

State BJP and BJYM joined the nationwide protest against Pakistan Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto; burnt effigy

IT News
Imphal, Dec 17:

BJP Manipur Pradesh along with its youth wing Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) today joined the nationwide protest against Maharashtra: BJP protests against Pakistan Minister Bilawal Bhutto's remarks on Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"We strongly condemn the derogatory remark by Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Minister during the UN security Council meeting", said Desraj Yumnam, vice president of BJYM Manipur while to media during the protest staged in front of State BJP Head office at Nityapat Chuthek here in Imphal.

BJP State President A. Sarda Devi along with other leaders were also seen joining the protest.

A memorandum denouncing the remark by the Pakistan's Foreign Affairs Minister was also submitted to the Governor of Manipur. The volunteers



of the BJYM also burnt the effigy of the Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto while shouting slogans against him.

BJYM vice president Desraj Yumnam, said that the world knows that Pakistan is a country that is harbouring terrorists unclothing Osama Bin Laden and the statement by the Foreign Minister is highly condemnable.

"The World knows that Pakistan is the epicenter of Terrorism while India maintains zero tolerance on Terrorism", Desraj Yumnam said. He said that Paki-

stan is frustrated and jealous of India as it is hosting the G-20 summit and as the world is giving importance to India.

While talking to media at United Nation, New York, Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said, "Osama bin Laden is dead, [but] the butcher of Gujarat lives and he is the prime minister of India".

He said that India's Hindu nationalist Prime Minister Narendra Modi was chief minister of the state of Gujarat when religious riots in 2002

killed nearly 2,000 people – most of them Muslims.

The Pakistan Foreign Minister accused Modi of turning a blind eye to the violence.

The remark by Bilawal Bhutto Zardari against Prime Minister Modi has sparked outrage across the country.

Describing his remark as "highly derogatory and full of cowardice", the BJP had stated that the remarks were given to divert global attention from Pakistan's collapsing economy, lawlessness, and anarchy in Pakistan.

48th GST Council Meeting No tax increase on any item; nod to decriminalise certain offences: Nirmala Sitharaman

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 17:

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addresses a press conference after the 48th GST Council meeting, in New Delhi on December 17, 2022. Twitter/@FinMinIndia

The 48th GST Council meeting was held under the leadership of Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was held in New Delhi on December 17, 2022.

At the conclusion of the meeting Sitharaman said "In this GST Council meeting, there has not been any tax increase on any item. Everything that has been done is to issue clarifications where ambiguity of interpretations prevails."

"Majority of all that has been discussed is fitment committee's recommendations have been brought to the Council on many items where there is confusion of rates. In the case of SUVs, we have clarified that the higher rate of 22% compensation cess is applicable to motor vehicles fulfilling four conditions – popularly known as an SUV and has an engine capacity of 1500



cc, length beyond 4,000 mm and ground clearance of 170 mm."

"But even as we brought in this clarification, there was a request to add to this MUVs. What has been agreed by the Council is this clarification goes ahead but if anything has to be added on to this 22% cess rate, the Fitment Committee will look into it. This whole question arose when some asked if sedans are also included in this," said Ms. Sitharaman.

Union Finance Minister Smt. @nsitharaman will hold a media briefing on the outcomes of the 48th GST Council meeting in National Media Centre, New Delhi, today.

"The meeting had to be concluded by 1.30 p.m. as most State ministers had other engagements, so about seven agenda items, including the GoM report on setting up of GST Appellate Tribunals, could not be taken up. It also could not discuss taxation on tobacco and gutkha due to paucity of time," said Ms. Sitharaman.

These pending items will be taken up at the next GST Council meet, which Ms. Sitharaman expressed hope will be held as in-person meeting. "We are trying to take up the GST Tribunal issue at the earliest possible," she said.

contd. on page 4

PM to grace North Eastern Council Golden Jubilee Celebration at Shillong; Manipur team including Ministers to join

IT News/PIB
New Delhi, Dec 17:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will grace the Golden Jubilee celebration of the North Eastern Council (NEC) at Shillong on 18th December 2022. He will address an official meeting of the NEC as well as a public meeting on this occasion.

A team from Manipur comprising of Cabinet Minister Th. Biswajit, K. Govindas, Letpao Haokip, Th. Basanta Kumar, H. Dingo, BJP President A. Sarda Devi along with others had left Imphal for Shillong today to attend the meeting.

The official meeting of the Council will be held at the State Convention Centre



Auditorium while the public meeting will be organised at the Polo Grounds in Shillong.

Union Home Minister, DoNER Ministers, Governors and Chief Ministers of the North Eastern states, Central Ministers belonging

to the North Eastern Region, local MPs and MLAs and nominated Members of the NEC will also attend the celebration.

Besides, the state Chief Secretaries, selected Secretaries of Central Ministries, senior officers from the North

Eastern states and Heads of the iconic Institutions set up with support from the NEC have also been invited.

For the public meeting, besides the local population, prominent citizens, achievers, representatives of Self Help Groups, Farmers' Groups from all the eight North Eastern states will also be in attendance. Presence of approximately 10,000 people is expected at the public meeting.

North Eastern Council (NEC) was established by an Act of the Parliament in 1971. It was formally inaugurated on 7th November, 1972 at Shillong, and has completed 50 years in November 2022.

contd. on page 4

No doubt: NSCN-IM sticks to call for separate Naga constitution, flag

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 17:

Naga insurgent group NSCN-IM on Friday hinted that it would stick to its demands for a separate flag and constitution, and said "there should be no ambiguity about it".

In a statement, the dominant faction of the Naga rebel group led by Thuingaleng Muivah said the "framework agreement" signed by it and the government interlocutor on August 3, 2015 "recognises the unique history and position of the Nagas" and it is not a law and order problem of the country.

