

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended Golden Jubilee celebrations of the NEC

*'Government of India itself is taking the initiative to remove AFSPA'*

PIB  
New Delhi, Dec 18:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah participated in the Golden Jubilee celebrations of the North-East Council, in Shillong in Meghalaya today. On this occasion, many dignitaries including Governor of Meghalaya, *Governor Brig. (Dr) B. D. Mishra*, Chief Minister of Meghalaya Conrad Sangma, Union Ministers G Kishan Reddy, Kiren Rijiju and Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of State, B L Verma, Chief Minister of Manipur, N Biren Singh, Chief Minister of Mizoram, Zoramthanga, Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister of Nagaland, Neiphiu Rio, Chief Minister of Sikkim, Prem Singh Tamang, Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Pema Khandu and Chief Minister of Tripura, Manik Saha were

those present on occasion..

Union Minister said that in the recent meeting of the North-East Council (NEC) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister not only appreciated the work of the last 50 years in the North-East Council but also directed the preparation of a blueprint of all dimensions of development of the North-East in the next 25 years and fix targets. Today, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the North-East is moving forward on the path of peace and development.

Shah said that earlier funds allocated to the North-East did not reach the bottom most level, but after Prime Minister Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister, funds are reaching villages and being utilised for development, and this is a great achievement. He said that the Prime Minister has always given priority to the North-East. The Prime Minister has

visited the North-East more than 50 times in the last 8 years, while ministers have also visited the North-East more than 400 times.

The Union Home and Cooperation Minister said earlier the development of North-East region was stuck due to the limited budget allocated to the North-East Council, but the Prime Minister has given a new shape and provided a new dimension to the infrastructure of the North-East by initiating large projects at the Central level. Due to improved infrastructure, the possibilities of tourism have increased in the North-East, as also many small industries, educational institutions and sports-related institutions have also opened. He said the Prime Minister has also taken up the project of connecting every capital of the North-Eastern States by road, train and through air connectivity.

Union Minister Amit Shah

said that due to the leadership of the Prime Minister, the North-East is now free from all disputes and peace has been established in the region. Till eight years ago, the entire North-East was only known for bandhs, strikes, bomb blasts and firings, and the people of North-East could not live peacefully due to the activities of different militant groups. In the past eight years there has been a 74% reduction in insurgency incidents, 60% reduction in incidents of attacks on security forces and 89% reduction in civilian deaths, while about 8,000 youth have surrendered and joined the mainstream. Shri Shah said that these are great achievements made possible due to the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi because without peace it is impossible to develop institutions of development, education and health.

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## Memories of 1950s' Imphal brought to life on Akshaykumar's solo exhibition



IT News  
Imphal, Dec 18:

The man who created the famous cartoon strip "Maakar" in Poknapham daily newspaper, Gurumayum Akshaykumar Sharma created another stroke through his solo exhibition which brought back the memories of 1950s' Imphal, held today at Art Gallery, Department of Art and Culture, Palace Compound, Imphal East.

The solo exhibition portrays the picture of Imphal during the early 50s and late 40s. One can easily imagine how the earthen pots were brought from villages at Nambul river and unloaded near the Thong Nambonbi near Khwairamband Keithel and also how women of those days sold Bora and later Channa at the river bank of Nambul River at

Khwairamband Keithel.

The street vendors of 1968 at Khwairamband Keithel and the scene of the Khwairamband Ima Keithel painted through oil canvas make one imagine how beauty was Imphal those days.

One of the oil canvases also showed the first observance of 13 August (Patriots' Day) at Pheidabung by class X students of Tombisana High School in 1958.

Today's Pologround Pavilion was a one-time clean space surrounded by greeneries in 1952. Akshaykumar's painting also tells stories of how the first and the last Hiyang Tanaba was held at Nambul River in 1954.

It was indeed a surprise for young visitors to see Nag River, a river where boat races were during 1954 as today the

river is no more scene after it has been covered and converted into a parking space.

The inaugural function of the Solo Exhibition was attended by Prof. Thoidingiam Tombi Singh, Lalit Kala Akademi as Chief Guest while Prof. Nongmaithem Tombi Singh presided over the function.

Laishram Modhuchandra, Retd. Principal of Imphal Art College also attended as Guest of honour. The exhibition will conclude tomorrow.

Speaking to media Gurumayum Akshaykumar Sharma said that he had tried to display the solo exhibition in 1998 however, as he was occupied with the invention of "Maakar" cartoon for Poknapham newspaper he could only display his painting after around 26 years.

## Manipur Tourism honoured at 37th IATO Annual Convention

IT News  
Lucknow, Dec 18:

Another feather in the cap! Manipur Tourism has won the Best Poster by State Government Award 2022 at the Indian Association of Tour Operators (IATO) Annual Convention. The convention is in its 37th Annual Edition and is being held at The Centrum, Lucknow from 16th to 19th December 2022. The delegation representing Manipur at the event is led by the Director (Tourism), Manipur and included officials from the Tourism Corporation of Manipur Ltd. and tour operators from the state.

The award was presented by the Chief Guest, Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath and received by W. Ibihal Singh (MCS), Director (Tourism) at an event attended by the who's who of the travel industry.



"We are delighted with the recognition given to us by IATO. Acknowledgements like this helps motivate and inspire us to promote our state through a kaleidoscope of our local culture, our varied tribes and their colourful festivals". We will take our promotional ef-

forts to the next level this year and look forward to receiving more recognitions from the industry in other areas as well," said W. Ibihal Singh.

The 37th IATO Annual Convention is one of the most important travel events in the country today. The

event is attended by stakeholders of the travel industry, hospitality sector, corporate and government officials. The awards are determined by an evaluation process led by evaluators along with a panel comprised of IATO members from the participating 20 states of India.

## Rotary Club of Imphal distributes winter clothes to children

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 18:

Rotary Club of Imphal (RID-3240), as a part of Golden Jubilee Year Celebration and its continuing community service project, visited Stephenos's Home, Leimakhong today and distributed winter clothes comprising of 28 tops & frocks, 20 bottoms, jeans and socks along with sweets as a Christ-

mas gifts to the children. These items were sponsored by Rtn Jaspal Singh Setia.

