

Nationwide mock drill underway in hospitals to ensure readiness for COVID-19 management

IT News
Imphal, Dec 27:

A nationwide mock drill is being conducted in all the hospitals today to assess the Covid-19 emergency preparedness in the country.

In Manipur, mock drill has been conducted in all the District Hospitals including RIMS, JNIMS and selected private Hospital.

It is in view of rising Covid-19 cases in some countries. During the drill, resources available in the hospital to fight Covid are being assessed including the infrastructure readiness, with particular focus on oxygen plants, ventilators, logistics and human resources. The decision to carry out the drill comes days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a review meeting on covid situation in the country.

Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya visited Safdarjung Hospital in New Delhi this morning to review the mock drill. Talking to media, he assured that the government is fully prepared to deal with any eventuality if Covid cases increase in the country. The Minister said, mock drills are being conducted across covid hospitals in the country today to make sure people get proper treatment.

The Union Minister said, "I recently reviewed the COVID19



status and preparedness of prevention and management of COVID with State Health Ministers. Mock drills are being conducted across the country today to review the preparedness for management of COVID19, for which clinical readiness at hospitals is crucial. Government as well as private hospitals are undertaking mock drills today. State Health Ministers are reviewing the drills in their respective states".

He had an informal interactive session with Heads of Departments and staff of Safdarjung Hospital and Vardhman Mahavir Medical College. He spent around an hour with the heads of various departments, doctors, nurses,

heads of security and sanitation services and listened with patience to their numerous suggestions on quality hospital management, clinical practices, infection control measures, sanitation processes and patient-centered high quality healthcare provision. They shared their experience of working for providing round the clock services during the pandemic. Dr Mandaviya advised the HoDs to meet their teams every week, undertake physical visit of all departments and evaluate their performance to ensure best output. He also praised the doctors for their exemplary work during the pandemic.

Dr Mandaviya cautioned against complacency and

urged everyone to follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour. He emphasized to remain on the alert, refrain from sharing unverified information and ensure high level of preparedness. "COVID cases are rising all over the world and India might witness a spike in cases too. Hence it is important that the entire COVID infrastructure in terms of equipment, processes and human resources are at a state of operational readiness", he stated.

Dr Atul Goel, Director General of Health Services, Dr B L Sherwa, Medical Superintendent, Safdarjung Hospital, and heads of various departments including sanitation were present on the occasion.

Bharat Biotech's Nasal Vaccine to cost Rs 800 for Private Hospitals, Rs 325 for Govt

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 27:

Mock drills are underway across health centres in states and Union territories in India in order to check the Covid preparedness amid a surge in cases in several countries, especially China. The mock drills is taking place after an advisory from the centre and amid foreign returns testing positive for Covid in India at a time when people are expected to assemble in large numbers for New Year festivities.

In another major development, the nasal vaccine for Covid was listed on CoWin on Tuesday and has been priced at Rs 800 for private markets and Rs 325 for central and state governments. The vaccine will be available from the fourth week of January. The nasal vaccine, iNCOVACC, will be rolled out as booster dose for those above 18 years of age. Made by Bharat Biotech, it is the world's first intranasal vaccine for Covid to receive approval for the primary two-dose



schedule, and as a heterologous booster dose.

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya was seen at the Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi as the mock drill kicked started. Mandaviya emphasised on the need to be vigilant, highlighting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message to the people to be alert to keep the virus from spreading again in the country. "To make sure there isn't Covid surge in country, PM Modi has asked us to be careful. If at all covid cases increase. Today mock drills are conducted across Covid hospitals in the country

to make sure people get proper treatment," Mandaviya said after reviewing the mock drill at the Delhi hospital.

The mock drill, which comes in the wake of a Covid scare that has been triggered by the grim situation in China, focuses on parameters such as availability of health facilities (covering all districts), capacity of isolation beds, oxygen-supported beds, ICU beds and ventilator-supported beds, and optimal availability of doctors, nurses, paramedics, AYUSH doctors, and other frontline workers, including ASHA and Anganwadi workers.