"On questions of Naga national flag and constitution, it is common knowledge known to the Indian leaders too that flag and constitution are constituent parts of sovereignty. There should be no ambiguity about it," the statement said.

The framework agreement was signed on August 3, 2015, in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to hammer out a permanent solution to the Naga issue.

The framework agreement came after over 80 rounds of negotiations spanning 18 years, with the first breakthrough made in 1997 when the ceasefire agreement was

sealed after decades of insurgency in Nagaland which started soon after India's independence in 1947.

However, the talks with the NSCN-IM was going nowhere as the group has been insisting for a separate Naga flag and constitution, a demand rejected by the Centre.

Separately, the government is also holding peace parleys with splinter groups of the NSCN after entering into ceasefire agreements.

The groups which have entered into ceasefire agreements are NSCN-NK, NSCN-R, NSCN K-Khang and NSCN (K) Niki.

"Allegations on MMTA office bearers' baseless"

IT News
Imphal, Dec 17:

Reacting to the allegations by one Laishram Suresh against the office bearers of the Manipur Mountaineering and Trekking Association (MMTA), present office bearers of the Associations today hit back saying that the MMTA is currently run by caretaker office bearers elected by GB.

Talking to media persons at the office of the MMTA near Minuthong, here in Imphal former general secretary of the association Henery Yambem, Atom Surchandra and other office bearers echoed that allegations about

misappropriation of fund against former office bearers by Suresh Laishram is unfounded and baseless. They said that the Adventure Tourism Complex at MMI Lamdan is being constructed by the MTDC and the allegations is being made while the construction is underway.

Caretaker President Dr. L. Surjit, while clarifying the allegations on the GB meeting and election called by the former president Bijoy Kakchingtabam on June 19, 2022, said that the executive committee tried to hold the GB in February 2021, however, due to COVID-19 Pandemic the GB meeting could not be convened. The meeting was con-



vened on June 19, 2022 after proper notification at both print and electronic media timely. Those alleging misappropriation and irregularities

to the office bearers of MMTA were not only present but also contested elections for office bearers on the day. Oinam Chaoba, R.K. Bikomsana,

Oinam Shyamchand, Phurailatpam Gagan Sharma all contested the election but none were elected. After being defeated in the election

they submitted unfounded complaints to the Registrar Society Manipur which is a malicious attempt to defunct the functioning of the MMTA.

Dr. Surjit asked if those were elected will they similar complaints to the RSM or not or will they place the similar allegation against the elected office bearers had they been elected.

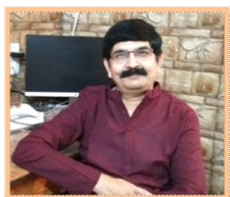
He further said that, as per the complaints by them, the executive committee of the MMTA under the Presidentship of Bijoy Kakchingtabam received a letter stating that the GB conducted was not acknowledged by the Registrar Society

Manipur. Following that Bijoy Kakchingtabam requested the Registrar Society to re-conduct the election thrice however, the RSM still did not give any permission to hold the election under the influence of Chaoba and his party.

On the other hand, the Registrar's office has no right to object election of the MMTA.

The office bearers of the MMTA further said that all activities of the MMTA under the caretaker executive were organized as stoppage of any activities either during the Sangai festival or during any Natural disaster time that will defunct the existence of the MMTA.

PM Modi says HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj Ji was a reformist



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Prime Minister, Narendra Modi recently addressed the inaugural function of Pramukh Swami Maharaj Shatabdi Mahotsava year-long worldwide celebrations hosted by BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir from 15th December 2022 to 15th January 2023 in Ahmedabad. Chief Minister of Gujarat, Shri Bhupendra Patel, Governor of Gujarat, Shri Acharya Devvrat, His Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj, and Pujyashwarcharan Swami were

also present on the occasion among others.

Pramukh Swami Maharaj was a guide and guru who touched countless lives across India and the world. He was widely respected and admired as a great spiritual leader. The well-known guru wielded influence not only in India but also overseas, especially in the United States. Pramukh Swami Maharaj vowed to remain loyal to the Sanstha and fulfil his duties. From his childhood days, he was drawn to the spiritual way of life and started performing puja at the age of seven. After schooling, he would spend his free time in temples, one of which was the Swaminarayan Mandir. He received initiation as a Hindu Swami in 1940 from Shastriji Maharaj, the founder of BAPS, who later appointed him as President of BAPS in 1950. Yogi Maharaj declared Pramukh Swami Maharaj to be his spiritual successor and guru of BAPS, a role he commenced in 1971.



Modi conveyed his feeling of the presence of divinity and grandeur of resolutions and pride for the heritage. While paying tribute to Pramukh Swamiji PM Narendra Modi says "I pay my tributes to HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj Ji on his Jayanti. I consider myself blessed that I got the opportunity to interact with him on multiple occasions and also got a lot of affection from him. He is globally admired for his pioneering service to society." He emphasised saying that "HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj Ji was a reformist. He was special because he saw good in every person and encouraged them to focus on these strengths. He helped every individual who came in contact with him.

PM Modi once said that "He used to take Pramukh Swami's guidance during his chief ministerial stint." Once he asked for tapes of my speech and after listening to them, he suggested what things I should not say in my political speeches. While I was initially baffled, I later realised that Bapa was concerned about my development". "Pramukh Swamiji used to inquire about each and every minute detail of the Narmada dam project. Wherever he is now, he must be very satisfied with the completion of the Narmada project," said Modi, underlining his government's biggest achievement for Gujarat.

Pramukh Swami Maharaj took his values-based message and his social services to all, including those classes often neglected. Through social service activities such as de-addiction drives, education provision and healthcare services, he provided self-respect and a new direction to the lives of even the most deprived people. He understood the problems people face in their everyday lives and empathized with their pain. His success is not measured by the awards he received nor by the recognition he accumulated. He was and remains the torchbearer of human values and Indian culture throughout the world.