Earlier yesterday, Rotary Club of Imphal visited Khurai Ahongei Upper Primary School, Imphal East and distributed jerseys and note books to 34 students of the school. Later, a group lunch was also organised with students and members of the club under the theme 'Rotary Chaklen Chaminnasi'. The

programme was sponsored by Immediate Past President, Rtn. Devkumar Thoudam.

Rtn. Pramod Jaiswal, President, Rotary Club of Imphal said that such programme will be organised every month at different schools of the state. Club has also been providing eggs to three children homes of the state every month under 'Rotary Egg Bank' project so that our children get nutritious and healthy food.

## Systems Approach to Manipur's Development Intervention: Looking forward

By: Amar Yumnam  
Imphal, Dec 18:

Aron Nimzovich, a celebrated Chess Master, wrote in his 1930 book *My System: A Treatise on Chess*: "Luckily only an infinitesimal proportion of all possible chess moves possesses practical significance; but even this small number gives us a game whose complexity is as disturbing as it is attractive." This statement comes to mind when the state government of Manipur recently talked of an Alternative Farming *System* to the Jhuming (slash and burn) and poppy cultivations. We

have been very critical of the present government of Manipur as it indulges more in propaganda than in policy formulation; it has been presenting propagandas as if they were policies. But this time the Government has brought in the term *System* into the announcement. The very mention of this term makes us feel that the Government is serious, must have done the homework and articulated within the administration the entire approach for bringing poppy cultivation and jhuming under a new intervention.

Out of the sixteen districts in Manipur, the announcement

puts ten mountainous districts of Churachandpur, Chandel, Kangpokpi, Kamjong, Noney, Pherwal, Senapati, Tamenglong, Tengnoupal and Ukhrul under the programme. To begin with - must be to begin with only - 1 Grass cutter, 10 Spades, 2 Shovels, 2 Pick-Axe, 5 Rakes, 5 bundles of Cocopeat, 50 pieces of Plug Tray, 5 Plastic Crates, 1 packet of Coriander, 3 packets of Pea, 1 packet of Bean, 1 packet of Bean (Long), 1 packet of Chia seeds and 1 packet of Wax Gourd have been provided to the concerned population.

Since the term *system* implies networks and many other

accompanying components, it would be proper to try to appreciate the meaning of the term and more so as the cooperation of the general public is necessarily called for. Talcott Parsons wrote in 1951 in his book, *The Social System*, thus: "The fundamental starting point is the concept of social systems of action. The interaction of individual actors, that is, takes place under such conditions that it is possible to treat such a process of interaction as a system in the scientific sense and subject it to the same order of theoretical analysis which has been successfully applied to other types of

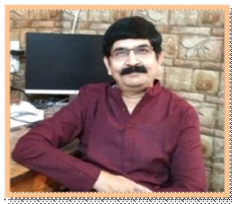
systems in other sciences. .... The frame of reference concerns the "orientation" of one or more actors—in the fundamental individual case biological organisms—to a situation, which includes other actors. The scheme, that is, relative to the units of action and interaction, is a *relational* scheme. It analyzes the structure and processes of the systems built up by the relations of such units to their situations, including other units. It is not as such concerned with the *internal* structure of the units except so far as this directly bears on the relational system.

The situation is defined as consisting of objects of orientation, so that the orientation of a given actor is differentiated relative to the different objects and classes of them of which his situation is composed. It is convenient in action terms to classify the object world as composed of the three classes of "social," "physical," and "cultural" objects. A social object is an actor, which may in turn be any given other individual actor (alter), the actor who is taken as a point of reference himself (ego), or a collectivity which is treated as a unit for purposes of the analysis of orientation. Physical ob-

jects are empirical entities which do not "interact" with or "respond" to ego. They are means and conditions of his action. Cultural objects are symbolic elements of the cultural tradition, ideas or beliefs, expressive symbols or value patterns so far as they are treated as situational objects by ego and are not "internalized" as constitutive elements of the structure of his personality. "Action" is a process in the actor-situation system which has motivational significance to the individual actor, or, in the case of a collectivity, its component individuals.

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# Don't let your future go up in smoke



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Everyone is aware that "Smoking" has been criticized as the most lethal weapon of self murder. According to the Tobacco Products Act, 2004, direct and indirect advertising of all tobacco products and its sale to minors is banned. Addiction to nicotine makes it hard to quit. The increasing incidence of heart attack in India, fast spreading among younger generation has been largely on account of smoking habits. The problem of Smoking in India is widespread but no studies have

been done to estimate what percentage of the population are smokers.

Roadside paan shops bountifully stocked with cigarettes feed smokers continuing to exhale smoke from cigarettes. It is a fact that smoking is a hard habit to break because tobacco contains nicotine, which is highly addictive. Smoking harms not just the smoker, but also family members, co-workers, and others who breathe the smoker's cigarette smoke, called second-hand smoke or passive smoke. In fact, statistics tell us that approximately 70 out of 100 people who smoke want to stop but go on puffing, day in and day out, seemingly powerless to quit. Research has shown that non-smokers who reside with a smoker have a 24% increase in risk for developing lung cancer when compared with other non-smokers.

Owners of sales outlets must display boards with the warnings like "tobacco causes cancer", "tobacco kills" & "sale to minors is a punishable offence". Sometimes it happens that notification prohibiting selling tobacco products to minors has no effect as the teenagers continue to buy tobacco/cigarettes on the pretext that they are buying it on behalf of their elders. Smoking also provides other side benefits which are real. Let us remember that staying smoke free helps more of everything — more energy, better performance, better looks, more money in your pocket, and, in the long run, more life to live.