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Digital attendance of MGNREGA will be universal from January 1, 2023 to weed out corruptions

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 27:

To ensure more transparency, accountability, efficiency and monitoring, and then weed out corruptions reported in the process of implementation of Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Government of India has made digitally capturing the attendance of workers employed under it, universal from January 1, 2023. In its latest order, the Union Ministry of Rural Development, has made it mandatory for all worksites regardless of the number of workers en-

gaged as allegations of corruption, improper implementation, duplication of work, misuse of funds have been doing the round for quite some time.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and several other top officials of the Government of India and state governments, have time and again, raised the issue of ghost accounts, which turn out to be a source of corruption for the middle men and officials.

MGNREGS is a demand driven programme meant to provide employment during lean season of agriculture, but corruption charges of hun-

dreds of crore, appear to have dented its image. The primary type of misappropriation in most cases was financial, which includes bribery, payments to non-existent persons and to vendors at inflated procurement prices.

Earlier, a pilot project to capture attendance at worksite through a mobile application-the National Mobile Monitoring System (NMMS) with two time-stamped and geo-tagged photographs of the workers in a day, had been started on 21st May, 2021, which increased citizen oversight of the program and ease of governance.

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Sapmacha Jadumani says "Sorry" to drivers

IT News
Imphal, Dec 27:

President of Federation of Haomee Sapmacha Jadumani today clarified that he had no intention to humiliate the drivers community of the state neither he had insulted them while speaking to the discussion hour at ISTV discussion hour.

"If my words hurt the sentiment of any drivers or driver community I request to all the drivers to forgive me",

Jadumani said in a press statement today.

He however said that he only gave his comment to what went wrong to the accident which killed 9 persons including 7 students so that no such accident occurred in future. He further said that he had great respect for the driver community and he too understand how drivers of the state braves for transportation of essential commodities during hard time. He also reminded how he along with his team

when he was the President of the UCM had rescued drivers who were kept captive at Senapati district during blockade at National High ways.

He said that the 21-12 accident which happened near Longsai Village shock the people of the state. A Team of the Federation of Haomee had visited the accident site on December 23. He also stated that the government need to find out whether the accident happened due to speed drive and failure to control the bus

or it is because of the road condition and to award punishment to whoever was responsible.

He however said that there are some drivers who had illegally brought outsiders to the state. Some drivers were caught for smuggling alcohol, drugs and others. The authority should check such drivers.

Jadumani said that, The FoH condole the demise of the 9 people and share the pain of the family members of the deceased as well as those injured in the unfortunate incident.

Hunger in India remained a major concern in 2022 More people would require free foodgrains in 2023

By Dr. Gyan Pathak
New Delhi, Dec 27:

Hunger in India remained a major concern throughout 2022 due to slow recovery from the economic downturn after the two years of the COVID-19 pandemic. True, as PM Narendra Modi drumming up, India became the fifth largest economy of the world, but his jubilation conceals the pangs of hunger of 80 crores of people in the country out of 140 crore population, who needed free foodgrain to survive. Moreover, the number of hungry is most likely to increase in 2023, since the Indian economy is going to fare badly as projected by almost

all the assessment of national and international institutions.

In the last "Mann ki Baat" of the year, Modi labelled 2022 as a "wonderful year for Indian Economy". In the month of September, it was reported that India becoming fifth largest economy in the world, while Modi's friend Gautam Adani became the second richest person of the world. India was already at fifth in nominal terms in 2019, and Adani thereafter has slipped to the third. However, this wonderful economy for which Modi is all in smiles, conceals the bitterness of the ever rising number of people suffering from hunger.

Pradhan Mantri Garib

Kalyan Yojna (PMGKY) is decided to be discontinued from December 31 onwards, a plan under which 80 crore people were being given free foodgrains during the pandemic since 2020. The Centre has announced to strengthen the scheme under National Food Security Act (NFSA) 2013 under which 81.35 crore people would be provided the amount of free foodgrains that was being distributed under PMGKY. Thus, even in the assessment of the Centre, there would be an increase of over 1.35 crore that are facing hunger.