Gujarat CM Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel paid his tributes to HH Pramukh Swami Maharaj saying, "By his simple living and with his message of love, peace, harmony, truth and faith; Pramukh Swami Maharaj was an inspiration to millions."

One thing is clear that the festival Pramukh Swami Maharaj Shatabdi Mahotsav has been made possible through the generous support of more than 250 farmers and builders who have generously offered their land for use as the festival site. Pramukh Swami Maharaj who lent his ears to millions of individuals around the world and gave courage to overcome personal battles will always be remembered.

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.

Modi - The Alchemist And Catalyst



By: M.R. Lalu

What makes India's electioneering a monumental surprise is its unpredictability. You do not know what will happen the next moment. There are no permanent friends and enemies and nobody knows who would be the next stowaway comfortably hiding to jump ships. But when the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Rajnath Singh announced Narendra Modi as its prime ministerial candidate on 13 September 2013 it was not unpredictable. There was already the mist of speculation emanating from the ravines of India's political landscape. Everybody in the BJP and in the opposition camps began to sense the emergence of Modi as a contender for the post and brand Modi's Gujarat model was deliberately made a topic of discussion. The only confusion that persisted was about his ability to drag the country's population into 'the new thinking, new hope' version of new politics that he declared in one of his press meets. But later, India was to march with the 'Modified' version of Indian politics and administration; perhaps you would call it the most articulative period of India's electoral politics. The surprise element is seemingly getting more pronounced, at least for his opponents, who failed to cut paths to bypass Modi's popularity. He is the most popular outsider in Delhi who hailed from humble beginnings and successfully captured the minds of the electorate by winning

all popular parameters of political superstardom and still unstoppable for a decade.

The anti corruption crusade setup by the Anna Hazare camp came as a drizzle in the desert as Modi prepared for the elections 2014 and his political prominence began to grow enormously nationally when all the narratives failed to demonise him for the 2002 Gujarat riots. Any leader in his place could have been emotionally crippled, ideologically paralysed and socially alienated. But Modi withstood the political storm which blew westward when he was en-grossed in building his state Gujarat that had choked under the ravages of a deadly earthquake. When the earthquake shattered the hopes of the state in 2001, a few months later, the new Chief Minister of the state was struggling to build it brick by brick and then came the gruesome Godhra train carnage and the aftermath tremor of violence throwing the state into a deep turmoil. Restructuring of Gujarat was a tough task that the Modi regime had handled effortlessly. His victories since then have been historical and the nasty narratives his opponents began to shriek louder against him have been blissfully swallowed and he waited for appropriate occasions to react and intelligently turned the wind in favour of him.

To his ideological parent, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the emergence of the Modi persona beyond its restricted flying space was not a subject of adulation. But Modi's popularity as a leader of mass support has been a helping factor for the Sangh to establish its lost base in various areas. This was because Narendra Modi was the only Prime Minister, who in many occasions proudly spelt out vocabularies venerating the Sangh. He never hesitated to

narrate his umbilical connection with the Sangh. This has attached more respect, acceptance and accolades to the Sangh which otherwise was normally prosecuted in the media for its heavy Hindutva philosophy. Ever since the coronation of the first Modi regime, thousands of Sangh shakhas were revived and many units were newly formed across the country. The Modi incarnation in the national politics could catapult its prospects manifold to a spectacular extent with more people idolizing its efforts and workers.

Modi's audacity in building the world's largest statue, a dedication to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who banned the Sangh after the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi, was probably a step to establish his personal brand of ideology that he must have thought to launch outside the Sangh Parivar framework. The present scenario is evocative of the fact that more than anyone, it is the Sangh, the machinery that would seek to tap fortunes from the Modi regime. The Sangh has obviously been a force that toiled hard to establish its political wing the Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS) since 1951. The political transition of the BJS to BJP had been an awesome creation that the Sangh with its cultural intelligence had managed to chisel out.

Systematically hijacking Mahatma Gandhi from the Congress camp, Modi began to launch governmental initiatives in the name of the Mahatma and his demeanour to focus on the Gandhian way of societal progress was a brilliant move to belittle the Congress' stake on the Father of the Nation. Prioritising nationalism as its initial plank to progress, the BJP with the Sangh stretching its helping hands has progressed to its enormous stature of the day but the imagery that the Modi persona could transform the saffron ideology into, should be

seen as an outcome of his ideological transparency, organisational expertise and personal humility. Sliding away from its aggressive Hindutva, the party under Modi could now transform the emotions of a large chunk of the Indian voters in its favour.

Emerging as a serious contender to thwart the dominance of the Congress, the BJP since 2014 could almost nullify the coalition form of power politics. Effectively redefining the Hindutva philosophy by allocating enough space to accommodate nationalistic principles, the consistent transmutation of the saffron party under the Modi regime makes it an immortal phenomenon. To counter the narratives that the BJP sets to materialise its electoral success before every election, its detractors would need substantial and convincing ideological stuff. To present itself as a serious contender to the Modi fiefdom, the Aam Aadmi Party's efforts to frame saffron narratives lack sincerity and so far, the emergence of the AAP as a distant shadow doesn't trouble the BJP's prospects. Modi has already scaled the unshakeable heights of the Hindutva's political legacy leaving maximum parties far behind. A third term for Modi in 2024 is almost certain and the colossal makeover of the Modi phenomenon would be a subject of study for the world community when leaders fall into perils without being able to garner the popular public support in countries where one tenth of India's population determines their political fortunes. Modi's indomitability is an unpleasant challenge to many in India which they never hesitate to hide. But the Modi magic is on, mainstreaming the country's cultural heritage and popularising India's political might.

