

Mock Drills as part of Covid emergency preparedness to conduct across the country

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 26:

Union Health Ministry has written to all the States and Union Territories to hold a mock drill to ensure operational readiness at health facilities for the management of Covid-19 on Tuesday, December 27.

In a letter to the Additional Chief Secretary, Principal Secretary and Secretary (Health) of all States and Union Territories, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan on Saturday said that the objective of this exercise is to ensure operational readiness of these health facilities for the management of COVID.

During the mock drill, focus will be on the availability of health facilities, bed capacities, optimal availability of human resources including doctors, nurses and paramedics, availability of advanced and basic life support ambulances, testing capacities and medical oxygen. The mock drill may be done under the overall guidance of District Collectors in close consultation with officers of the Health Department of the State and Union Territories, the letter read.

While the states are gearing up for the mock drill to as-

China discontinues publishing daily Covid-19 data

Agency
Beijing, Dec 26:

China's National Health Commission on Sunday stopped publishing daily Covid-19 data amid doubts on its reliability, reported Reuters. The country has reported a significant surge in cases of Covid-19 in the recent weeks, with an increase in number of hospitalisations as well.

"Relevant Covid information will be published by the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention for reference and research," the commission said in a statement, reported the news agency. The health body, however, has not provided any reason to show why they

have discontinued sharing data.

The development came after the World Health Organization said on December 21 that it had received no data from China about the recent surge of infections in the country.

The global health body's Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Wednesday had said that the agency needs more information about admissions to hospitals and the requirements of intensive care units to assess the situation related to the virus in China.

According to an internal estimate from China's top health officials, 25 crore persons or 18% of the population in the country may have caught Covid-19 infection in

the first 20 days of December, a report by the *Financial Times* said.

It is estimated that 3.7 crore infections were reported on December 20 alone, said the report citing deputy director of the Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention Sun Yang's health briefing in a closed-door meeting.

The massive spike in infections is believed to have taken place after Beijing relaxed its zero-Covid policy. The country also narrowed down its definition of Covid deaths earlier this week, drastically cutting its death statistics. The health officials are counting only those from Covid-caused pneumonia or respiratory failure, reported Reuters.

sess Covid-19 infrastructure — beds, oxygen infrastructure, ventilation units etc, the installed pressure swing adsorption plants in Gujarat would be able to cater to more than 50 per cent requirement of medical oxygen, if such a need arises.

Maharashtra Chief Minis-

ter Eknath Shinde held a review meeting last week, and said that precautions are being taken in Maharashtra in the wake of the outbreak of virus. He appealed to the citizens not to panic, in a tweet. Maharashtra Health Secretary Sanjay Khandare on Sunday said that only gov-

ernment facilities would be a part of the mock drill on Tuesday.

India recorded 227 new Covid-19 infections, while the active cases increased to 3,424, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday.

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WMC stages protest at Delhi demanding SC status; submits memorandum to PM

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

Volunteers of the World Meitei Council (WMC) staged a Sit-in-protest at Jantar Mantar demanding the inclusion of the Meitei in the list of Scheduled Tribes of the Indian Constitution.

A statement from the WMC said that the demand for the inclusion of Meitei in the ST list is a long overdue on the part of the government. As for the state government, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had told that he had already submitted all the necessary papers including the reports etc as desired by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi.



"The Ball is in the court of the centre so WMC appeals earnestly to the Centre to expedite the process so that the Meitei people can live as rightful citizens in their own state of Manipur," said WMC National Spokesperson Mr.

Nabakishore Yumnam, who is also the president of WMC Assam unit.

While answering questions about Kuki-Chin people, the Chairman WMC Mr. Heigrujam Nabashyam made it clear that WMC has taken up

the case of Kuki-Chin people's legal maintainability even when they are migrants or children of migrants. A memorandum was also submitted to the Hon'ble Prime Minister from the Premises of Jantar Mantar Delhi.

Free Eye Check-up

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

Free Eye Check-up camp organised by Kwasiphai Youths Volunteer Organisation (KYVO) in collaboration with YAIMA EYE HOSPITAL at Kwasiphai Mamang Leikai Community Hall. Today 118 persons were checked up and 12 persons will undergo operation in free of Course (CMHT Card, PMJAY Card). Camp will continue till 100 percent cover of Kwasiphai village in different phase in revolutionary spirit.

Bridge constructed at Sekmai without any help of government

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

One RCC Bridge constructed at the middle of Awang Sekmai Community Hall to NH2 road known as A Kangjengleima bridge by Awang Sekmai Schedule Caste Development Committee (ASSCDC) without any help of Government was inaugurated today ASSCDC president of Khwairakpam Surjamani and handed over to the people of that area.

Ex MLA of Sekmai A/C Khwairakpam Devendra ; Khwairakpam Ishwarachandra , Committee Secretary; Khwairakpam Anil, Committee Treasurer, Khwairakpam Nilamani , Khullakpa of Sekmai Khul ; Angom Brajamani , Retd. EO ; Moirangthem Borajao , Retd AE; Yumkhaibam Yaima , Maiba Pural of Sekmai and others committee members attended that inauguration Function of the bridge.

Speaking on the occasion

president of ASSCDC, Khwairakpam Surjamani said that the bridge is constructed at the cost of around 7 lakhs without any help of Government . He said that the committee has already constructed and handed over 4 Sports Pavilion to the people.

The Ex MLA of Sekmai A/C Khwairakpam Devendra said that this ASSCDC Committee is formed by the 2 members of 22 Singlup of Sekmai

State observes 'Good Governance Day'; inaugurates Nungoi Bridge



IT News

Imphal, Dec 26:

Commemorating the 98th Birth Anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the state government of Manipur observed 'Good Governance Day' on Sunday.

In connection with the observance, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated a Bridge over Irl River (Package No. MN04111 (Under PMGSY Scheme) at Nungoi Mapa.

A formal function Good Governance Day was held at Litan Makhong Youth Club Ground. In connection with the day, the Chief Minister of Manipur inaugurated the Nungoi Bridge constructed over Irl River under PMGSY.

Addressing the function, the Chief Minister deliberated on the benefits of schemes like Go to Hills and Go to Village and said these schemes have helped in understanding the necessities of the rural areas and interior hill districts and delivering to them.