In India there is little campaigning save the statutory warnings printed in small print on cigarette cartons and advertisements. Graphic health warnings using a mixture of pictures and words are part and parcel of every country's policy on cigarette marketing. The 40 per cent warning on one side proved ineffective as vendors displayed the packaging on the other side, so that consumers would not see the warnings. Cigarette manufacturers share the kitty with vested interest, hence their interest is well protected with simple modifications to fool the general public. It is agreed that the bigger warning can create an impact when a smoker buys a cigarette pack. But how do we resolve the issue when smokers buy one or two cigarettes and the packet is being opened by the shop owner who sells cigarettes for business. It is the youth who are the most vulnerable group as far as the consumption of tobacco is concerned. Most of them begin smoking as a fad and even as a rite of passage. According to The Cigarette Package



Health Warnings: International Status Report 2014 India has slipped to 136th position in the list of 198 countries that warn smokers about the hazards of smoking through graphic pictures on cigarette packages.

Can't we implement the ban on the companies manufacturing these tobacco products of intoxication. One would find (particularly smokers) like all laws in India, nothing will be implemented. Indians

just do not have the psyche to obey laws. They believe that rules are meant to be broken. Smokers are unmindful of the consequences of passive smoking. Over time, the habit of smoking weaves its way through all of the activities in our lives, and we come to think we can't be happy or productive without cigarettes.

Various provisions that we implement time and again clearly states that People can smoke on roads or in their homes but not in any other place. More deaths are caused each year by tobacco use than by all deaths from AIDS, illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, suicides, and murders combined.

It smells something else totally against enforcing the rule strongly across the country as law enacted smoking is banned only for outside propaganda. Here, the Govt. is happy that it has a law, police is happy that it can earn more money, the cigarette companies are happy that they don't have to bother, the finance ministry is happy as there is no effect on taxes and the health minister is happy that he could do at least one thing in his tenure - so what matters if it is not implemented.

It is reported that a cigarette smoker shortens his life by about 5.5 minutes for each cigarette smoked, almost the time he spends for smoking it. The increasing incidence of heart attack in India, fast spreading among younger generation has been largely on account of smoking habits. Nearly 30 million people in the country are estimated to be victims of heart diseases. No doubt, the Government has come out with good points to deal with the matter but at the same time taxes on tobacco products should go up to help smokers give up. Such methods will be long lasting.

Under such circumstances, it clearly shows that the anti-smoking Act will go up in smoke. But I feel that People must wake up to the danger of smoke to themselves and passive smokers before it is too late.

# International Migrants Day 2022 and our Environment



By: N. Munal Meitei

International Migration Day is celebrated on 18th December with this year's theme, "Together we heal, learn and shine". This day is an opportunity to recognize the contributions made by millions of migrants to the economies of their host and home countries, promotes respect to their basic human rights.

In the face of a mounting humanitarian crisis, extreme weather events, triggered by global warming and the resultant climate change have pushed the number of migrants around the world. Climate change is undoubtedly causing extreme weather events, leading to unheard of disasters across the world. Natural disasters have always been regarded as the reason for sudden displacement or migration. But over the few decades, it has probed, climate change is the primary inducer for large-scale migration.

ITT, Kharagpur has found a convincing evidence for the popular

hypothesis that climate change caused human migration during and after the Indus Valley Civilisation. In the study, published in Elsevier journal in November 2019, the author, Anindya Sarkar reported that over the last 7,000 years, people were forced to migrate for greener regions. The human migrations at that time were initiated due to decreased in monsoon, drying up rivers and agricultural failure. Back in 1990, IPCC also noted that the single greatest impact of climate change will be on human migration.

World Migration Report 2020 believe that more than 1.2 billion people will be forced to flee their homes by 2050 and the role of natural disasters in migration is much more than by conflict and violence. Extreme weather events — from floods and storms, to heat waves and drought — are already displacing an estimated 41 people each minute.

In India with 2.7 million people, had the highest number of people displaced by disasters and extreme weather events in 2019. In the year, 28 million were internally displaced people in 148 countries, 61% due to disasters and 39% were due to conflict and violence. Desertification is also silently fueling conflicts. Rise in migration due to disasters has proved on increasing human trafficking in our country upto 20-30%.

Migration also bring about the form of modern-day slavery. The climate crisis is reshaping our world. To date, migration has been mostly internal and increasingly an urban phenomenon to earn livelihood. Although most people displaced or migrating as a result of climate impacts are accelerating trend of global displacement particularly where climate change interacts with conflict and violence.

Migration may be temporary, seasonal, circular, or permanent and may be forced by increasingly severe conditions or occur as a proactive strategy in the face of climate impacts to livelihoods and wellbeing. According to a survey, the economic challenges, poverty, famine, flood, conflict or disaster can facilitate the increased number of migrants across the world.

The migrant populations are also considered as people who are inactive in search of a decent job and affordable life. Currently approximately 281 million people are international migrants living in a country other than their country of birth.

The migrants are also playing a crucial role in determining the growth and development of a country. The potential migration is harnessed by many countries across the world while protecting the basic human right of the citizens across the world.

The rootlessness and the lack

of a sense of belonging are the problems faced by the migrant population across the world. The migration may be the result of the compulsion or the personal choice for a better life. Unemployment is one of the key factors that contribute to the migration of people globally. The eviction is another factor that led many to migration.

While most climate-related migration currently occurs within countries, desperation and deteriorating environments can also compel people to seek a livelihood elsewhere through irregular migration. While climate change negatively impacts everyone, everywhere, those already in vulnerable situations due to geography, poverty, gender, age, disability, origin or other status, including migrant women who depend on climate-sensitive livelihoods, and children who are less able to survive extreme weather events, are at the greatest risk of suffering harm.

It is imperative to recognize this reality and take meaningful action to protect the rights of those affected by climate change, including the migrants. The inter-linkages between climate change, human rights and migration to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is inextricable for the present and future generations.

(Environmentalist, Email-[nmunall@yahoo.in](mailto:nmunall@yahoo.in))

# Presenting news : a viewpoint



By: E. Prabhat Kishore

The opening paragraph or 'lead' of a news story should be short and crisp or so as to catch attention and direct the reader's interest into the body of the story. It should not be burdened with details that can afford to wait till later down in the story. If a leader has to look over a sentence second time to understand it, then the sentence has no place in a news agency copy.