This estimate of the Centre is a very conserving estimate which is based only on

the number of people who are actually entitled under the NFSA for foodgrains at cheaper rates of Rs1, Rs2, and Rs3 per kilogram. It also should be noted that NFSA covers 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population, who are supposed not to afford to purchase foodgrains form the open market.

This ground reality does not support the claim of "wonderful Indian Economy" during 2022, since the economic growth as modelled under PM Narendra Modi works for the rich while leaving behind the common people snatching from them their right to live with dignity by earning from

their toil from decent work. They have been reduced to destitutions, almost a state of beggary, in which they are compelled to live in humiliation of waiting for free foodgrains.

January 2022 had begun with an unemployment rate of 6.56 per cent estimate of CMIE, considered to be very high. One needs to recall how Modi government had earlier tried to suppress the government data 2018 just before the general election of 2019, when unemployment rate jumped to 6.1 per cent, 45 years high. However, the year is ending with a very saddening record of unemployment, that was 8 per cent in November, and is most likely to rise

further to close to 9 per cent in December 2022.

The labour market remained volatile throughout the year. A large number of poor people are suffering both in the rural and urban areas, searching for jobs but not getting one. Unemployment, in rural areas was 5.83 per cent in January, which rose to 7.55 per cent in November, and likely to rise over 8.1 per cent in December. In urban areas, January 2022 began with an unemployment rate of 8.14 per cent, which rose to 8.9 per cent in November, and it is likely to touch 10 per cent in December 2022.

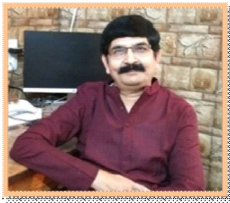
So, there is less opportunity for the people to earn for

their livelihood and live with dignity. Moreover, larger number of workforce have been losing their jobs because of theirs being laid off. With no earning and not social security coverage the hunger level has been going up month after month.

Then there has been price rise that makes commodities and services unaffordable for the poor. It has been causing inflation beyond the RBI's tolerable limit of 6 per cent. Almost all the year inflation has been hovering round 7 per cent. It brought greater suffering for the poor people since such a high inflation have been driven chiefly by food inflation.

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Homage to BJP stalwart Prime Minister late Atal Bihari Vajpayee



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

I remember the first words of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee when he was sworn as the 16th Prime Minister of India which was certainly more solemn than cheerful. "I have a pledge to redeem, and a promise to fulfill." Vajpayee was born into a high-caste Brahmin family in Gwalior, on Dec. 25, 1925. He was barely 15, but already steeped in Marxism, when a friend took him to a meeting of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (National Volunteer Service), a neo-fascist organization that has been the guiding force behind Hindu nationalism for much of this century. After entering the politics of the country, he climbed up step by step and now he is the spotless meticulous statesman of the Indian politics. He was the first politician, who addressed the U.N.O. in Hindi on 4th October, 1977. He was adorned with "Padma Vibhushan" by the Indian Govt. on 25th January, 1992. This was followed by another honor bestowed upon him by the U.P. Hindi Sansthan on 28th September, 1992. And then on 16th August, 1994 "Govind Vallabh Pant Award" was conferred upon him for his being the Best Parliamentarian.

He was the first Prime Minister of India who is regarded as neo-controversial heart-throb of the country. He was held in high esteem not only by his party men but also by other members of the Indian polity. Undoubtedly, he was a great orator. He stood out to be a distinguished man in respect of his choice of words, effective pauses in between, sweet touch of sarcasm and humour, the style of speaking and above all, the quality of judging the moods of his listeners. Vajpayee's problem was that he proved to be more popular with the 344 million voters than did the Hindu nationalist movement, for which he has been the principal parliamentary standard bearer for 30 years. After coming into power Vajpayee had to face problems but he faced all the problems with courage and sincerity. He took many ups and downs in his political life with great equanimity and bears malice towards none. He was among the very few politicians who knew how to respect the viewpoint of their opponents. The poet turned politician achieved such as successful nuclear Pokharan-2 test, winning of Kargil war, starting of golden quadrilateral national expressway, growth rate of 5 percent or above per annum. Undoubtedly, he was a successful prime minister but his tenure experienced certain failures such as Indian airlines hijack by Taliban, attack of terrorists on parliament and riots in Gujarat. He was a great leader and one of the tallest politician of India and the world. Even enemies have liked his oratory skill and diplomacy. The way he maintained dignity in the Parliament was commendable.