Referring to the parental role of the government for the more than 35 communities inhabiting the State, N. Biren Singh expressed that the government must look after the requirements of all communities to encourage oneness, and unity among the people.

During the past term, the government had lost more than two and half years to the COVID Pandemic and another six-seven months this term due to the rains, however, with

blessings from the people and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we were able to initiate development works in the State, he said.

The Good Governance Day observed on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee is about working for the public and make the government for the public, he said.

The Chief Minister also highlighted several welfare schemes of the government like the old age pension scheme, health benefit, etc and said delivering welfare benefits of these schemes to the doorsteps of the public is a part of good governance, he added.

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Meets on ILPS guidelines held; demands to strengthen the guidelines

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

While appreciating the Chief Minister of Manipur, N. Biren Singh for launching the upgraded ILP Portal, the Joint Committee on Inner Line Permit System has demanded to strengthen the guidelines of the ILPS.

In a meeting held at Mayanglanging Community Hall, jointly organized by JCILPS, Mayang Langing Semgat Nupi Lup and Meitei Enat Kanba Lup, Akham, issues on the need for strengthening the ILPS guidelines were discussed in

depth.

The meeting reiterated its demands to ban the selling of land to outsiders under Section 7 of the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation, 1873.

The meeting also demanded to define the Indigenous persons and Permanent Residents mentioned in Section 3 and Section 8 (1) of the Manipur Inner Line Permit Guideline. It further demanded to establish the Manipur Land Reform Commission and also to assure penalties to violators of the guidelines if the MILPG under section 20.

On the other hand the

meeting, while taking serious notes on the Cut-off base year of the people of the Manipur also demanded to include 1951 as the base year and also to establish the Manipur State Population Commission.

The meeting presided over by Phulindro Kansom, further discussed the need for checking those Non-Manipuri who have procured the ILPS permit using fake Aadhaar cards or Voter Id. It further demanded to conduct a frequent drives to check the Non-Manipuris without ILPS permits or those with fake ILPS permit.

Meritorious and talented sportspersons felicitated

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

Youth Voluntary Association (YOVA) club of Khergao in Imphal East district today organized a felicitation function of meritorious students and talented sportspersons of Kshetrigao Part -I and Part -2.

MLA Sheikh Noorul Hassan of Kshetrigao Assem-

bly Constituency, while speaking on the occasion as chief guest appealed the youths and students to work harder. He said that punctuality, dedication and seriousness is the key to success for students and youths at any field.

In connection with the CM's War on drug, Noorul Hassan warns the drug dealers of kshetrigao assembly constituency. He said there will

be no excuse to the drug dealers if caught by the government.

Social Scientist, Dr. Dhanabir Laishram, who attended the occasion encouraged the youths and to work harder besides maintaining discipline.

All together 250 meritorious students and talented sportspersons were felicitated by handing over awards.

Christmas – Spirituality of the Christmas Tree - Nurturing the Human Tree

By: Prof. (Dr.) Jayadeba Sahoo

Christmas or Christmas Day is an auspicious religious festival for Christians celebrated with great fervor to commemorate the birth and life of Lord Jesus Christ. Christmas tree, known as Yule tree, has a distinctive significance in this festival. The Christmas tree is adorned with beautifully wrapped gifts, ribbons and attractive items to make the occasion more pleasant. But with the growing awareness to protect trees and go eco-friendly, people now opting for artificial Yule tree at their houses to observe Christmas. The Christmas tree as we know it today started as a tradition in 16th Century Europe and is now a universal symbol for this holy time of year. Let's look at the deeper significance of some of the elements that go to make up the Christmas tree.

The depiction of a tree as a metaphor for life is one that occurs innumerable times in many cultures, ancient civilizations, mythology, and various faith traditions. As the 'Tree of Life' it can represent the 'family of humanity' – all the leaves representing the souls of the earth living together as one; as the variety of religions – each 'branch' emanates from the same seed and trunk; and the eternal flow of life is implicit in the question: Which came first, the seed or the tree?

The Christmas tree is wonderfully decorated with ornaments of all kinds, reflecting the beauty and uniqueness of each human being in the world.

What brings the whole tree to life are the lights. Each one of us is like a light on the tree, with a potential to shine light to the world, once the soul is lit by the Eternal Flame of Truth. How alive and bright is your light?

At Christmas, an evergreen tree is always used, reminding us that life is not just here and now, but it is eternal. The seed of any tree is hidden deep below, it does its work silently, unseen, and yet from it springs the whole miraculous creation with its beauty and diversity and its different functions; the roots, branches, twigs, leaves and ultimately, its fruit. Again, the seed is a symbolic reminder of the Supreme Seed, One Almighty who is the Creator of all.

And at the top of the tree we often find a star; the One light that stands over all creation, the One that we will ultimately go back to. It also represents the sign of the nativity, of new life, new hope, when the 'Light of the World' brings newness... light into the dark world.

Angels abound at Christmas time. Messengers of God, embodiments of pure consciousness, they remind us of the highest virtues to which we should all aspire. Angels always have wings to remind us to stay light and keep our thoughts elevated and beyond the earthly plane. An angel's feet never touch the earth, they are eternally conscious of who they are, spirits, rather than matter. So too, we should remember our divine nature, and not simply be engrossed in all things physical. Angels are shown as neither male nor female, but an embodiment of all masculine and feminine qualities, such as courage, power and steadfastness; and benevolence, love and loyalty.

We are all acutely aware that we are going through a dark period in the world right now, where corruption, violence and peacefulness are in their most extreme form. Yet the message of Christmas persists: Peace and Love. We live in hope and with certainty. It's interesting that, at the most difficult times in our lives the light of the Supreme, if we are mindful of it, seems to us brighter and more attractive than ever. Likewise, at this darkest time of the world, God's gifts are unlimited and on offer to each of us, if we only have eyes to see, and the heart to grasp the opportunity.