Basically a news story must answer the three W's, what, when and where. Three other questions should be who, why and how. The opening of a story should not be on a negative and not suggesting that nothing has been happening; for example, we should not begin copy with quotations: 'There is no change in the condition of Shri Ram Adhin Singh, renowned freedom fighter'.

However, it is the context that matters, and if a negative sounding has a positive context then it may become the lead point. For instance, 'The Finance Minister Mrs Nirmala Sitaraman told the states that there would be no more writing off of any crop loans.' is fully justified opening a news story.

**Objectivity in news coverage**  
In news copy carrying only one version and ignoring others, in the coverage of a controversial matter, amount to taking sides. Objectivity demands that both sides of all points of views in a controversy are fairly presented. A news writer should adopt reference to point about, which he himself is not sure. If such a point has to be introduced the copy should clearly state that it was unconfirmed.

In order to maintain its objectivity, a news agency has to be very particular about the source of fact in its report. A news agency's reputation depends on the voracity of its story. There are certain types of story where no source is required; as for instance, proceedings of legislature or meetings, conference and judicial proceeding, directly covered by a reporter or a team of reporters or press conferences where the person addressing the reporter is named. In all other cases a news agency report requires to be authenticated with a proper source since the agency itself does not accept any responsibility for

the statement issue or the facts offered by any person. By dropping mention of the source, the agency would be needlessly accepting responsibility for news or information, which may be open to question.

What is proper source? There is no fixed source, which is proper for all cases or stories. A particular source, however highly placed, may be relevant for one kind of story and may be totally irrelevant for another. This makes it necessary to determine in each case the appropriate source/sources. It is essential to name the source, except in special circumstances. It is not enough for a reporter to be assured in his own mind that his source was perfect. It is equally necessary to convince the reader of it.

A source can be hard that is to say the horses' mouth or it may be weak. The hardest of all the sources is where facts in a report are ascribing to the concerned person or persons by name. On government policies, for example, the Prime Minister or other ministers, top officials of the concerned ministries or the department are the hardest source. But they are not hard enough with regard to matters that do not fall within the purview of their own functioning. Equally hard are official press releases and briefing by spokesman, even if not identified by name. Only press releases from the Central or any State Government may be described as official press release. In other cases, the particular office releasing the press note may be named. For instance, a press from a Collector of district or from Commission or Police or from Municipal Commissioner must be identified and not described as an official press release. The distinction is necessary to convey to the readers that the release has been issued by a local official source and not by the government at the highest level.

When a general opinion within a particular group is wide base to be given, the practice is to quote 'Circle'; for instance, business circle, trade circle, political circle. It should be noted that such sourcing can relate to reaction pieces, comments and not to any hard news. Then there are other phrases,

which constitute weak sourcing and should not be used when harder source is possible. These include-(i) 'It is learnt'. This suggest second hand or third party information awaiting confirmation from a more authentic source. The modern tendency in the world of the news agencies is to avoid use of this phrase and instead indicate separately that confirmation by appropriate source was due, (ii) 'It is believed'. This expression could imply that it was the news agency that believes which an agency has no business to do. Instead, if a belief has to be carried, it should be properly ascribed to the person or the group that holds to belief. For instance, "the police believed that two persons were killed in a group clash in Harnaut", (iii) 'It is stated'. This is to vague in the absence of who is stating, (iv) 'It is gathered'. This is to weak a way of sourcing and news agency should have nothing to do with it, (v) 'It is reliably learnt' or 'According to reliable sources'. This has no particular value, since, an agency is always expected to obtain information from reliable sources only. (vi) 'According to usually reliable sources'. At one time, it was a popular expression but it is dying out now. Usually reliable means what always reliable or in other words, sometimes 'un-reliable'. And who is to place faith in a source, which is so condemned. (vii) 'According to political observer' or 'According to political circles'. This is used in interpretative stories and is permissive but the tendency to put across a reporters or a partisan view should be checked.

**Multiple identification in news reports**

When the subject of a story has multiple identification, the most pertinent among them is that which we mention in the opening paragraph. The others can be suitably spread in later part of the news copy. An opening with "The Chief Minister Mr. Nitish Kumar who is also the Janata Dal (U) President", does not get the story moving well. The fact Mr. Nitish Kumar is President of the JD(U) can easily be held over for mention in the second paragraph.

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# Pakistan Minister threatens India with nuclear war amid row over Bilawal Bhutto's comments

Agency  
New Delhi, Dec 18:

A day after India slammed Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari for his "uncivilized outburst" at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pakistan Peoples Party leader Shazia Marri threatened New Delhi with nuclear war.

In a news conference Shazia Marri said, "India should not forget that Pakistan has an atom bomb. Our nuclear status is not meant to remain silent. We will not back down if the need arises."

She was holding a press conference in support of Bilawal Bhutto and spewed venom against India.

Shazia threatened India and said that if the Modi government will fight, then he will get the answer. The status of a nuclear state given to Pakistan has not been given to remain silent. Pakistan also knows how to answer.

She said, "if you will keep making allegations against Pa-

kistan again and again, Pakistan cannot keep listening silently, this will not happen."

Shazia's statement comes at a time when Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto is being slammed in India for unleashing a personal attack on PM Modi and also hitting out at the Rashtriya Swamsevaka Sangh (RSS).

In a press conference on the sidelines of the United Nations Security Council session in America, Bilawal Bhutto alleged that the government of India was influenced by Hitler instead of Mahatma Gandhi.

In response to media queries on Bilawal's 'uncivilized' remarks, the official spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs, Arindam Bagchi, said, "These comments are a new law, even for Pakistan. Pakistan's foreign minister's frustration would be better directed towards the masterminds of terrorist enterprises in his own country, who have made terrorism a part of their state policy. Pakistan needs to

change its own mindset or remain a pariah."