For many observers Vajpayee's successful navigation of what was called an "unwieldy coalition" was his biggest achievement; others praised his optimistic foreign policy while others applaud India's economy under his rule.

He was one of the first to voice India's opposition to the unequal Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and he made it clear that his country would sign NPT only when the nuclear power gave convincing evidence of their desire to ban and destroy nuclear weapons. He was also passionate about his desire to "see India take its place as a great nation," with a nuclear weapons arsenal commensurate to its size. He said "We have the capacity for a big bomb now. Ours will never be weapons of aggression."

He shared a special relationship with Lucknow, which he represented for a record five terms in the Lok Sabha, before illness forced him out of active politics since 2009. Though he was a staunch and devout Hindu an epitome of Hindu tradition- yet the people of minority communities repose their unassailable confidence in him. In a move led by him, it tried to reach out to the country's 140 million Muslims to assuage their fears of being treated as second-class citizens. Those who have known Vajpayee for years say that for him the RSS was his alma mater where he had learnt the lessons of life and which had made a man of him. He once wrote, "[the] Sangh is my soul". But as a practical man, he was not ready to be dictated to by the Sangh on every move that he made and every step that he took.

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had once introduced Vajpayee to Winston Churchill as the future Prime Minister of this country who travelled a long way to emerge as India's towering politician, a leader who commanded respect and admiration not only of his party men but even of his rivals, not to speak of millions of his admirers across the world. The man was loved for his qualities of head and heart, his poetry, his integrity boldness, patriotism, qualities of forget and forgive, and the principle of consensus. He was one of the few who can brave the worst travails in life and political career, and came out unscathed. He was an eminent national leader, an erudite politician, a selfless social worker, forceful orator, poet, journalist and indeed a multifaceted personality. He was an ideal for the masses. The message that clearly sprang from his deeds was that even under the most trying circumstances we must never lose our values that have so long been our guiding star. As a parliamentarian he had been a member of Lok Sabha nine times and of Rajya Sabha twice. He transformed the Indian growth story. Interestingly the maximum drop in inflation happened during his tenure. His strong will powered to make country nuclear power. His dreams of providing quadruplicate connectivity to India with highways changed people's lives across country. Interlinking Rivers in country will prove a boon for country in removing water scarcity throughout country.

His exemplary service & leadership has had a very positive impact on India's growth trajectory. Staying in the politics for more than 60 years as active politician, both in opposition and the ruling party and retiring from it without any allegation on the character is one rare achievement. From an insignificant political player to a key leader, Vajpayee will be known for his several contributions. From leading a delegation at United Nations to introducing Lahore bus service to raising Kashmir issue, Vajpayee has truly won the hearts of Indians and even opposition. Vajpayee was an outstanding artist, eminent poet and a true leader who always stood for the cause of the poor and downtrodden classes of society. Vajpayee's name will be written in golden letters in the history of India.

Global Recognition to Namami Gange Programme



By: Er. Prabhat Kishore

India is a country of rivers. Major cities of the country are situated on the banks of these rivers. These rivers symbolise the nation's cultural, spiritual and economic prosperity and are the lifelines of the majority of the population, which is why they are worshipped and termed as "Mata". River Ganga has special significance in Indian and Sanatan culture. Ganga's water has always been called nectar.