Locked within the soul is a memory of that brilliance that we came from. Perhaps this is how the myth of Santa Claus arose: a memorial of the One who comes to us at our darkest times, laden with treasures: Peace love and happiness to name just a few. Surely this is that time when our consciousness is being enlightened and a new age is dawning. It's time... This period when Iron Age or Kaliyuga (Dark Age) is coming to an end and the Golden Age or Satya Yuga is about to commence is the present time, called Confluence Age or Sangamayuga (Transition Period). Jesus says, "When you see a cloud coming up in the west, at once you say, 'It is going to rain,' and it does. And when you feel the south wind blowing, you say 'It is going to get hot,' and it does. Hypocrites! You can look at the earth and sky and tell what it means; why, then, don't you know the meaning of this present time?" (Luke 12:54-56) Jesus also says, "But I tell you the truth: it is better for you that I go away because if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. And when He comes He will prove to the people of the world that they are wrong about what is right, and about God's judgment..." (John 16:7-8 GNBK). I have much more to tell you, but now it would be too much for you to hear. But in the Spirit of Truth-GOD comes, He will lead you into all truth. (John 16:12-14, NCV)

On this special festival it is imperative for all to be awakened from that deep slumber of ignorance and be connected constantly with the Supreme Light through meditation. So, let us all irrespective of different religious faith celebrate this 'Christmas' to empower our self through process of Supreme Communion (Raja Yoga) with Him to inculcate His Supreme Commands of Universal Values to establish a "Value Based Happy Society of Culture of Peace & Non Violence" - our most cherished desire. The understanding of this eternal truth will usher in religious harmony & world peace. Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University has been engaged in this task for last 78 years since its inception in 1936-37.

The true way of celebrating 'Christmas' would be to realize the significance of the present auspicious time (Sangam Yuga, which is end of Kaliyuga - Iron Age and the beginning of Satyuga - Golden Age) and by pledging to discard all negative traits such as anger, greed, ego and lust and by leading a life filled of universal spiritual love, compassion, respect, humility, cooperation, responsibility, divinity to establish a "Value Based Happy Society of Culture of Peace & Non Violence". Experience light, feel light, be light, spread light, for you are the Light of the world.

It's time... at this time of Christmas, no matter what your religion, to see the beauty and joy of the light of each one, the eternal tree of humanity, the abundant spiritual gifts as a reflection of the generosity of the Supreme. Make sure your light is lit, accept the gifts from the Divine and put them into practice. Then 'Goodwill to all Mankind' can truly be proclaimed in the world!

On this auspicious occasion of 'Christmas', take a moment for deep spiritual introspection and free yourselves from the bondage of greed, the lust for power and a slave of promiscuity and make God your eternal companion for true peace, happiness and prosperity.

Happy greetings on the auspicious festival of "Christmas" To All the Souls of the World.

(The author is a Faculty, Brahma Kumaris, RERF & Dean, Faculty of Education, R.G.U.)



By: Fr Paul Lelen Haokip

Every year, the Christmas season brings joy and celebration. Expenses go up in the family, locality, village and communities. There is an investment in decorations, games & sports, competitions, prizes and livestock for the Christmas menu. All these are part of the celebration. The question, we can ask is 'What investment have we made towards peaceful living and peaceful coexistence' as we commemorate the birth of the Prince of Peace?

Antitheses to peace
Duplicity in talk and work is the antithesis of peace at its roots. The trust deficit is another big wet blanket that destroys peace between people. Sectarianism is yet a satanic force that segregates people on the basis of colour, creed, language, and territory. Hyper-ethnic sensitivity is the emerging global phenomenon



By: M.R. Lahu

Almost fifty years before India's independence, a young monk, a mendicant with the power of his spiritual dedication shining in his brilliant eyes, travelled across the country and on 24 December 1892 landed at the southernmost tip of India, Kanyakumari. He was anxious and relentlessly trying to find reasons behind the perils that the country had to live under centuries of invasion. The penniless mendicant swam across the sea waters and sat in deep meditation on the mid-sea rock for three days from 25 to 27 December. That was an event which further turned out to be another milestone in the spiritual history of India since the days of Shankaracharya. The effect of the spiritual purity with which Swami Vivekananda defined the essence of Indianness was overwhelmingly deep in meaning and vision.

Kanyakumari has long been known for its spiritual splendour. The penance of Goddess Parvati for the hands of Lord Shiva depicted in the legends is believed to have taken place here. Pilgrimage of Vivekananda and his meditation on the mid-sea rock added to its spiritual grandeur and it attracts millions of visitors every year. The Vivekananda Memorial at Kanyakumari is an architectural marvel and an edifice of India's spiritual rejuvenation and a pilgrim centre. The Congress party's Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi and the reason possibly the party chose the southern tip as the yatra's inaugural point was the geography of the country. Stretching from Kanyakumari to Kashmir, India is a landscape of socio-spiritual diversity and the Bharat Jodo Yatra led by Rahul Gandhi is probably trying to engrave a symbolic connection from the south to the north of the country. Before he launched his yatra at Kanyakumari, Rahul Gandhi paid a visit to the rock memorial. I am not sure if he was aware of the fact that the very rock

Can this Christmas be a time of Peace?

that asserts to preserve one's community at the expense of others – a movement that is directly not helpful for the peaceful coexistence of people. The uninvited involvement of external forces in a particular family, society, group or community inherently disturbs the peaceful atmosphere, thereby leading to rifts and emotional distancing. False promises to people are also an enemy of peace. At the least, false promises are a direct disrespect to the sensibility and intellect of the crowd. Proclaiming that we are Christians but constantly in conflict with other people (Christians or non-Christians) is also a counter-witness of Christianity. Reckless, speedy and drunken driving and riding during Christmas are usual phenomena that can cause accidents and disturb peace in the family. It is time to keep ourselves away from forces that disturb peace.

Peace initiatives
Peace is a costly state of affairs. Nations are paying through their nose to establish peace or disturb an existing peaceful situation. Governments are trying their best to restore, maintain or initiate peace. Conflict is the opposite of peace. Conflicts at home, in the village, at the ethnic level, and community level expand and bring about disharmony. Peace cannot be spoken or initiated only during Christmas time or just before political elections or during

some community functions. But peace should be nurtured in every stage of life – at the personal level, the familial level, community level. Peace is one such entity that cannot be artificially established by anyone (powerful or weak). Peace needs genuineness of purpose and work. Infrastructural development – roads, waterways, airways, schools, colleges, hospitals, communication facilities, and digital transactions amenities are some concrete examples that initiate peace and stability in the minds of people. These initiatives enliven the minds of people that they are precious and their development is important for the overall growth of society. Humans should create respect and care for the environment to experience peace.