Earlier, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday ripped into Pakistan over its role in sponsoring and spreading terrorism and advised Islamabad to clean up its act and try to be a good neighbour.

In reply to a question from a Pakistani journalist, who accused India of spreading terror, Jaishankar replied, "You are asking the wrong minister when you say how long will we do this. It is the ministers of Pakistan who will tell how long Pakistan intends to practice terrorism."

A flurry of other politicians, too, objected to Bilawal's uncivilized bursts on PM Modi. "As far as the leadership of PM Modi is concerned, the world has recognized that leadership," said Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi.

"PM Modi has helped not only India but also other countries, including Pakistan, dur-

ing Covid. If a foreign minister of a country is making such a statement, it doesn't hold him well," added Lekhi.

Incidentally, Pakistan was included in the grey list of FATF several times for incubating terrorism.

"The statement of the foreign minister of Pakistan is very shameful and it is an attempt to replicate the way in which the Pakistan Army was defeated by the Indian Army on this day in 1971. Maybe he is still in pain. The world has seen Pakistan's actions and intentions. They have been giving shelter to terrorists for a long time. PM Modi has taken strict actions against terrorism. The US killed Osama Bin Laden in Pakistan and India did a surgical strike in Pakistan," said Union minister Anurag Thakur.

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday launched nationwide protests against Bilawal Bhutto for his remark on PM Modi and burnt his effigies across India.

# PEC mourns China's first journo-deaths due to Covid-19 complications

IT Correspondent  
Geneva/Guwahati, Dec 18:

Press Emblem Campaign (PEC), the global media safety and rights body, mourns the death of two senior journalists, who died of Covid-19 complications in China recently. According to a media report by Reuters with the dateline of Beijing/Shanghai on 16 December 2022, Yang Lianghua (74, a former People's Daily reporter) died on Thursday, while Zhou Zhichun (77, a former China Youth Daily editor) died a week earlier. They are the first deaths reported in China among journalists since the beginning of the pandemic three years ago.

Both the Chinese media personnel lost the corona battles in Beijing along with many who died after the Communist regime abandoned its strict corona policy on lockdowns. However, the country's national health authority has not revealed any

death due to Covid-19 aggravated ailments since the domestic epidemic control policies were abandoned on 7 December due to unprecedented public protests against President Xi Jinping. Concerns are expressed as Lunar New Year holidays are starting on 22 January when rural areas would be inundated by travelers, otherwise those villages and towns were not exposed to the virus in the last three years.

Until March 2022, at least 2000 media workers or former journalists died with Covid-19 in 95 countries around the world, said Blaise Lempen, president of Geneva-based PEC, adding that around one hundred other writer-journalists have died of the novel coronavirus around the world since then. PEC started the corona-ticker in March 2020 to pay tribute to the media corona-victims.

Until March 2022, PEC recorded 30 most affected countries as Brazil (314 media coronacases), India (284), Peru (199), Mexico (129), Colombia (80), USA (70), Bangladesh (69), Italy (61), Venezuela (60), Ecuador (52), Argentina (50), Indonesia (43), Russia (42), Iran (35),

United Kingdom (33), Dominican Republic (31), Turkey (30), Pakistan (27), Egypt, Nepal (23 each), Bolivia (21), Honduras (20), South Africa, Spain, Ukraine (19 each), Panama (17), Poland (14), France, Guatemala, Nigeria (11 each).

Those are followed by Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Zimbabwe (10 each), Algeria, Cuba, Paraguay (9 each), Philippines (8), Uruguay (7), Kazakhstan, Kenya, Romania (5 each), Morocco, Cameroon, Iraq (4 each), Albania, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Portugal, Salvador, Sweden (3 each), Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Uganda (2 each).

Single journo-victim was reported from Angola, Barbados, Bosnia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kirghizstan, Kosovo, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Malawi, Mali, Moldova, Mozambique, Myanmar, New Zealand, Norway, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Thailand, Togo, Tajikistan, Tunisia, UAE and Yemen.

# Trust us to be guardians of liberties of our citizens: CJI Chandrachud

Agency  
Mumbai, Dec 18:

Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud on Saturday said the confidence of citizens in the due process of law and the protection of liberty rests in the judiciary which is "guardians of liberties".

Delivering a lecture at Mumbai yesterday, the CJI emphasised through the lives of the members of the bar, who fearlessly espouse those causes, "the flame of liberty burns bright even today".

Delivering the Ashok H Desai memorial lecture at the Y. B. Chavan Centre here, he referred to a theft case where a man would have spent 18

years in jail had the SC not intervened to say "trust us to be guardians of the liberties of our citizens".

The event was organised by the Bombay Bar Association.

"Yesterday in a seemingly innocuous case, where an accused was sentenced to two years of imprisonment in sessions trial for theft of electricity, the trial judge forgot to say that the sentences will run concurrently."

"So then the consequence was that this person who had stolen electricity equipment like poles would have to suffer 18 years of imprisonment, only because the trial court didn't direct that the sen-

tences would run concurrently," CJI Chandrachud said.

A bench led by CJI Chandrachud on Friday dealt with a plea of a man from Uttar Pradesh called Iqram who was to suffer a jail term of 18 years in nine minor cases of theft of electrical equipment of the state electricity department.

The top court set aside an Allahabad High Court order and directed that Iqram's jail term of two years each in nine cases would run concurrently instead of successively. It was irked that neither the trial court nor the high court took note of the "miscarriage of justice" and set things right. Referring to the case, the CJI on Saturday said the high court said,

"sorry we can't do anything at all, because the trial judge hasn't, in terms of section 427 of the CrPc directive, said that the sentences would run concurrently".

"We had to intervene yesterday, in a seemingly innocuous case of a simple citizen of the nation. The point which we make is sermonising apart, trust us to be guardians of the liberties of our citizens," he added.

The CJI further said there is no case which is "small enough, or big enough" for every court in the nation, be it the district judiciary, the High Court, or the Supreme Court, "because it is in us that the confidence of the citizens, in

the due process of law and the protection of liberty, rests".