(The author is a Freelance Journalist / Author of the book)

Drinks to Stay Hydrated this Winter



By: Shahnaz Husain

Did you know lack of water in the body during winter can also affect your immunity?

Dry, dull skin is a frequent wintertime concern, and we often overlook the necessity of staying hydrated as our thirst responses diminish during winter. We forget to drink water since it is so cold outside, and we end up feeling dehydrated as a result.

Dehydration can cause a drop in metabolism, feeling sluggish, headaches, fatigue, and irregular bowel.

Of course, you probably already know that ample hydration is essential—but have you considered that you can hydrate with more than just plain old water?

The good part is that there are many delicious and healthy beverages that play a major role in the health of your skin.

That serve as excellent alternatives while fulfilling your hydration needs just as well. These hydrating drinks supply a whole lot of electrolytes, sodium, vitamin, probiotics, and minerals along with a burst of flavors. In fact, there are a few nutrient-rich beverages that

may be able to take your skin to the next level if you sip on them regularly.

In order to stay hydrated during the winter, try these drinks:

Coconut Water. Coconut water is, undoubtedly, the best hydrating drink. Coconut water hydrates your body instantly because it contains a lot of electrolytes.

It's packed with nutrients that can help your skin glow and helps keep your skin looking plump and youthful.

It is low in calories and rich in potassium and is known to have better hydrating qualities than plain water. It is also energizing in nature which makes it a healthier substitute for packaged sports or energy drinks. This tasty beverage contains hyaluronic acid, which can be a total game changer when it comes to keeping your skin hydrated and glowing.

Apart from herbal drinks, we can have hot drinks in winter, instead of tea and coffee. Why not try herb teas or soups?

They are natural and caffeine-free, so you don't have to worry. They not only help in keeping you hydrated but also calm your tired nerves and relax your mind.

In Ayurveda, ginger is known as "a universal remedy" because it has so many benefits. Ginger boiled in water can be had as ginger tea. Ginger tea is advised after meals for digestion and is used in coughs and colds. It has anti-inflammatory properties too and keeps the skin clear of acne and other blemishes. You can also add spices to tea, like Cardamom (elaichi) and Cinnamon (dalchini). Black pepper and tulsi, for instance, are also said to be useful in coughs, colds and respiratory congestion.

Remember to not go overboard with teas and limit yourself to 2 cups maximum.

Drinking hot soups can be delicious during winter. They can be easily made by boiling vegetables in water. You can make a mixed vegetable soup with potatoes, carrots, turnip, peas, tomato and so on. Or you can make a spinach soup (palak). Fresh mushrooms, available in winter, make good soups too, especially if you add a little milk. After boiling the vegetables, strain and puree the vegetables in a mixer. Then add it back to the water. Add salt and black pepper, along with a little milk to make it tasty and more wholesome. In spinach soup, you can add a dash of lemon juice. Grated cheese also makes a tasty addition to vegetable soups.

Herbal drinks are an ideal alternative to beverages like tea and coffee. You can make delicious thirst quenchers out of herbal drinks, fresh fruits, and vegetables. If one selects fresh fruit or vegetable juices, without adding sugar, it is possible to have a low-calorie drink. Fresh juices and herbal drinks can cause detoxification of the body, by getting rid of toxins and wastes. They can cleanse the body and purify the blood. They can also provide excellent nourishment. Freshly extracted juices of fruits and vegetables, mixed with water, are very easily assimilated by the body.

Here are some drinks you can make at home:

Lemon Water: A glass of lemon water first thing in the morning ensures youthful, glowing skin. A drink loaded with beauty benefits, Lemon water or a glass of good old nimbu paani is probably

one of the most hydrating drinks. You must have lemon water daily made with the juice of two lemons and a pinch of rock salt. Rich in antioxidant Vitamin C, it fights acne, radical damage, and sensitive skin problems like redness and rash.

Lemon and Mint (Pudina) – Crush mint leaves and allow it to stand in boiled hot water for an hour. When the water is cool, add lemon juice and ice, to make a refreshing drink. You may add a dash of honey and a pinch of salt and pepper. Rock salt or chaat masala can be added, instead of salt and pepper.

Pineapple and Orange juice – These two fruits make a delicious drink when used together. You can use freshly extracted juices of fresh pineapple and orange. Remember to dilute with water. Pineapple contains enzymes and helps digestion. Orange juice is rich in Vitamin C.

Tomato-carrots-cucumber - Use tomato juice and add freshly extracted carrot and cucumber juices. Add a stalk of celery and run it in the blender. Add a squeeze of lemon.

Tomato and Mint – To tomato juice, add a few crushed mint leaves, sugar to taste (optional), pinch of salt. You may also add a dash of lemon juice.

Pineapple Juice can be combined with cream of coconut (coconut milk).

Add pineapple and orange juice to green coconut water. A squeeze of lemon juice can be added for flavor.

Both drinks and soups help the body to stay hydrated and healthy, adding a glow to the skin.

The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India

SC dismisses Bilkis Bano's review plea challenging release of 11 rape convicts

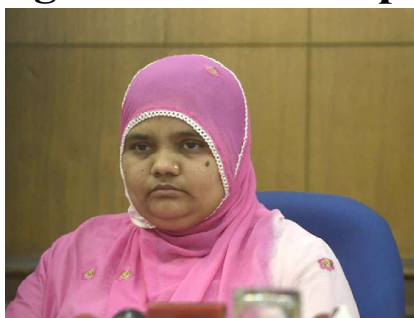
Agency
New Delhi, Dec 17:

The Supreme Court on Saturday dismissed the review petition filed by Bilkis Bano challenging the early release of the 11 men convicted for gang-raping her and murdering her family members in 2002. All 11 of them were sentenced to life imprisonment for the crime.