Prince of Peace

The birth of Jesus was a harbinger of peace. "And suddenly there appeared with the angel a great multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests'". When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us'" (Luke 2:13-15). Although Jesus did not have peace during his public ministry in Palestine, He is still called the Prince

of Peace. His way of life and vision challenged the then-powers that be. He was peaceful from the inside but his works apparently created unrest within the power structures. The type of peace Jesus wanted to establish was in contrast to the world peace of the time. Jesus tried his best to uplift the poor and challenged the oppressing structures. Ultimately, he made peace with God and humans with his supreme sacrifice on the cross. Therefore, Christmas symbolizes peace and tranquility for humanity.

Personal involvement in the Christmas celebration demands mental, emotional and spiritual preparedness. If you want peace, it is possible to have, provided you do your homework. If Christmas is for the rich to have lavish celebrations while the poor survive with minimum food and dress, I don't think, there will be peace. If Christmas is a time when the powerful snatch poor people's resources/funds/benefits I don't think, there will be peace. If Christmas is a time for honey-coated speeches without genuine intentions for peaceful coexistence, I doubt, there would be lasting peace. Can this Christmas be a time of peace? How?

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Monument of a spiritual luminary

was once a platform for another nationwide unification programme. Undoubtedly, Vivekananda's spiritual renaissance mission began on the same rock but a movement to establish a monument for the saint on the same rock later became another historic initiative.

January 1962 was the right time for India to thankfully remember the patriotic saint as that was the year of his birth centenary. There had been serious plans to bring the mid-sea rock into limelight and the meditation of the saint on the rock was to be given a meaningful obeisance. Building a memorial on the rock was the dominant idea. While resistance from various corners turned the whole memorial mission a complete mishmash, the RSS stepped in with its former General Secretary Eknath Ranade being deputed to nationally mobilize the memorial movement. Emboldened by the public support, Eknath Ranade went ahead with the memorial mission. But the memorial movement in the mid-sea rock had often been blocked by sharks from Indian politics. Though they had respect for Swami Vivekananda, they disregarded and disagreed with the memorial construction on the natural rock surrounded by water. But Ranade's indefatigable efforts began to see light on the other side of the tunnel.

Breaking all administrative and political barriers, Ranade could successfully convince 323 members of the Indian parliament securing their signatures in support of the memo-

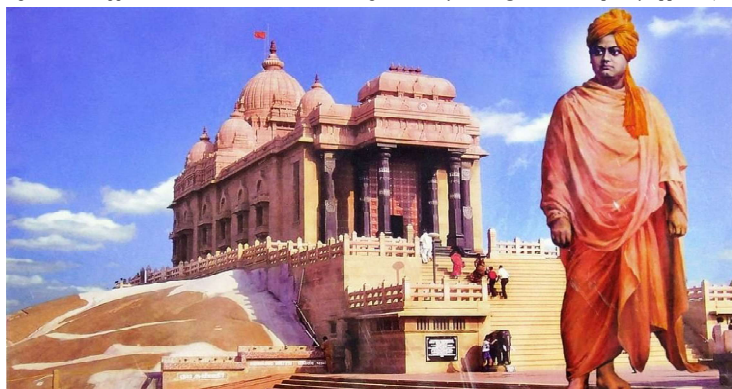
rial which included members from the Left as well as the Congress. What was more interesting about his endeavour was the fundraising. He opted to collect one rupee each from every Indian through coupon distribution from across the country. And the idea behind such a move was to bring the socio-spiritual sensibility of the country for one noble cause and amazingly India responded to such a move with complete earnestness. Cutting across party lines Eknath Ranade wanted the top leaders from major political parties to become the Vice-presidents of the movement. His visit to Jyoti Basu the Deputy Chief Minister of West Bengal had an interesting element. Jyoti Basu refused his invitation saying the Communist Party's ethos fundamentally disagreed with everything that was spiritual. But Eknath Ranade skillfully managed to bring in Jyoti Basu's wife into the memorial movement and she became a fund collector for the national monument. The memorial with its legendary architectural magnificence came into existence in 1970.

India, after 75 years of its independence can't be silent on the stormy patriotic saint Swami Vivekananda who regarded this land as the holiest and sensed the reasons behind its social downfall and centuries of invasion. His endeavour to gloriously depict India's cultural heritage across the globe holds significance even today. For a precise understanding we can say that

he was the first spiritual ambassador of India to the west who brought massive respect for Indian spiritual wisdom in the western soil. More than that, his efforts were genuinely stupendous due to his mastery in English. Ideological interactions he started with the west were continued by many others who followed his path. Marching through its Amrit Kaal, the next 25 years are going to be so crucial for India and the thoughts for humanity that Vivekananda extensively espoused would hold relevance for centuries.

He could proclaim the inclusiveness of Hinduism to the world with its intellectual depth while different religions competed to prove each other as unacceptable, uncharacteristic and brittle by essence. The dharmic values of Hinduism and their applicability to a deeply polarised world were his agenda and propaganda. The spiritual eloquence Swami Vivekananda dealt the world with had an effect of the reflections that he garnered from his deep meditation on the rock. He later talked vividly about the plan that he hit upon for his nation and spelt out his love for the poor who suffered unbearable hopelessness in their life due to ignorance. India's Amrit Kaal can be a dedication to the dreams and beliefs that Swami Vivekananda lived for – a remarkable time to strive and a golden opportunity to enhance its spiritual stamina.

(The author is a Freelance Journalist / Author of the book India @75-A Contemporary Approach)



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Health Minister to hold meet with top doctors' body on Covid situation

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 26:

Christmas was celebrated on Sunday across India without restrictions after two years as the government keeps a tab on the Covid situation in the country while neighbouring China tackles with what has been labelled as the world's worst outbreak currently. About 18 per cent of the Chinese population - which is over 200 million people - has contracted the virus this month, as per the data revealed in the leaked report by the National Health Commission which has been cited in multiple reports. In India, meanwhile, authorities have been sending out reminders to mask up and ensure use of sanitisers and not let the guards down. On Monday, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya is

set to hold a meeting with top medical body - the Indian Medical Association (IMA) - to take stock of the situation, news agency ANI reported.

Here are ten updates on the Covid situation:

1) Prime Minister Narendra Modi - in his monthly radio address of 'Mann Ki Baat' - on Sunday said that many nations are seeing an uptick in Covid cases while he reminded that taking precautions was necessary.