Rivers, especially the Ganga, are full of medicinal properties and their waters contain bacteria that are more effective than antibiotics in treating serious human infections. Over time, as the cities settled on the banks of the rivers, the challenges of these rivers also increased. These challenges range from the decreasing depth of rivers due to siltation to safeguarding its cleanliness & purity. Most of the rivers including Ganga, Yamuna, Sabarmati have become polluted due to improper disposal of wastes. Sewerage and excreta of the cities are being released directly into the rivers without proper treatment. Due to domestic waste, industrial waste, agricultural waste, chemical fertilizers, pes-

ticides etc., pollution in most of the rivers has reached its peak and the river water is no longer usable.

After covering a distance of 2525 kms from Gangotri, the river Ganga joins Gangesagar. The Ganga sub-basin extends over an area of 10,86,000 Sq KM and lies in India, Nepal, Tibet and Bangla Desh. The drainage area lying in India is 8,61,404 Sq KM, which is nearly 26.2% of the total geographical area of the country. Due to great bond of Indian culture and civilisation with Mokshadayini Ganga, in June 2014, the Government of India launched an integrated Ganga Conservation Mission named Namami Gange, whose twin objective is effective abatement of pollution and conservation & rejuvenation of the holy river Ganga and its tributaries. For the success of this mission, targets have been set for basic infrastructure construction for sewerage disposal, industrial effluent monitoring, development of river front, river surface cleaning, Bio-diversity conservation, afforestation, Ganga Gram, public awareness etc. This project covers 9 states namely - Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh respectively.

The activities earmarked for achieving the objectives of the Namami Gange programme have been classified into three parts - Entry level (for immediate impact), Medium term (within 5 years) and Long term (within 10 years) activities. The entry stage activities includes river surface cleaning to collect floating solid waste, construction of toilets for cleaning of solid and liquid waste flowing into

drains of rural areas. Renovation, modernization & construction of crematoriums to prevent half-burnt dead bodies from flowing into the river, Repair, modernization and construction of river ghats.

Medium-term activities includes construction of sewerage treatment plants for disposal of waste coming from municipal bodies and setting up of online continuous effluent monitoring stations, biodiversity conservation, afforestation, and water quality monitoring.

In the long term activities, the goal is to ensure the natural flow of the river by creating e-flow, better water use efficiency and improving surface irrigation potential. According to the report of Ministry of Jal Shakti, 76 out of 160 sewerage projects, 66 out of 90 river front, river ghat and crematorium project, 1 out of 5 ghat and river surface cleaning project, 26 out of 41 Afforestation and Biodiversity Conservation Project, 3 out of 5 Composite Ecology Task Force and Ganga Mitra Project, 7 out of 25 Research and Development, Public Access and District Ganga Committee Assistance Project and 2 out of 8 Ganga Knowledge and Monitoring Center Projects have been completed.

But in reality, after more than 8 years of launching of the ambitious programme and expending thousand crore rupees, the net effect on the ground is negligible. The quality of water is still poor. The infrastructure being created is of substandard quality and slow pace of work is creating hurdle in day-to-day lives of the people. Red-tapism in the administra-

tive system and arbitrary attitude of the construction agencies raise questions on the sustainability of the scheme.

The Namami Gange programme has been included among the world's top 10 regeneration flagship initiatives by the United Nations at the 15th Conference of the Parties (COP15) to the Convention on Biodiversity (COD) in Kunming-Montreal (Canada). Other top 9 pioneering initiatives for restoring the natural world include Tri-national Atlantic Forest Pact (Brazil, Paraguay and Argentina), Abu Dhabi Marine Restoration, Great Green Wall for Restoration and Peace (Africa), Multi Country Mountain Initiative (Serbia, Kyrgyzstan, Uganda and Rwanda), Small Island Developing States Restoration Drive (Vanuatu, St. Lucia, Camoros), Altyn Dala Conservation Initiative (Kazakhstan), Central American Dry Corridor, Building with Nature (Indonesia) and Shan-Shui Initiative (China).

Following recognition by the United Nations, all selected ground breaking initiatives committed to the prevent and reverse the degradation of natural spaces across the planet are expected to receive UN-backed promotion, funding and technical expertise. When the power of our resolve is strong, even the biggest challenge becomes easy. Government initiatives alone will not last, but citizens have to come forward by involving themselves in every activity of Namami Gange to keep Ganga clean and save biodiversity.