However, the 11 men who were convicted in 2008 in the case, walked out of the Godhra sub-jail on August 15 after the Gujarat government allowed their release under its remission policy.

Bilkis Bano was 21 years old and five-months pregnant when she was gang-raped while fleeing the riots that broke out after the Godhra train burning incident in Gujarat. Her three-year-old daughter was among the seven family members killed.

Delhi Commission for Women chief Swati Maliwal lamented the top court's decision and asked, "Where will



you go if you don't get justice even from the Supreme Court?"

One of the convicts in the case had moved the Supreme Court of India seeking directions to the State of Gujarat to consider his application for pre-mature release under the policy dated 9th July, 1992 which was existing at the time of his conviction.

The Supreme Court then directed the Gujarat govern-

ment to consider the application as all the proceedings, including remission or pre-mature release, had to be considered in terms of the policy which is applicable in the State of Gujarat.

In a response to petitions challenging the early release, the Gujarat government filed an affidavit informing the SC that the 11 convicts were released after they completed 14 years in jail on good behaviour

and after the Central government's approval.

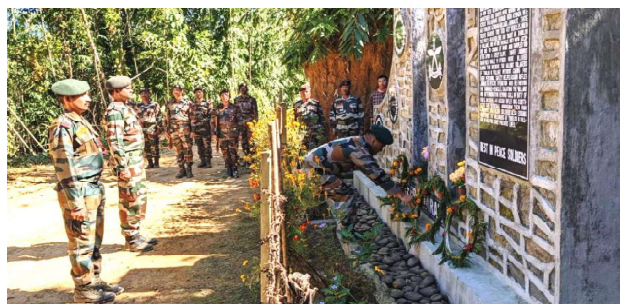
Bilkis Bano challenged the May order of the Supreme Court that allowed the Gujarat government to apply 1992 remission rules in the case. She also filed a writ petition challenging the premature release of 11 rape convicts.

The plea stated that the 11 convicts could not have been released from jail and the remission policy of the state of Maharashtra should govern the case as the apex court had directed the transfer of the trial from Ahmedabad to a competent court in Mumbai in 2004.

Bilkis stated that she approached the state government requesting the papers or entire file relating to the premature release of all the convicts, but despite the reminders, nothing came from the state government.

She said that despite being the victim of the crime, she had no clue about any such process of remission or premature release initiated.

Vijay Diwas celebration by 44 Assam Rifles



IT News
Imphal, Dec 17:

Each year December 16 is celebrated as Vijay Diwas to commemorate Indian Armed Forces victory over Pakistan Armed Forces in 1971 war. The unique and unparalleled victor resulted in 93,000 armed Pakistan troops surrendering to Indian Armed Forces. The 1971 war result is also a testimony of hundreds of our brave soldiers of North East who forced paki's to bow down in front of our Army. The braving of our

soldiers especially from NE states was acknowledged worldwide. The 13 days war culminated on December 16, 1971.

Remembering the unparalleled grit, valour and determination of the Martyr's who made this victory possible, 44 Assam Rifles under the aegis of Headquarters 22 Sector Assam Rifles organized a wreath laying ceremony at memorial constructed by the Bn at Thillon Vill, COB Azurim. The event was aimed at spreading awareness among

the locals, regarding the importance of Armed Forces and invoke feeling of patriotism.

The unit is constantly working towards spreading a progressive view about the Security Force and Nation among the locals. Working on the same the unit has been supporting local students by conducting coaching classes for admission to Sainik School. These efforts by the unit shall further foster the bond between locals & Assam Rifles as Friends of Hill People.

Shereinai Bliss from Imphal crowned Miss Barak 2022

IT News
Imphal, Dec 17:

Shereinai Bliss from Imphal has bagged Miss Barak 2022 title at the 3rd State Level Barak Festival held in Manipur's Senapati district.

22-year-old Shereinai Bliss who is pursuing a bachelor's degree at Dhanamanjuri University, Imphal is a resident of the National Games Village in Imphal.

"I am aspiring to become a civil servant," said an elated Shereinai. Earlier, she also won Miss Dhanamanjuri University 2021 title and was also among the top 10 finalists in the Miss Shirui Lily beauty pageant.

Thonjiliu Abonmei, who hails from Nallong village in Tamenglong district, was crowned the 1st Runner-up and Jianreiliu Gommei, a student of Dhanamanjuri University, bagged the 2nd runner-up title.



She was crowned 1st runner-up in the Miss Dhanamanjuri University, 2020-21 and she had also won Miss Beautiful Smile in the past.

Miss Barak 2022 was honored with Rs. 1,30,000, 1st runner-up with Rs. 1,00,000, and 2nd runner-up with Rs. 70,000 and with citations.

In the contest, Shoibam

Sushima Devi bagged the title of Best Catwalk, T Dorothy Maram bagged the title of Beautiful Skin, Keisham Casper bagged the Best Designer title, Athisa Thangal bagged Beautiful Hair title and Babina Thokchom bagged Beautiful Smile title.

Altogether, 18 bebies of beauties from across the state

took part in the contestants.

The three-day festival was held with the motto "Save Mother Earth," and on the theme "Celebrating Endowment" with much fanfare and an exciting display of colorful cultural items at Sanyu Dahri Sports Complex, Khabung Karoin in Senapati district bordering Nagaland.

Homage Paid to 1971 Indo Pak Heroes on Vijay Diwas

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 17:

A homage was paid to the fallen heroes on the occasion of Vijay Diwas-2022, the 51st anniversary of India's glorious victory in 1971 Indo-Pak war, by laying wreaths at different martyrs memorials in the country on Friday.