2) "You are also seeing that corona is increasing in many countries of the world, so we have to take more care of precautions like masks and hand washing. If we are vigilant, then we will be safe and there will be no hindrance in our gaiety," PM Modi said.

3) On Sunday, officials in Uttar Pradesh said a 40-year-old man - who returned from

China two days back - had tested positive for Covid after which was isolated at his home in Agra; the samples will be sent for genome sequencing. "The man has been isolated at his home and teams of the health department have been asked to conduct tests of his family members and those who came in contact with him," Chief Medical Officer Arun Srivastava said.

4) The case has gained spotlight because China Covid surge is said to be driven by BF.7 - a subvariant of highly infectious Omicron variant of Covid. India has reported at least four cases so far.

5) Since last week, the government has been exchanging information with states on Covid preparedness. The government has insisted on surveillance amid a bid to keep a track of variants.

6) While China is witnessing packed ICUs and crematoriums, India is not seeing an uptick in cases. The daily tally has largely remained below the 250-mark over the last few days.

7) Christmas celebrations are over but the country is set to welcome New Year this week and events and gatherings are likely.

8) Authorities have been reminding people to wear masks in crowded places while it's not mandatory yet.

9) Screening at airports began on Saturday for international passengers as the government also announced mandatory RT-PCR test reports for those coming from China, Thailand, Japan, South Korea and Singapore.

10) Authorities are not considering tough measures as yet as experts advise officials to not panic.

India to Procure "Pralay" Missiles to Deploy them at LAC with China and Pakistan



Two consecutive flight tests of "Pralay" carried out by DRDO last year. (Photo credit: DRDO).

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 26:

The Ministry of Defence has cleared the procurement of around 120 "Pralay" ballistic missiles for the Indian armed forces to deploy them along the borders with China and Pakistan.

According to the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), the indigenously developed missile, is a tactical, surface-to-surface, and short-range ballistic missile for the use in the battlefield.

The maiden flight test of "Pralay" was successfully conducted on December 22, 2021 followed by second flight-test next day from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.

"Pralay", along with the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile will be the longest-range tactical weapon system in the defence forces as the long-range strategic weapons are controlled by the strategic forces command. DRDO started developing the missile in 2015 and took four years to test the required technologies. Both China and Pakistan

have ballistic missiles which are for tactical roles. "Pralay" is intended to be India's answer to the Dongfeng 12 (CSS-X-15) missile of China.

The features of the Pralay missile

The Missile is powered with solid propellant rocket motor and many new technologies. The missile has a range of 150-500 km and can be launched from a mobile launcher. The missile guidance system includes state-of-the-art navigation system and integrated avionics. It is designed to destroy enemy radar and communication installations, command and control centres and airfields. It fulfils the Indian Army's requirement of a conventionally armed tactical ballistic missile. It is powered by solid fuel rocket motor and follows quasi-ballistic trajectory, utilises a composite propellant which generates more energy compared to the propellant used for the Agni missile series.

Developments
The missile is being pro-

cured amid renewed tensions with China along the LAC following the clashes in Arunachal Pradesh's Tawang. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had told Parliament on December 13, that the Chinese troops tried to "unilaterally" change the status quo in the Yangtse area in Tawang sector but the Indian Army compelled them to retreat by its firm response.

Besides, there was no visible outcome from the 17th round of India-China Corps Commander level meeting held on December 20 at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point, to exchange views to resolve the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector. The Indian side pointed out the issues at the friction points of Demchok and Depsang in eastern Ladakh. However after 10 hour long meeting, the two sides merely agreed to maintain the stability and stay in close contact through military and diplomatic channels, to resolve remaining issues.

Marginal decline in Covid cases today; 196 infected in 24 hrs; Active Covid cases in country rise to 3,428

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 26:

While Covid-19 cases have resurged in several countries, in India the number of infections declined marginally on Monday, according to the latest data from the Union Health Ministry. India on Monday logged 196 new coronavirus infections whereas yesterday, 201 Covid cases were reported.

However, the active cases of Covid-19 have marginally increased to 3,428. An increase of four cases has been recorded in the active Covid caseload in a span of 24 hours. The death toll due to

coronavirus infection stands at 5,30,695 with two fatalities reconciled by Kerala.

According to the Union Health Ministry, as many as 35,173 Covid tests were conducted in the country in the past 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.56%, while the weekly positivity was pegged at 0.16%, the ministry said.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,43,179 while the overall infection tally stands at 4.46 crore.

The fear of a new Covid wave has loomed again in the country due to the sudden

emergence of new subvariant BF.7 of Omicron virus in China, especially. Some 37 million people in China may have been infected with Covid-19 on a single day this week, UK-based Financial Times (FT) reported.

Consequently, the Centre and state governments have been ramped up the testing and vaccination process in the country. Several states have made masks mandatory in crowded places. Whereas airports have been directed to randomly test international passengers coming from China, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, and Thailand. The government has made random coronavirus test-

ing mandatory for 2% of passengers arriving on each international flight.

Yesterday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked people to be vigilant and take precautions against Covid-19.

In his last 'Mann Ki Baat' broadcast of the year, PM Modi urged people to follow protocols like wearing masks and washing hands to ensure that their enjoyment is not affected adversely by the virus.

The central government has stepped up measures against the virus, with the cases on a rise, especially in China where the lifting of the zero-Covid policy has caused a spread of the pandemic.

How to avoid sleep while studying during board exam?



By: Vijay GarG

deal is to ditch sleep and stay awake.

Here some useful tips that you can follow to avoid sleep while studying for long hours.

1. **Keep your study room well lighted**

The biggest mistake most of the students make is studying with just a table lamp lit in the whole room due to which a significant portion of the room remains dark, promoting a cosy environment which would eventually make you more tempted to go to that charming bed with dim surroundings. So, to avoid such a comfy situation, keep your room bright and well lighted.

2. **Sit in a chair, not on the bed**

Your sitting position also matters a lot while studying for long hours. Try to seat yourself in a chair with back support and a table in front. It will help you stay active and alert while studying. On the other hand, if you lie on your bed while studying you may get into lazyness, eventually making you feel sleepy. While sitting on the chair, keep moving your body parts at regular intervals so that you don't go into dormancy.

