Order is very important in tourism sector. Ten sites having natural scenic beauty have been

identified for setting up tourism spot near National Highways. An Apps containing information and guidelines about tourism of Manipur will be made available within twenty days.

While clarifying on Demand No.36-Minor Irrigation Department, the Chief Minister said more than 500 ground water drilling pumps have been set up to give irrigation. He further said 200 RLI schemes have been set up of which about 150 schemes is in working condition.

Clarifying on Demand No.17- Agriculture Minister Th. Bishwarjit said 22 thousand metric tons of fertilizers have been sanctioned as quota for the state of Manipur of which 11,634.84 metric tons have been already procured. There are 1,95,000 Hectares of total agricultural land. Out of which 9,500 Hectares of land are under the MOMA.

# Manipur Integrity Day observed-Solidarity of Manipuri Diaspora mooted



IT News  
Imphal, August 05:

The 25th Manipur Integrity Day was observed yesterday with a public meeting at the Kwakeithel Akham Leikai Community Hall after paying floral tribute at the Manipur Integrity Pillar located near the Manipur State Museum.

In his statement, Pheirojam Nando Luwang, President-AMUCO opined the need for building up the Manipuri

Diaspora for greater resistance against every divisive policy of the Govt. of India towards Manipur under the backdrop of the infamous peace talk between the GOI and the NSCN(IM). Seeing the more aggressive policy of India and to counter it, the AMUCO spearheaded the historic march of over more than 5 lakh Manipuri populace raising the voice for one Manipur and safeguarding the emotional

and the territorial integrity of Manipur.

Stressing that the people of Manipur are the most vulnerable section followed by Assam and Arunachal Pradesh in the entire NE India under the impact of the marathon GOI-NSCN(IM) Peace Talk, Nando cautioned the Manipur People to stay alert against the divisive policy of the Government of India and the serious threat to the emotional and the territorial integrity of Manipur.

# Panel discussion on “MODI@20” held

IT News  
Imphal, August 05:

A Panel discussion on the book “MODI@20” was held at the Court Hall of Manipur University. The discussion was organised by Manipur University. Professor N. Lokendra Singh, Vice-Chancellor gave the introductory speech. 13 distinguished persons including Senior Deans, Professors, Retired Vice Chancellor and Lt Gens delivered lectures on different topics contained in the book. Professor W. Chandrabu Singh, Registrar conducted the programme.



Contd. from Page 1

# State Journalists protest NIA harassment...

The President of the AMWJU W. Shamjai said he was then hauled “with uncomfortable and unrelated queries” in another room. Shamjai also alleges that he was also intimidated by NIA sleuths, who continued the interrogation until 5 pm in the afternoon.

Terming the alleged ‘ex-

cesses’ of the NIA as an ‘insult’, the scribe bodies urged Home Minister Shah and Ganesan to ‘take necessary action to ensure that the media fraternity is not harassed by the NIA or any other investigating agencies in the future.’

In a statement, IJU President and former member of Press Coun-

cil Geetarth Pathak and Sabina Inderjit, IJU Secretary General, who is also Vice President of IJF and President, Federation of Asia Pacific Journalists Association, said such harassment of President of AMWJU, an affiliate, is unacceptable in any democratic society. Expressing solidarity with the media organisations, the

IJU said NIA’s actions are a big challenge to the functioning of the media and its independence. It joined them in urging the Governor and Chief Minister to look into the matter and take necessary actions to ensure the media fraternity is not further harassed by the NIA or any other investigating agencies in the future.

# Sports

# CWG 2022: Sudhir wins Gold in Para Powerlifting with new Commonwealth Games Record

Agency  
Birmingham, August 05:

Parapowerlifter Sudhir on Thursday, August 4 added to India’s gold medal tally at the Commonwealth Games 2022 in Birmingham as he won the men’s heavyweight event with a new Games record.

Sudhir, who hails from Sonapat in Haryana, set a new Commonwealth Games record with his second lift of 212kg for which he won 134.5 points which helped him clinch the Gold medal. Sudhir’s body weight was listed at 87.30kg with his Rack Height at 14.

Sudhir went for a personal best lift of 217kg in his third and final attempt but the spirited powerlifter couldn’t succeed. However, his second attempt was enough for a Gold medal. Sudhir opened his campaign with a successful lift of 208kg.



Notably, Sudhir also became the first Indian para-athlete to win a medal at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham.

Nigeria’s Ikechuku Obichukwu won silver with a best lift of 187kg for which he sealed 133.6 points.

Sudhir has also won the

Asian Para Games bronze medal from 2018. The 27-year-old, who took para powerlifting in 2013, was impaired due to the effects of polio.

Sudhir will also be in action at the Asian Para Games, which was postponed until September 2023. He qualified for the continental multi-sport

spectacle.

Indian wrestler Bajrang Punia reached the quarterfinals of the men’s 65 kg after beating Nauru’s Lowe Bingham. Bhavinaben Patel reached the final of the women’s singles para table tennis classes 3-5. Manika Batra and Sathiyam Gnanasekaran reached the quarterfinals of the table tennis mixed doubles event.

The Indian pair defeated the Nigerian duo of Ojomu Ajoke and Omotayo Olajide in straight games. On Thursday, Sudhir won a historic gold medal in the men’s heavyweight para powerlifting, while Murali Sreesankar won a silver in the long jump.

Star sprinter Hima Das will also feature in the Women’s 200m semifinal. In badminton, PV Sindhu will be action in the women’s singles Round of 16 clash. Chirag Shetty and

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy will also be in action in the men’s doubles.

Ace Indian shuttlers PV Sindhu, Kidambi Srikanth and Lakshya Sen sailed into the pre-quarterfinals of their respective singles events after recording comfortable victories at the Commonwealth Games here on Thursday.

While two-time Olympic medallist Sindhu routed Maldives’ Fathimath Nabaaha Abdul Razzaq 21-4 21-11 in the women’s singles first round, Srikanth outclassed Daniel Wanagaliya of Uganda 21-9 21-9 in the men’s singles event.

Later in the day, Sen and Akarshi Kashyap joined the senior duo in the round of 16 after notching up contrasting wins in their respective opening men’s and women’s singles matches.

World championships

COUNTRIES				
		G	S	B
1	AUS	50	42	132
2	ENG	42	44	118
3	CAN	17	20	59
4	NZL	16	10	37
5	SCO	7	8	34
6	RSA	7	7	22
7	IND	6	7	20

bronze medallist Sen was up against an opponent more than twice his age — 45-year-old

Vernon Smeed of St Helena — and the Indian eased to a 21-1 21-6 win in quick time.