Talking about the subject of the lecture, the chief justice said it is true that both law and morality play a vital role in channelling our behaviour.

"As all of you might well be aware, the law is a definite body of rules enacted and enforced by the state. The legal rules regulate human conduct by written rules, penalties and officials to interpret the laws," he said. The CJI added that while law regulates external relations, morality governs our inner lives and motivations and "morality, in that sense, appeals to our conscience and influences the way we behave".

# Indian Army organises Village Heads Conclave at Senapati

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 18:

Red Shield Division of Indian Army organised a conclave of 18 Village Heads, belonging to prominent tribes of Pounami, Maram, Mao, Kuki of Taphou Naga Area of Senapati district yesterday at Senapati.

The conclave aimed at celebrating festivities together and to cement bonhomie, strengthen bond amongst the communities and the Indian Army. The village heads while appreciating the initiative of the Indian Army, were also deeply thankful for various activities like sports activities, humanitarian assistance, training to youth and many other helps being extended by

the Indian Army.

During the interaction, participation of large number of youth in recently concluded Recruitment Rally at Koirengi was very much appreciated in which a number of youth from the Senapati district have cleared the test. Indian Army has provided training to some of these youth and coaching for written test is presently being organised. It was assured that the assistance to youth in terms of physical training, written tests and skill development will continue to support them fulfill their dreams. Commander appreciated the spirit of bonhomie with which the chiefs came together for the interaction and praised their efforts towards peace and development.

# Designing New Career Opportunities



By: Vijay GarG

As an industry with linkages to multiple sectors and industries, design and design education have emerged as popular and competitive career choices that not only offer a diverse set of opportunities but, are also known to be highly rewarding for those with creative abilities.

Design Education Institutions seek to produce professional designers, artists, expressionists and design entrepreneurs who are capable of setting new trends and starting new businesses. They aim to raise the standards of living and make the world a more sustainable place. Design degrees/diplomas recognise the diversity of the creative ecosystem, besides, one gets an ideal com-

bination of practical and theoretical skills that pay well in the job market. This is a field where creativity is respected and is much in demand.

While design houses and consultancies are thriving entities, it is interesting to note that design as an element is required in almost all industries and sectors. Healthcare, banking and finance, fin-tech, manufacturing, retail and IT are only some of the sectors where design is increasingly becoming important. Within manufacturing, there are design specialisations like jewellery/footwear/machines etc.

**Identifying the functional areas**

Broadly speaking, fashion design, interior design, product design, interaction design, graphic design, animation and multimedia are some of the popular functional areas. Fashion designing itself is a huge area where on one end of the spectrum there are glamorous haute couture designers like JJ Valaya and Sabyasachi and on the other, there are specialist designers for school children, hospitals, factories, industries, and sportswear.

Interior design is yet another promising segment as al-

most all industries and affluent sections of society are increasingly looking at it. The specialists design the interiors of their offices and homes. Product designers focus on improving the functionality and look of existing products and minimising production costs.

The design industry is organically aligned with a digital future, in wake of the predominance of online and social media in our lives. The realm of interaction design, graphics design, UI and UX which offer visual design and experience designing are booming segments of the design domain as Apps and websites are the lifelines of most businesses. In more ways than one interaction designers bring cognitive, physical and emotional aspects together to give an entire package of experience to the user.

While a multitude of career opportunities are possible through the services route, design entrepreneurship can also prove to be very lucrative, besides the satisfaction of driving one's venture.

**Shining at the thinking level**

The approach to design education is by and large categorised into three types of

skills namely thinking skills, visualisation skills and making skills. Predominantly, education institutions offering training must identify the natural talents of students and focus on enhancing the capabilities. The primary endeavour is to scale up the skills of the students in tune with industry and market demands and dynamics. While some students shine at the conceptualisation or thinking level, others are good with their hands or techniques in manufacturing while there is yet another category of students who can also benefit greatly from their interpersonal skills and networking.

The involvement of research and design thinking goes hand in hand in this sector. A design school helps in developing aptitude and skills through a process of seeing, exploring, awareness, analysis, problem solving and communication, to prepare today's youth to be tomorrow's industry-trained professionals. An industry-oriented teaching methodology enables training the students to understand the assignments and projects required in the contemporary market. To prepare a true professional, sub-

jects like Advertisement, Marketing, Business Studies and Entrepreneurship Development are taken up as core subjects common to all specialisations.

The design programmes enable the design graduates to develop creative and problem-solving skills required to answer consumer, business and institutional needs in the public as well as the private sector. Design graduates acquire multiple skills - critical thinking, a sharp eye for detail and project management and these carry a huge appeal in the eyes of potential employers. In this field, students ought to constantly explore new vistas of creativity, innovation and aesthetics.

For Design as a whole and its various specialisations, some of the popular career options include working as fashion designers, visual merchandisers, textile designers, apparel designers, fashion stylists, fashion show organisers, fashion publishers, website designers, academicians, illustrators, game designers, animators, designpreneurs, product developers in design merchandising etc.

# Contd. from Page 2 Presenting news....

A person should be identified first by the office or position consequence he currently holds. Any position he held earlier may be mentioned if warranted in the next paragraph. For instance, Mr. Gulam Nabi Azad would be identified first as the Congress leader or the leader of opposition in Rajya Sabha and subsequently as the former Chief Minister of Jammu & Kashmir. Where, however, the subject does not hold any office currently he would be necessarily fact to be identified by the former office for instance, "The former Prime Minister Mr. H.D. Deve Gowda". Some personalities like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, Mahatma Gandhi, Vithal Bhai Patel, Sardar Patel, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, A.P.J. Abdul Kalam etc. do not require any identification.

In the news copy circulated within the country, the word 'Indian' is not required to describe

our Prime Minister of other dignitaries of state as also personalities. Thus in covering the activities of the Prime Minister on a visit abroad we say "The Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi today met his Mauritius counterpart, Mr. Pravind Juganathan".