3. **Avoid heavy meals**

We've all felt that drowsy feeling that sneaks in after a meal and if you have to study with such a snoozing mood

then no one can help it. Actually, after having a heavy meal, you are full and relaxed and you are struggling to keep your eyes open. The lethargy that comes after consuming a heavy diet diminishes the retention power. Also, when you feel lazy, you are more likely to hit the bed. But don't think that you will have to go on starvation to avoid this sluggishness. Instead, you should take your meals early and opt for small meals.

4. **Drink lots of water**

Here, water is being recommended not only to keep you hydrated but also to keep you alert. Actually, it's the best trick that most of the students apply while studying. When you drink a considerable quantity of water, you will have to make frequent trips to bathroom for a pee, keeping you moving and alert. Moreover, drinking an adequate quantity of water helps to keep the brain well hydrated, increasing its memory and retention power.

5. **Follow 'Early to bed, early to rise' funda**

This comes from a famous saying, "Early to bed, early to rise makes a man healthy, wealthy and wise". This is absolutely true because if you manage to go to sleep early at night then you will get adequate sleep, waking up to a fresh and energetic day. With a

fresh mind, you can concentrate on your studies quite well. A fresh mind has a better concentration power to retain information.

6. **Take a nap in the afternoon**

If you have been continuously studying since morning, then an afternoon nap is a must to save your brain from getting exhausted. It would also help you avoid sleep during studying late at night. A short nap is enough to keep you alert keeping the drowsiness away.

7. **Keep your body parts alert and awake**

If you keep on studying with the same stagnant position for long hours, then you are more likely to get surrounded by laziness and drowsiness. So, the moment you start feeling sleepy, get up from your chair and move around in your room and stretch your legs and arms. You may study while walking around your room. It has been observed that study while walking, not only helps in avoiding sleep but also enhances concentration.

8. **Read out aloud while studying**

This trick works really well to keep away the lethargy. It minimizes the chances of falling asleep while studying. It has something to do with listening to your own voice. Try to teach yourself like the teacher

explains a topic in the classroom. This will not only help to throw away the drowsiness but also to improve your learning power.

9. **Learn by writing**

If you keep on reading the text to be learned then it will create a monotonous situation due to which you are more likely to start feeling bored which will ultimately give an invitation to sleepiness. To keep the lethargy away, you are advised not to merely be a spectator, but learn by writing so that your brain remains active doing the pen and paper work and recalling the things you have learned.

10. **Avoid studying difficult topics at night**

During the night you feel more sluggish if you are solving complex problems or trying to learn difficult topics. Try to tackle only the light and easy portions of the syllabus at night. Leave the tough portions for daytime when your body and brain are fresh and active. For the late night study, pick only those topics which are easy, interesting and are your favourite ones.

So, dear students, if you want to earn those extra grades by sacrificing your sleep, then the above stated tricks will surely help you to meet your desired academic goals.

Assam Rifles conducted Coordination Meet

IT News
Imphal, Dec 26:

Somsai and Chassad Battalions Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR(South), conducted Coordination Meet cum Christmas celebration at Poi, Tusom, Phaikoh and Thana Villages in Ukhrul and Kamjong District, Manipur yesterday.

The security coordination meet was organised to emphasize the coordination with villagers and also to review the security of the border area villages specially during Christmas Day Celebration.

The Village Authorities applauded the efforts made by Assam Rifles for undertaking such initiative.

Wallet Lost

I, the undersigned, Thounaojam Nanaoba (30), had lost my Dark Brown colour wallet containing Service ID Card, Voter ID, PAN Card, SBI ATM Cards, Driving License, on the way between Haobam Marak Keisham Leikai and Mongsangei School Leirak in Imphal West District on December 25, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Thounaojam Nanaoba (age 30)
S/o Th. Sunder
Mongsangei School Leirak
Imphal West district
Contact No.: 7005152664

Marksheet and Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, Thokchom Prem Singh, has lost my Original Certificate for my Class-X Examination, issued by the Board of Secondary Education Manipur (BOSEM) bearing Roll No. 28340 of 1988 and also my Original Mark Sheet of my Class 12 Examination, issued by the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur (COHSEM), bearing Roll No. 17244 of 2021 on the way between Singamei to Paona Bazar on December 15, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Thokchom Prem Singh
Contact no.: 8787813513

Year-End- Review of Department of Textiles - 2022 Investment to the tune of Rs. 1536 crore approximately made so far under PLI Scheme

PIB
New Delhi, Dec 26:

From receiving proposals under PM Mitra to investment under PLI Scheme, it was an eventful year for Ministry of Textiles. The Ministry provided financial assistance to handloom sector and organized several Handicraft exhibitions.

Some of the key initiatives and achievements of the Ministry in the year 2022 are:

PLI Scheme

Government has launched the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme with an approved outlay of Rs. 10,683 crore to promote production of MMF Apparel, MMF Fabrics and Products of Technical Textiles in the country to enable Textiles Industry to achieve size and scale and to become competitive. Applications under PLI Scheme for Textiles were received through web portal from 01.01.2022 to 28.02.2022. A total of 67 applications have been received. Selection Committee chaired by Secretary (Textiles) has selected 64 applicants under the scheme. 56 applicants have completed the mandatory criteria for formation of a new company and approval letters have been issued to them. Investment to the tune of Rs. 1536 crore approximately has been made so far. Quality Control Order wrt VSF is under issuance.

PM MITRA
The Government had approved setting up of 7 (seven)

Corrigendum

This is to clarify that, Imphal Times had made an error by mentioning Chandel district at the news article under the heading "Mob sets ablaze police station after cop allegedly shot dead a woman in Kakching". As per official record Pallel Police Station actually comes under the Kakching district. The error is regretted.

Editor

PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Parks to develop world class infrastructure including plug and play facility with an outlay of Rs. 4445 crore for a period up to 2027-28. The guidelines in respect of scheme have been published and there have been multiple interactions with State Governments for inviting proposals. In response 18 proposals from 13 States have been received. National Conference was organized on 04.05.2022 for discussion on proposals with the Senior Officers from State Governments and Industry Associations. Evaluation of proposed PM MITRA park sites was done through Gati Shakti portal to understand locational advantage. As of now detailed scrutiny for selection of sites through challenge matrix is underway.