(The author is a technocrat & educationist)

A Sparkling Career in Podiatry

By: Kaustov Kashyap

Podiatric medicine, as it is medically called, is a branch of medical sciences primarily focusing on the study of human movement, particularly the foot and ankle. As a podiatrist, one is responsible for treating corns, calluses, bunions, ingrown toenails, and arch problems; performing surgery; prescribing drugs and physical therapy; working with ankle and foot injuries and infections; correcting deformities by using plaster casts and strappings; fitting corrective shoe inserts or orthotics. Being educated and trained under state-of-the-art techniques in surgery, orthopedics, physical medicine, dermatology, and rehabilitation, a podiatrist plays a major role in detecting serious health problems which otherwise go unnoticed most of the times. Given the fact that people are now concentrating more on their feet, the career of a foot specialist is one of the sought-after options to excel in. These healthcare professionals can, undoubtedly, embark you on a flourishing and fruitful life ahead.

Podiatrists can be involved in different branches of the field, such as specializations in wound care, paediatrics, sports medicine, diabetes, and surgery. They analyze the conditions of the feet and diagnose any ailments or disorders that may be present. They also provide treatment for these ailments through exercises, and special footwear, and improve the patient's mobility. They are responsible for performing foot surgeries if required, which can range from fracture repairs to correcting foot deformities. It is a growing field in medicine that offers good career opportunities.

Scope of Podiatry in India and Abroad

Employment in the podiatry sector is expected to grow by 6% between 2018 to 2028. As people age, more issues and pains arise concerning the feet and legs. Due to this, there is an increased demand for podiatrists. Podiatry is a well-growing sector with good employment opportunities.

It has a very wide scope in India, as well as abroad because people all over the world suffer from ailments of the legs and feet. The increasing rates of other chronic conditions such as

diabetes and obesity can also contribute to these ailments, thus creating further demand. Further, as there are only limited colleges that offer podiatry courses within the country and outside, the job prospects are good because there will not be a cut-throat competition.

Eligibility Criteria (UG & PG) of Podiatry

Bachelor's - Interested candidates:
 • Must have qualified 10+2 level from a recognized educational institution.

• Must have pursued Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics/Biology at the 10+2 level. English is a compulsory subject.

• Must achieve a minimum 50% aggregate score.

Master's - Interested candidates:

• Must possess an MBBS degree.

• Must have achieved 45-55% aggregate in the MBBS level.

• Must have finished the 1-year internship.

Entrance Exams for Podiatry

Any MBBS student must mandatorily write NEET. After filing an application for NEET and completing the registration procedures, they will receive their admit card and will be allowed to attend the exam. These NEET scores will determine their entry into any institution for podiatry. The admissions are merit-based, and the better their NEET score, the better the institution of study.

After this selection is done, the students are called for counseling in order of their scores. They are then asked to select their preferred college from the choices provided to them, which depends on the NEET score.

After completing MBBS, the student can pursue DPM from any institution offering it. These institutions have their entrance examinations, which must be passed for entry. They can also be admitted based on the NEET scores. After completing the DPM, they have to apply for a license to practice podiatry as one cannot practice medicine without a license.

MBBS Exams:

• NEET: The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test is overseen by the National Testing Agency. This is

the entrance examination for all students that wish to study medicine or dentistry courses in India. Entry is given to both government and private colleges based on this test. This test contains 180 questions with negative markings.

Required Skillset for Podiatry

Podiatry is a specialized branch of medicine which means that other than having strong technical knowledge and experience in the field, some other extra skills are required for these students. These skills include:

Interpersonal Skills: A DPM student must have excellent interpersonal skills. These doctors work in close contact with the patients and therefore, must be good at interacting with them. They must be able to explain medical terminology and conditions in layman's terms. They may also have to work in teams, especially during surgery, which makes good communication and interpersonal skills important.