The expression 'Indian Government' is not used in a news copy circulated in the country. First reference would be 'The Government of India' or 'The Union Government' in carrying a policy statement for an official announcement. Subsequently reference may be simply 'The Government'. In the case of State/UT Government, we would say 'The Government of J&K' or 'The J&K Government' on first reference and subsequently 'The UT Government' or just 'The Government'.

(Author is a technocrat and educationist. He studied Journalism and Mass Communication at Patna University)

# Cycle ride organised with slogan to protect soil degradation

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 18:

Global warming, pollution, deforestation – these are all well-known aspects of the environmental crisis that we face right now. With theme to protect the environment a cycle rally was staged today starting from Sangai Express Office at Segra Road here in Imphal and after riding till Maiba Lokpa Ching and finally concluded at THAU Ground in Thangmeiband.

Many young environment lovers and activists attended the cycle ride which spread awareness about the preservation of degrading soil.

An environment lover participating the cycle ride said, "Yet, very few have no-

ticed the elephant in the room: soil degradation. This is the most immediate challenge before us. All terrestrial life, including ours, is sustained by just a few inches of topsoil. For the extremely fragile life that we are, our actions have been too reckless and whimsical, raining unprecedented damage upon this precious resource".

According to the United Nations (UN), we may have only 60 years of cultivable soil left. We are losing one acre of fertile soil every second. This means in the near future, agriculture will not yield sufficient food for human populations. We are quietly but surely speeding towards disastrous famines on a global scale. The good

news is that we can reverse this catastrophe if we act now. Conscious Planet's Save Soil Movement is an effort to awaken citizens around the world to the state of soil, and urge their governments to frame and execute the necessary policies to regenerate soil.

"The movement is to address the soil crisis by bringing people from around the world to stand up for soil health, and supporting leaders of all nations to institute national policies and actions towards increasing the organic content in cultivable soil. From food crisis to water scarcity to loss of biodiversity, to climate change, to loss of livelihood, everything revolves around soil", a cycle rider said.

Contd. from Page 1

# Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended Golden Jubilee celebrations....

Amit Shah said during the tenure of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the agreement with the NLF in 2019, the Bru and Bodo Agreement in 2020, and Karbi Agreement in 2021 were agreed upon. The Assam-Meghalaya and Assam-Arunachal border disputes have also almost ended, and due to the resto-

ration of peace, the North-East region has moved on the path of development. The biggest example of this is earlier there used to be a demand to remove AFSPA from the North-East, but now the demand does not arise, rather the Government of India is taking steps and initiatives to remove AFSPA. He said that

now 60% area of Assam, seven districts of Nagaland, 15 police stations in six districts of Manipur and Tripura and Meghalaya have become completely AFSPA free, while in only one district in Arunachal AFSPA is yet to be lifted.

The Union Home Minister expressed confidence that

the NEC and the Chief Ministers of the North-Eastern States will work with complete determination to fulfill the goals set for the NEC by Prime Minister Modi to help develop the region and help create a developed, peaceful, employment-rich North East like other regions of the country.

# Systems Approach to Manipur's Development Intervention....

This means that the orientation of the corresponding action processes has a bearing on the attainment of gratifications or the avoidance of deprivations of the relevant actor, whatever concretely in the light of the relevant personality structures these may be. Only in so far as his relation to the situation is in this sense motivationally relevant will it be treated in this work as action in a technical sense. It is presumed that the ultimate source of the energy or "effort" factor of action processes is derived from the organism, and correspondingly that in some sense all gratification and deprivation have an organic significance. .... It is a fundamental property of action thus defined that it does not consist only of ad hoc "responses" to particular situational "stimuli" but that the actor develops a system of "expectations" relative to the various objects of the situation. These may be structured only relative to his own need-dispositions and the probabilities of gratification or deprivation contingent on the various alternatives of action which he may undertake. But in the case of interaction with social objects a

further dimension is added.

Part of ego's expectation, in many cases the most crucial part, consists in the probable reaction of alter to ego's possible action, a reaction which comes to be anticipated in advance and thus to affect ego's own choices. On both levels, however, various elements of the situation come to have special "meanings" for ego as "signs" or "symbols" which become relevant to the organization of his expectation system. Especially where there is social interaction, signs and symbols acquire common meanings and serve as media of communication between actors. When symbolic systems which can enhance communication have emerged we may speak of the beginnings of a "culture" which becomes part of the action systems of the relevant actors. It is only with systems of interaction which have become differentiated to a cultural level that we are here concerned. Though the term social system may be used in a more elementary sense, for present purposes this possibility can be ignored and attention confined to systems of interaction of a plurality of individual actors oriented to

a situation and where the system includes a commonly understood system of cultural symbols."

Thus while talking of a system, we need to be inevitably conscious of the relational mechanism and the preference systems. In the present context of the Alternative Farming System, there needs to be base the framing of programmes on (a) the existing network structure, both internal and external; and (b) prevailing preference structure.

The biggest challenge to the new attempt would be the spatial reality that the concerned population have evolved over the years a system for their livelihood and enhancement of life, and this has naturally created a kind of path dependence to sustain their livelihood. Another big challenge would be to make the population accept a new allegiance of a market network, which would be different from what they have been used to so far.

The disturbing scenarios that Manipur cannot afford to fail in the latest endeavour. While the announcement, as it is today, does not possess the ingredients of a Systems Approach, the onus is now on the

government to put in place in right earnest the necessary ingredients. First, it is needed that the new farming would have all the inputs, including water, available to the farmers. Second, there has to be a mechanism of insurance such that, in the case of crop failure, the farmers would not require to fall back on their earlier system. Third, the new relationship with the market should be structurally present.

Above all, the local population are to be made sure of the commitment of the government to a superior well-being. This calls for a multi-sectoral approach. Two interventions are of a priority here. First, global experience tells us that the people in such spatial areas generally experience a wide and deep incidence of malnutrition. The government should immediately, along with the ensuring of availability of inputs, conduct a survey of the nutritional status of the population. Second, an educational initiative to create a foundation for science talent among children should be put in place.