National Technical Textile Mission (NTTM)

Under NTTM, 74 research proposals valuing Rs. 232 cr have been approved in the category of speciality fibre and technical textile. For market development and promotion of technical textiles, 4 major conferences have been organised viz. (i) International conference with CII in Delhi on 12/03/22, (ii) Conference on Geotech and Agrotech with ICC at Imphal on 23/08/2022, (iii) National conclave on protective textiles on 16/11/2022 at Delhi and (iv) International conference with CII and Govt. of TN on 25-26 November 2022 in Chennai. 31 new HSN codes have been developed in the technical textiles sector. SRTEPC have been assigned the role of export promotion council for technical textiles.

Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS)

Investment of Rs. 10,218 crore confirmed by the industry in 2443 subsidy cases. A total of Rs. 621.41 croresubsidy was released in 3159 cases under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme and

Special campaigns organized at major clusters for settling backlog cases.

SAMARTH

A total of 73919 persons (SC: 18194, ST:8877 and Women: 64352) have been provided training of which 38823 persons were provided placement under SAMARTH – Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector

National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)

A new Campus at Daman was made operational for the academic session 2022-23. Moreover new Campus Buildings for Bhopal and Srinagar are also coming up.

Silk Sector

The total Raw Silk production was 28106 MT. R&D projects numbering 44 were initiated and 23 were concluded with the achievement of training 9777 persons in various activities related to silk sector.

Jute Sector

JUTE-ICARE (Improved Cultivation And Advanced Retting Exercise) Scheme covers 170 jute growing blocks with 1,89,483 hectare had benefited 4,20,309 jute farmers. Export Performance has improved due to Market Development & Promotion Scheme (MDPS) as export performance rose by 38% from the last year with current value at Rs. 3786 crore. The value of exported Jute Diversified Products is Rs. 1744 crore with increasing trend by 46% from the last year. A total quantity of around 26.87 lakh bales of jute bags worth Rs. 9,80 thousand crores (approx.) have been benefited.

Cotton Sector

Cotton cultivation has been increased by 5% to 125.02 lakh hectare as against 119.10 lakh hectare during last year. Brand named KASTURICOTTON INDIA for Indian cotton has been launched and to encourage mechanized harvesting of cotton, improving quality of cotton and to reduce labour cost. Further 75000 hand held kapasplucker machines are being distributed.

ing distributed.

Wool Sector

Projects to Animal/Sheep Husbandry Dept., Leh have been approved of revolving fund of Rs.2 Cr for procurement of pashmina wool, distribution of 400 portable tents to Nomads of Leh in order to improve living conditions. Further construction of 300 Predator proof corals for safety of pashmina goat along with project to procure 50 sheep shearing machines to Uttarakhand

Handloom Sector

Financial assistance of Rs. 76.60 Crore has been provided to 91 Handloom Clusters. 1,109 weavers provided improved looms and accessories under HSS. Skill up-gradation training was imparted to 2,107 handloom workers under Handloom Clusters of National Handloom Development Programme. Assistance amounting to Rs. 18.49 crore has been released for 141 marketing events. Moreover assistance of Rs. 10.40 crore has also been released for various activities sanctioned to Mega Handloom Clusters under Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme. 102.05 lakh kg of yarn was supplied under transport subsidy component, 73.79 lakh kg of yarn supplied under-price subsidy component and total of 175.84 lakh kg of yarn supplied under Raw Material Supply Scheme (RMSS).

Handicrafts Sector

A total of 272 marketing events were organized, benefiting 19330 artisans. Panchan cards were issued to 30 lakh artisan and uploaded on public domain. 52 artisan Producer Companies were formed and supported. 418 training programme and Design workshops were conducted benefiting 12480 artisans. Modern Toolkit were distributed to 13579 artisans. Shipil Guru & National Awards for the years 2017,2018&2019 were awarded to 108 artisans.

International Manipuri Short Story Festival held in Bangladesh

IT News
Imphal/ Sylhet, Dec 26:

Bangladesh Manipuri Sahitya Sangsad – Sylhet and Manipuri Short Story Society – India jointly organized the 3-day International Manipuri Short Story Festival 2022.

The International Manipuri Short Story Festival 2022 began at the Zilla Parishad conference hall in Sylhet, Bangladesh on Sunday.

Sylhet divisional commissioner Dr Muhammad Mosharraf Hossain was the chief guest on the occasion.

On the first day of the festival, Sinam Tanubabu Memorial International

Award 2022 was conferred on Mutum Ramani Devi for her book "Fongngamdraba Cheinakhol" a collection of Manipuri short stories. Mutum Ramani Devi is a resident of Kwaikethel Thokhom Leikai in Imphal, Manipur.

The lifetime achievement award of the Manipuri Short Story Society, India (Rajkumar Sitaljit Memorial Award) was presented to AK Seram, a resident of Sylhet in Bangladesh.

A book titled – "Panthung Tamna" a collection of Manipuri short stories was also released on the occasion.

Two books on Manipuri short stories written by

Lairenlakpam Ngouba and Usharani Devi were also released as a part of the function.

Bangladesh Manipuri Sahitya Sangsad – Sylhet president AK Seram while delivering his speech at the function said that only two books on Manipuri short stories have so far been published in Bangladesh.

A total of 26 writers from India (Manipur and Assam) and Bangladesh read out their short stories in the second session of the symposium on the first day of the festival.

Notably, Manipuris are among the ethnic communities scattered in different parts of Bangladesh.

Contd. from Page 1

State observes 'Good Governance Day'...

The Chief Minister also expressed his pleasure with the present council of Ministers, who he said are all competent, sincere, hardworking and qualified and reiterated his earlier stand of making Manipur a model State in the country, the Chief Minister

Further highlighting that more than 100 projects across the State will be inaugurated during the Inauguration Month of the government soon, the Chief Minister said that the government's aim is

to complete projects in a time-bound manner with proper quality control.

"We will see visible changes in the State after the inauguration of completed projects in the State", N. Biren added.

The Chief Minister also highlighted various government schemes and urged the public to take their benefits.

Regarding boundary issues between districts and between villages, the Chief Minister urged the public to not

take tension as there is a government and that it was the responsibility and duty of the government to solve all such issues. All such issues are to be solved under law and the Constitution, he added.