Critical Thinking: Critical thinking is another important aspect of podiatry. DPM's must be able to think and reason critically and innovatively. They must be able to quickly diagnose ailments of the feet and discover solutions for them.

Calm Demeanor: Podiatrists must have a calm demeanor. Since they work closely with patients, they must be calm and rational and help soothe and comfort the patients while completing their job.

Detail-Oriented: Apodiatrist must be detail-oriented to provide accurate diagnoses and treatment. They must take into account a patient's medical history and other factors before deciding on a treatment plan.

Job Profiles & Average Salary

Doctor of Podiatric Medicine (DPM) students are offered tons of job opportunities and profiles along with satisfactory salary packages. Jobs are offered by the government and the private sector. Some of the main job profiles in this sector include:

• Podiatrist: Podiatrists analyze and assess the conditions of the feet of their patients and diagnose any ailments or disabilities. They also come up with treatment plans for these ailments.

They are trained to perform surgical operations, if and when required. The average salary package in this job profile may be around Rs. 11-21 lakhs p.a. (Approx.)

• Podo-dermatologist: Podo Dermatologists collect skin samples from the feet and conduct tests to analyze them. They come up with various diagnoses and provide treatments based on the tests. They also provide advice and skincare tips for the feet. The average salary package in this job profile may be around Rs. 7-11 lakhs p.a. (Approx.)

• Podo-paediatrist: A podo-paediatrist studies children's feet to identify any early stages of foot deformities or disabilities. They help children recover from deformities in the early stages itself through massages, exercises, and in extreme cases, surgery. The average salary package in this job profile may be around Rs. 5-8 lakhs p.a. (Approx.)

• Podiatric Physician: A podiatric physician also diagnoses different ailments after analyzing the feet of the patients. They recommend treatments to the patients and help with some basic exercises and massages. However, they are not qualified to perform surgery. The average salary package in this job profile may be around Rs. 3-5 lakhs p.a. (Approx.)

• Rheumatologists: They work for the treatment of rheumatism and its conditions, such as joint pains, autoimmune diseases, arthritis, and osteoporosis. They also treat soft-tissue injuries and sports injuries. The average salary package in this job profile may be around Rs. 12-19 lakhs p.a. (Approx.)

Popular Podiatry Colleges/Institutes in India are:

- Dr. P S I Medical College, Gannavaram
- Bhagwan Mahaveer Jain Hospital, Bangalore
- Amrita Institute of Medical Sciences and Research Centre, Kochi
- Diabetic Foot Society of India, Ahmedabad
- Dr. M.G.R. Medical University, Chennai

(The author is a HR & Career Consultant)

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North East India's first Vande Bharat Express train completes trial run, PM Modi to launch on December 30

Agency
Guwahati, Dec 27:

The North East India's first-ever Vande Bharat Express train is all set for inauguration on December 30. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to flag off seventh Vande Bharat Express that will run between Howrah-New Jalpaiguri. To run under the Northeast Frontier Railways (NFR), the first Vande Bharat Train semi-high-speed train of the NE India completed its trial run from Howrah-New Jalpaiguri station on Monday, an official statement said.

The Vande Bharat Express train will be the first express train between New Jalpaiguri (NJP), Siliguri to Kolkata after Shatabdi Express. Vande

Bharat will have Passenger-friendly facilities like automatic doors and Wifi access.

The statement added that the nation's seventh Vande Bharat train took around 8.30 hours to complete about 560km between NJP-Howrah during the first trial run today. A massive crowd was gathered at the station to get a glimpse of the train.

Shuvendu Chowdhury, Divisional Rail Manager (DRM) Katihar- Northeast Frontier Railway(NFR) at NJP said, the trial run was completed successfully and we are waiting for the final day for its service.

There is already a Shatabdi Express between Howrah and NJP. This train leaves Howrah in the afternoon and reaches NJP at around 10 p.m. The

Vande Bharat Express will certainly attract tourists travelling to the Hills in north Bengal and the Dooars as well as the state of Sikkim. Particularly, those who do not wish to spend a night at Siliguri before travelling to their destinations.