Hoping that the government would implement a policy this time instead of the usual indulgence in propaganda.

# "Malem Atiya (Angang gi Wari)", stories of Children released



IT News  
Imphal, Dec 18:

A book titled "Malem Atiya (Angang gi Wari)", stories for children, authored by Kshetrimayum Subadini was released today at Manipur Hindi Parishad. The book release function organised by Leimarol Khorjeikol (LEIKOL) was attended by Sahitya Academy Awardee Rajkumar Bhubonsana

Singh as chief guest, while President of LEIKOL Ngangom Aekasini Devi presided over it. Editor Naharolgee Thoudang newspaper Khoirum Loyalkpa attended as guest of honour.

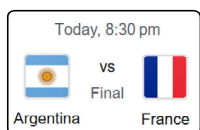
Associate Prof. Koijam Santibala Devi of the Department of Manipuri, Manipur University spoke about the book.

It may be mentioned that two books in Manipuri language

with the title "Ahinggee Upanash (Essay)" and "Nongthangleima Amasung Taibang (2nd Edition)" authored by Nahakpam Aruna were also released in a function organised by LEIKOL at Manipur Press Club yesterday. Sahitya Akademi Awardee Yumlembam Ibomcha and Moirangthem Priyobrat Singh, Principal of Imphal College and Ksh. Subadini graced the occasion as dignitaries.

# Sports

# Croatia beat Morocco to finish third in Qatar World Cup



Agency  
Doha, Dec 18:

Croatia have eased past Morocco 2-1 to claim third place in the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

A sublime header from Josko Gvardiol in the seventh minute made the 20-year-old Croatia's youngest-ever goal scorer in the national shirt.

Two minutes later, Achraf Dari equalised with a header of his own, and Saturday's game looked like it might be a goal-fest for the ages.

But action at Doha's Khalifa International Stadium settled after 10 frantic opening minutes into an entertaining, if less frenetic, match-up as both teams attempted to end their World Cup journey on a high.

Croatia, the 2018 runners-up, started to dominate possession, with Morocco happy to sit deep and contain.

The winner came in the 42nd minute, when Mislav Orsic lobbed a curling ball over



the Morocco keeper Yassine Bounou with power, clipping the inside of the far post to rebound into the opposite side netting.

An absolute peach of a shot that meant that Qatar 2022 was the 11th World Cup in a row that a European team finished third.

"It was a great game, we still can't measure what happened today. Only after a few days we will realise how big this victory is," Orsic said after the game.

"It was the most important game of my career and I'd like to dedicate it to my family and all the Croatian fans."

Morocco coach Walid Regragui said he was "a bit disappointed" with a second consecutive defeat but that "they did everything".

"Our players got very tired. We're going to learn a lot from this World Cup and we know we'll need to come back even stronger," he said.

The last time these two

sides faced each other, in the group stage just three weeks ago, the result was a goalless draw. Now, with nothing left to lose, both teams put in a spirited performance for a game that was little like their nervy last encounter.

In an action-packed opening period, Bounou came dangerously close to passing the ball into his own net in the first few seconds of the game. Then Croatia surged in front from a well-rehearsed free kick, as Ivan

# FIFA World Cup: A look at all Golden Boot Winners since 1930

<b>Agency Doha, Dec 18:</b>	<b>1934</b> - Oldrich Nejedly (Czechoslovakia) - 5 goals	<b>1982</b> - Paolo Rossi (Italy) - 6 goals
Going into the finals of the 2022 FIFA World Cup, Lionel Messi and Kylian Mbappe are favourites to win the Golden Boot award, given to the top goal-scorer of the tournament. Both men have 5 goals each in the tournament so far.	<b>1938</b> - Leonidas (Brazil) - 7 goals	<b>1986</b> - Gary Lineker (England) - 6 goals
This will be Messi's final shot at winning the World Cup, a trophy that has eluded his glittering cabinet in his illustrious career.	<b>1950</b> - Ademir (Brazil) - 9 goals	<b>1990</b> - Salvatore Schillaci (Italy) - 6 goals
Below is the list of FIFA World Cup Golden Boot winners (inputs from Xinhua):	<b>1954</b> - Sandor Kocsis (Hungary) - 11 goals	<b>1994</b> - Oleg Salenko (Russia), Hristo Stoichkov (Bulgaria) - 6 goals
<b>1930</b> - Guillermo Stabile (Argentina) - 8 goals	<b>1958</b> - Just Fontaine (France) - 13 goals	<b>1998</b> - Davor Suker (Croatia) - 6 goals
	<b>1962</b> - Florian Albert (Hungary), Valentin Ivanov (Soviet Union), Garrincha (Brazil), Vava (Brazil), Drazen Jerkovic (Yugoslavia), Leonel Sanchez (Chile) - 4 goals	<b>2002</b> - Ronaldo (Brazil) - 8 goals
	<b>1966</b> - Eusebio (Portugal) - 9 goals	<b>2006</b> - Miroslav Klose (Germany) - 5 goals
	<b>1970</b> - Gerd Muller (West Germany) - 10 goals	<b>2010</b> - Thomas Muller (Germany), Wesley Sneijder (Netherlands), David Villa (Spain), Diego Forlan (Uruguay) - 5 goals
	<b>1974</b> - Grzegorz Lato (Poland) - 7 goals	<b>2014</b> - James Rodriguez (Colombia) - 6 goals
	<b>1978</b> - Mario Kempes (Argentina) - 6 goals	<b>2018</b> - Harry Kane (England) - 6 goals

Perisic nodded Lovro Majer's clip into the box back towards a diving Gvardiol, who planted his header into the corner.

But Morocco hit back when Hakim Ziyech's free kick looped up off the head of Majer, allowing Dari to head past Dominik Livakovic in the

top before half-time after 18-year-old Morocco debutant Bilal El Khannous lost the ball deep in his half.

Orsic again went close moments after the restart, his goal-bound effort brushing Jawad El Yamiq and fizzing narrowly past the post.