In a ceremony organised at Shaheed Smarak, Colaba Military Station, in South Mumbai, the wreaths were laid by Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command (WNC), Lieutenant General HS Kahlon, GOC, Maharashtra Gujarat and Goa Area, Officers from the Tri-services and veterans. The war veterans were felicitated after the wreath laying.

On Vijay Diwas, the "Vijay Udayan", a memorial park dedi-



Vice Admiral AB Singh, Lt Gen HS Kahlon and other officers, with Mrs Dhano Devi, wife of late Major (later Colonel) H S Dahiya, at the inauguration of "Vijay Udayan" at Colaba in Mumbai. (Photo credit: Defence PRO).

ated to all bravehearts of 1971 Indo-Pak war was inaugurated by Mrs Dhano Devi, wife of late Major (later Colonel) Hoshiyar Singh Dahiya, Param Vir Chakra (PVC) at Colaba, in the vicinity of the Indian Army headquarters, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa Area.

The park is spread over an area of 7650 square feet and is symbolic of the resilience and tenacity of Tri-Services. It attempts to provide vivid glimpses of how the war was fought through milestones on either side of walkway depicting the chronology of events from December 03 to 16 December, 1971.

There are four wall murals giving pictorial representation of Naval operations, achievements of Indian Air Force, as well as Army operation on Western and Eastern front along with reference map placed onto the side of Murals. A 3D Mural depicting the iconic signing "instrument of surrender" dons the centre stage of the park.

At the centre of the park is a half-moon shaped enclosure

having life size bust of PVC hearts who were awarded PVC for their conspicuous bravery in the war. "Vijay Udayan" also prides itself with war trophies from the war i.e., Vijayanta and T55 tanks and FV 433 SP Abbot Gun which formed the bedrock of fighting arsenal of the Army during the war.

The park is open to visitors where one can have a close glimpse of the battlefields while taking a walk through the park. In Nagpur, to commemorate "Vijay Diwas 2022" the wreath laying ceremony was organised with traditional solemnity at War Memorial of the Brigade of Guards Regimental Centre, Kamptee, Nagpur. Officiating General Officiating Commanding, Uttar Maharashtra & Gujarat Sub Area (UMANG) laid wreath on behalf of all ranks.

"The 1971 war not only liberated Bangladesh, but also gave our adversary a crushing blow. Those who had fought the war have written an epic saga of valour, grit, determination and glory" an official statement read.

Self-Study Tips for Board Exam



By: Vijay GarG

Hello Students, In this article we are going to discuss Self-study tips for the board exam. As a student, you should know that self-study is the most important part of the preparation for an exam, especially for the board exam.

Most successful students always emphasize about the self-study for securing good marks in the board exam. You learn from their experience and wants to self-study but find it difficult to study. Students have confusion that where

to start, which chapter, to begin with?

Self-study tips for the board exam

Here we are going to share self-study tips for the board exam.

How to prepare through self-study tips for board exam without coaching

It's not mandatory to join any coaching to prepare for the board exam. We list you some of the reasons to why no need to join any coaching.

Coaching will never prepare you other than the syllabus for the exam. If you are a board exam student then you might need to prepare for competitive exams simultaneously which is only possible if you do self-study.

While studying in coaching you will never be able to "think out of the box" that will destroy your creativeness and imagination and will always be confined with tailor-made study patterns while during self-study you think all the possibilities of a problem.

Coaching will take lots of money from you. You have to pressurize parents for hefty fees. You will lose lots of Gandhiji notes. It is not wise to spend such additional amount for studies along with school fees.

Make Scheduled time for Self-Study

The most critical point is devoting a noteworthy part of your day to examining the time for self-study. You can't abruptly concentrate for 9-10 hours per day while you were only studying 3-4 hours only during a day. You will discover it too huge of a change and will get diverted easily. Try to some of the tips while making time for self-study.

Observe your daily routine and cut down few minutes of your play and other activities time.

Further, observe your daily non-productive time and try to minimize it.

Repeat the process until you increase your self-study time to at least 3-4 hours in a

day.

Setting a Time Table
Fixing a timetable is quite important. Especially if you are preparing for board exams then also include daily topic targets along with a timetable of the day. Devote more time to topics which is your weaker part and try to strengthen it by practising more before the board exam.

Effective Use of Time
While doing self-study you should keep in mind that you have limited time for self-study so use time effectively. Some of these self-study tips for board exam are

Don't study while laying on the bed or a very comfortable couch. Rather sit on desk and chair while doing self-study.

Avoid phone calls, texting or use of any social media. It will distract you a lot with your study and hamper your productivity of studies.

Don't listen to music. We heard a lot from students that while studying listening to

music helps them concentrating more which is not true. Instead, listen to music after the self-study time gets over.

Self-Study Tips for Board Exam shared by One of the successful students with us. Religiously read NCERT books for all of your subjects.

Make notes of all subjects by referring to NCERT book. This helped save lots of time while reading or revising the concepts.

Solve previous year questions. If possible go for chapter revise previous year questions.

Never underestimate the importance of boards exam! Avoid distraction from social networking sites which curb a lot of time from the schedule!

Mind above tips while study and hope that this will help to understand the concepts of the chapter and this will surely help to gain good knowledge.

Address Change

I, the undersigned H. Diten Singh do hereby declare that I relinquished and abandoned the use of my old address Rongpur Pt-I, Cachar which mentioned in my International Passport as I have assumed my new address Sorok Atangbi Hilghat, Imphal West mentioned in my AADHAAR card.