The inaugural function was also attended by RD & PR minister Y. Khemchand Singh, Education Minister Th. Basanta Singh, MLA Kh. Ibomcha Singh, MLA Kh. Loken Singh, MLA Th. Shanti, officials of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, among others.

Mock Drills as part of Covid....

Maharashtra on Sunday reported 38 new Covid-19 cases and no new deaths, with Mumbai alone recording nine Covid-19 cases. Across Maharashtra, 20 Covid-19 patients recovered on Sunday, taking Maharashtra's recovery rate to 98.17 percent and the positivity rate 0.34 percent.

After Mumbai, Pune reported 07 Covid-19 cases. The Nagpur Municipal Corporation reported three

new cases and Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation reported two new cases. The Thane Municipal Corporation and Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) reported one case each. The Oxygen bed capacity of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation was shown as 2154.

The Union Health Ministry has made the RT-PCR testing mandatory for international arrivals from China, Japan,

South Korea, Hong Kong and Thailand. If any passenger is found to be symptomatic or tests positive upon arrival from these places, they would be quarantined.

Mumbai airport handles nearly one lakh travellers per day. The airport tests are aimed at a 2 per cent sample of all incoming international travellers. However of 120 samples screened at Mumbai airport on Saturday, none tested positive.

Sports

Santosh Trophy: Jaideep Singh's Hat-trick leads Delhi to first win in Group 1

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 26:

Jaideep Singh's hat-trick handed hosts Delhi their first win in Group 1 of the Hero Santosh Trophy 76th National Senior Men's Football Championship. Karnataka and Gujarat too won their matches in this cluster on Sunday.

Delhi's attitude, which played a goalless draw with Tripura in their first match, looked sharp on Sunday. In a one-sided contest played at the Dr. Ambedkar Stadium, Delhi thrashed new-entrant Laksh 7-0.

In the day's other matches played at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Karnataka defeated Uttarakhand by 3-1 after a hard-fought fight, while Gujarat thrashed Tripura 6-0.

Striker Jaideep Singh, who was the hero of Delhi's victory, scored four goals. Raviraj (18th minute), Ajay Rawat (35th and 90+4 minutes) and Gaurav Chadha (40th minute) were the other scorers for Delhi. The

winning team was leading 3-0 at half-time.

Compared to their last match, Delhi's game looked completely different on Sunday. Notably, the frontline players led the hosts to victory by a huge margin despite missing nearly half a dozen chances.

Jaideep, who was the player of the match, scored his three goals in the 47th, 88th and 90+1 minutes. Both the goals of veteran striker Ajay Singh Rawat (35th and 90+4th minutes) were also paise-worthy.

With Sunday's win, Delhi have moved to the second position in Group 1. They have four points from two matches with one win and one draw. Karnataka are ahead of them on top of Group 1 with six points. Karnataka won their second consecutive match on Sunday. On the other hand, Gujarat are in third place with three points from two matches with one win and one loss. Uttarakhand, Tripura and Laksh have one point each

from a draw in two matches.

Earlier, Karnataka defeated Uttarakhand 3-1 after a tough fight in the first match of the day played at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Jacob John Kattukaren scored the first goal of the match in the 21st minute to give Karnataka the lead. But in the 44th minute, Ajay Bisht equalized for Uttarakhand (1-1). But during stoppage time, Shajan Franklin scored a goal in the 45+3rd minute to put Karnataka ahead 2-1.

In the second half, Uttarakhand played attacking football throughout but just before the end of the match, substitute Ankit P. scored a goal in the 90th+3rd minute to give Karnataka a 3-1 win.

In the third match of the day, Gujarat trounced Tripura 6-0 with Jay Kanani scoring four goals including a hat-trick in the 20th, 67th, 90+2nd and 90+5th minutes. Captain Moinuddin and Dharmesh Parmar were the other scorers for them.

Agency
Bhopal, Dec 26:

Reigning World Champion Nikhat Zareen and Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain continued their fine run to progress to the finals of Women's National Championships on Sunday.

Eight Railways boxers, including 2019 World Championships silver medalist Manju Rani (48kg) and 2017 World Youth Champion Jyoti Gulia (52kg), also made it to the summit clash.

Nikhat (50kg), who is representing Telangana, came fourthly won 5-0 against AIP's Shvinder Kaur to set up a summit clash with Anamika for the coveted yellow medal.

Assam's Lovlina (75 kg) too had an easy outing against Madhya Pradesh's Jigyasa Rajput as she dictated the terms throughout the bout and won by unanimous decision to advance to the finals.

She will be up against 2021 World Youth Champion Arundhati Choudhary of SSCB in the gold medal bout.

Defending Champions Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB), however, dominated the proceedings with eight of their boxers producing some sensational performance in the tournament.

Manju showed great composure against Madhya Pradesh's Anjali Sharma in a one-sided bout. She played from long range and convincingly won the bout 5-0 to set up a final date with S Kalaivani of Tamil Nadu.

Jyoti started on the backfoot against Uttar Pradesh's Sonia and took some time to gauge her opponent's strategy.

However, she bounced back in the last two rounds, played from close distance and landed regular punches to secure a 4-1 verdict in her

favour.

She will square off against SSCB's Sakshi in the final. The other 6 Railways boxers who moved into the finals are Anupama (50 kg), Shiksha (54kg), Poonam (60 kg), Shashi (63 kg), Anupama (81 kg) and Nupur (81+kg).

Last year's World Championships bronze medalist Manisha (57 kg) and World Championships bronze medalist Simranjit Kaur (60 kg) also continued their good run to make it to the final.

Manisha defeated RSPB's Sonia Lather 4-1 in a close bout and will fight against Vinakshi of Himachal Pradesh in the final, while Simranjit got the better of AIP's Kros Hmangaihsang with a comfortable 5-0 unanimous verdict. She will take on RSPB's Poonam in the summit clash.

The on-going prestigious event has been witnessing participation of 302 boxers, competing across 12 weight categories. The finals will be played on Monday.

Passport Lost

I, Doungel Seigoumang, have lost my Passport, bearing No. S8193945, issued by the Government of India on the way between Saikul to Paona Bazar Imphal on December 20, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Doungel Seigoumang
S/o. Thangminlen Doungel
Bunglung Village, P.O. Saikul, Senapati
Pin : 795118, Manipur, India