Sd/-

H. Diten Singh

Sorok Atangbi Hilghat, Jiribam
Aadhar No. 250204952796

Romi Meitei's Eikhoigi Yum wins Multiple Awards at International Film Festival Kerala

IT News
Imphal, Dec 17:

Manipur's popular filmmaker, Mayanglambam Romi Meitei's "Eikhoigi Yum" wins the FIPRESCI award for the Best International Film and NETPAC JURY Special Mention Award at the 27th International Film Festival of Kerala (IFFK). Set in Loktak lake with the fishing community facing eviction notice, "Eikhoigi Yum" is a narrative on the impact of globalization on a small remote village which causes the residents to move away in an attempt to eke out a livelihood.

"Eikhoigi Yum" competed in the International competition that had 14 films from countries like Germany, Bolivia, Tanzania, Brazil, Iran, Israel, Vietnam, Turkey, Spain etc.

The 89-minutes long fiction feature, produced by Chingshubam Sheetal and Romi Meitei, had earlier won the Best feature film award at the 14th Manipur State Film Awards 2022, organized by Manipur State Film Development Society of the Directorate of Art & Culture, Government of Manipur. MSFDS congratulates Romi Meitei and his entire film crew for winning glory to Manipuri Cinema at the international forum.

The 8-day long International Film Festival of Kerala which began on 9th December and concluded on Friday 16 December 2022 showcased 180 films, screening at 14 theatres and over 13 thousand film delegates registered for the film festival.

Presenting the best of World Cinema, Malayalam Cinema and also featured competition for films from Asian,



African and Latin American countries, IFFK has evolved to being one of the prominent film festivals of India, organized by the Kerala State Chalachitra Academy under aegis of the Department of Cultural Affairs, Government of Kerala. Over the years, the IFFK has come to be known as Asia's best managed and probably the world's most

people-centred film festival. The Festival attracts the best films, renowned directors, technicians and spectators from across the globe and is acknowledged as one of the leading cultural events in India.

This year's festival was impressive in terms of audience participation and screening of value-based films. The Life-

time Achievement Award was given to Hungarian filmmaker Bela Tarr by Kerala minister of Registration & Cooperation, V.N. Vasavan. Prominent writer M. Mukundan who was the chief guest of the closing function said that film festivals should be used as a means of building a wall of defence against those who obstruct the freedom of expression.

Man dies of heart attack while watching 'Avatar 2' in Andhra Pradesh

Agency
Peddapuram, Dec 17:

A man died of a heart attack while watching the recently released movie 'Avatar 2' in Peddapuram city of Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada district.

The victim, identified as Lakshmireddy Srinu, went to a movie theatre in Peddapuram

with his brother Raju to watch the recently released Avatar 2. Srinu collapsed in the middle of the movie. His younger brother Raju immediately rushed him to Peddapuram Government Hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead.

Lakshmireddy Srinu is survived by a daughter and a son. Incidentally, a 42-year-old

man in Taiwan died of a heart attack while watching the first part of the movie 'Avatar' when it was released in 2010, Agence France Presse had reported in 2010.

The man had a history of high blood pressure. According to the doctor who checked him, "over-excitement from watching the movie" triggered his symptoms.

Contd. from Page 1

No tax increase on any item....

GST Council agrees to decriminalise certain offences; threshold of launching prosecution doubled to Rs. 2 cr, said Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra.

The Revenue Secretary also said "Tax rate on husk of pulses reduced to nil from 5%."

"While a group of ministers of the GST Council submitted its report on the tax regime for casinos, online games and horse racing to the Finance Minister a couple of days, it was not circulated or included in the agenda as there was too little time for members to study its recommendations," Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra said. This report will also now be likely taken up at the next GST Council meeting.

"The major decisions the GST Council took today included one path-breaking recommendation regarding decriminalising three kinds of offences under the GST law — they pertain to Obstruction to or preventing officers from discharging their duty, deliberate tampering of evidence, failure to supply the information. Moreover, the threshold limits of tax amounts for

launching prosecution under any criminal offence defined under the GST laws has been raised from ₹1 crore to ₹2 crore for all offences, other than those involving fake invoices. In the same line, in order to reduce the workload of courts, the compounding amount under certain offences has been reduced from 50% to 200% of the amount, to 25% to 100% of the amount," Mr. Malhotra said.

While the Central government will include these decriminalisation changes in the Finance Bill for 2023-24, States will have to also suitably amend their legislations to bring the changes into effect, he added, noting that it will thus, take time to bring these changes into effect.

The GST levied on Husk of pulses including chilka and concentrates including chunli/ churi, khandra — a key ingredient of cattle feed, will be reduced from 5% to zero. Ethyl alcohol, which is taxed at 5% for blending into petrol for oil marketing companies, and now the same 5% rate will be extended to refineries as well instead of the present 18%.

dependence on imported crude and save precious foreign exchange," the Revenue Secretary said.

To dispel confusion about the GST rate to be levied on Fryums, the Council has decided to clarify that Fryums manufactured using the process of extrusion is specifically covered by a GST rate of 18%.

The Council also decided that the incentive paid to banks by the Central Government under the scheme for promotion of RuPay Debit Cards and low value BHIM-UPI transactions are in the nature of subsidy and thus not taxable.

A proposed system to allow non-registered suppliers and composition tax payers to supply goods intra-State through e-commerce operators, that got an in-principle nod from the Council in June, will now kick off October 1, 2023. The Council on Saturday approved amendments to the GST Act and Rules to enable this system and granted time for e-commerce firms to develop requisite functionalities on their portals.

PM to grace North Eastern...

During the 70th Plenary meeting at Guwahati in October 2022, which was held under the chairmanship of the Union Home Minister and Chairman NEC, it was decided that this important milestone of the NEC would be celebrated in a befitting manner. Accordingly, the Golden Jubilee celebration of the NEC is being held in Shillong on the 18th December 2022.

During the day, the Prime Minister will inaugurate various important projects of the North Eastern Region includ-

ing Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong, NEC projects and Meghalaya state projects and lay foundation stones for some other projects. He will also dedicate 4G towers of Meghalaya.

The "Golden Footprints", a commemorative volume chronicling NEC's contribution towards the development of the North Eastern Region over the last fifty years, will also be released during the Golden Jubilee event. The contents of this book have been gleaned from the Archives of the Council and from the official records of the eight member states of the Council besides capturing in colour the iconic infrastructure and development works supported by the NEC in the recent past.

The Jubilee Celebration is expected to provide a new platform for the NEC to deliver even better in the days to come and to spearhead more development initiatives as has done effectively in the last five decades across the eight North Eastern states.

Sports

Croatia, Morocco approaching third-place match like World Cup final

Agency
Doha, Dec 17:

Andrej Kramaric says not so fast to those who might think the third-place match at a World Cup is meaningless.

The Croatia striker, who scored two goals in a win over Canada during the group stage, is not taking Saturday's game at Khalifa International Stadium lightly at all because he knows his opponent won't be, either.

"I think if you ask this question to Moroccan players, I don't think they will look that way," Kramaric said at a news conference Thursday. "They're fighting for their lives because if you win a medal at a World Cup, you become an immortal hero in your country. That's the same thing we are going to do."

Croatia lost to France in the World Cup final four years ago in Russia and made what some thought was another shocking run to the semifinal here in Qatar. Morocco, on the other hand, made history as the first African nation to ever play in a World Cup semifinal. Croatia lost to Argentina 3-0 on Tuesday; Morocco lost to France 2-0 on Wednesday.

Now the two sides, which tied 0-0 in the group stage, will meet again for third-place glory.

"Eight of us from [the 2018 roster in Russia] understand that feeling of winning a medal at the World Cup, and we have a lot of players who haven't experienced that and would love to do that because it's something that will stay with you for the rest of their life," Kramaric said, referencing the fact that Croatia's roster included 18 new players from four years ago.

The knock on third-place contests — whether that's at a World Cup or an Olympics or another major tournament — is the idea that players don't care. If they're not playing for the championship, why bother, right? Especially for two teams that have just gone through the emotional whirlwind of a massively stressful semifinal. It can be difficult to come down from that experience and then get up for what some may deem an insignificant prize.

Historically, third-place games can be pretty fun and entertaining with lots of goals, though.

The Netherlands beat Brazil 3-0 in 2014, and Germany beat Uruguay 3-2 in 2010. In 2002, Turkey beat host South Korea 3-2 in what's perhaps one of the more exciting matchups over the last two decades. Hakan Sukur scored in the first 11 seconds, the fast-



est World Cup goal ever, to give Turkey a 1-0 lead and Korea tied the game in the ninth minute. Both teams desperately wanted to win.

Croatia manager Zlatko Dalic said after his squad's loss to Argentina that they need to "get back on our feet" and do everything they can to win.

"You still have to fight for third place, and it's a very difficult situation to come back from after such a match [in the semifinal]," Dalic said. "I told our players in the dressing room that they need to keep their head up. They have to be proud of what we have achieved so far, and we did our

maximum and that we need to be ready to prepare and fight for third place.

"That is what our objective is. For now, we need to psychologically come back and be ready for the match. [Playing Argentina] was not easy, and the players are sad. It is really hard for them. They feel that they could have done more, but we haven't, and we need to be ready for what awaits us in the match [on Saturday]."

It's unclear at the moment whether Luka Modric will play. The 37-year-old Croatian captain and former Ballon d'Or winner's future with the national team is just as unknown. Dalic said after the semifinal

that he hopes Modric and the other older members of the group's "golden generation" will play through the Euros in 2024, but Modric himself has not made his plans public.

"We have had a great team and this generation will finish off their career at Euro 2024," Dalic said. "We have the Nations League and an excellent generation who reached two semifinals."

Modric was substituted out of the semifinal late in the second half to a standing ovation from both Croatian and Argentina fans. If retirement is imminent, it would be reasonable to think the Real Madrid star would want to play on

soccer's grandest stage one last time.

Meanwhile, Morocco has a chance to make more history as the first African nation to finish third in a World Cup.

Manager Walid Regragui said after the Atlas Lions' loss to France that he would very likely rest a bunch of players who are nursing injuries and played much of the tournament below 100%.

Starting defenders Romain Saiss, Nayef Aguerd and Noisair Mazraoui are a few that fans can expect not to play.

"We have a lot of players injured. We're on our last legs," Regragui said Wednesday. "But we also want to allow some players who haven't played very often to get out there and show what they can do. All of those squad players have made great contributions, but they haven't had many minutes on the pitch."

"We're going to try and make our country proud and win that third place."

One of the many wonderful things about this Moroccan side is the culture Regragui has quickly implemented within his team. Those aforementioned players who haven't played much that will likely play against Croatia on Saturday? It's not like they've felt excluded from the team

during this World Cup. In fact, Regragui has brought bench players to his "matchday minus one" news conferences before every big game.

Third-string goalkeeper Ahmed Reda Tagnaouti spoke with reporters ahead of the quarterfinal match against Portugal, and midfielder Ilias Chair answered questions before the semifinal against France.

Chair, who should see the field in the third-place game, was asked what it has been like to not play much here in Qatar.

"I am in the semifinal of a World Cup," the 25-year-old said Tuesday before Morocco played France. "As a little boy, I could have never ever dreamed of something like this. Of course, sitting on the bench is not a nice thing. But if you see what we have created as a team, you can see that no one really cares as long as the job is done at the end of the day. So when the manager gives me a chance, I will be ready, and I will give 100% for him and for my teammates and for my country."

While Morocco's dream of playing in a World Cup final and hoisting the trophy at the end of the tournament did end, it still has a chance to fight for more. And its faithful and passionate fan base will still come out en masse.