The Vande Bharat 2.0 trains have the KAVACH (Train Collision Avoidance System) for enhanced safety in operations. There will be improved security with four emergency windows added in every coach. There will be four platform side cameras including rearview cameras outside the coach instead of two earlier.

The Vande Bharat Express, also known as Train 18, is a semi-high-speed, intercity, electric multiple-unit train op-

erated by the Indian Railways. It is an advanced version of Vande Bharat compared to the earlier ones, being much lighter and capable of reaching higher speed in shorter duration. It accelerates to 100 km per hour in just 52 seconds.

PM Narendra Modi has flagged off all the seven Vande Bharat trains in India. The first Vande Bharat trains run between New Delhi - Varanasi, second between New Delhi - Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra (J&K), third between Gandhinagar and Mumbai, fourth between New Delhi to Amb Andaura in Himachal Pradesh, fifth between Chennai-Mysuru and sixth, being the latest, runs between Nagpur-Bilaspur.

Pakistani boat carrying arms, drugs seized along Gujarat Coast, ten arrested



The arrested Pakistani crew on board 'ICGS Arinjay' with ICG officials. (Inset: Seized Pakistani boat 'Al Soheli').

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 27:

A Pakistani fishing boat 'Al Soheli' with 10 crew members carrying arms, ammunition and 40 kg of narcotics (Heroin) worth Rs 300 crore was intercepted off the Gujarat coast in the early hours of Monday, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) said.

Based on specific inputs shared by the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad, the Coast Guard deployed its fast patrol ship 'ICGS Arinjay' for patrolling in the area close to the notional International Maritime Border Line (IMBL) on the intervening night of December 25 and 26, the ICG said in a release.

The Pakistani fishing boat 'Al Soheli' was observed moving suspiciously in Indian waters in the early hours of the day. On being challenged, the boat started evasive manoeuvring and did not stop even after firing warning shots. Eventually the ICGS 'Arinjay', intercepted and stopped her.

The contraband was seized, the boat was impounded and the crew was arrested. A search of the vessel revealed six pistols and 120 rounds of ammunition,

and about 40kgs of narcotics worth nearly Rs 300 crore. The boat had set sail from near Karachi, Defence officials said. The crew were brought to the coastal town of Okha (Devbhumi, Dwaraka) in Gujarat for further investigation.

This was the seventh joint operation by the ICG and Gujarat ATS in the last 18 months, and the first apprehension wherein arms and ammunition along with drugs were recovered. A total of 346 kg of heroin worth Rs 1,930 crore was seized and 44 Pakistani and seven Iranian crew were apprehended in the last 18 months, the ICG release read.

The porous Gujarat coastline has emerged an easy smuggling route for drug cartels from other countries. Small manufacturing units processing heroin are also mushrooming across Gujarat. The maximum quantity of drugs were seized with increasing frequency since 2021 in Gujarat. The largest consignment of nearly 2,988.21 kg heroin worth over Rs 21,000 crore was seized at Mundra Port in September 2021. It was shipped from the Bandar Abbas port in Iran.

The drug seizures in Gujarat this year

In February (a joint operation by NCB and the Indian Navy)-Drugs-750 kgs (529 kg of very high-quality hashish, 234

kg of finest quality of crystal methamphetamine and some quantity of heroin) valued at Rs 2,000 crore, seized from a ship near Porbandar/Jamnagar coast.

In April (a joint operation by the Gujarat ATS and the DRI)-Drugs-260 kgs of heroin worth Rs 1500 crore, seized at the Kandla Port. On July 12, (a joint operation the Punjab Police and the Gujarat ATS)-Drugs-75 kg of heroin worth Rs 375 crore seized from a container at the Mundra Port in Kutch district. In August (an operation led by the Mumbai Police)-Drugs- 513 kgs of mephedrone worth Rs 1,026 crore, seized from a manufacturing unit in Ankleshwar, September 14 (a joint operation by the Gujarat ATS and the ICG)-Drugs-40 kg heroin worth Rs 200 crore, seized from a fishing boat near Jakhau harbour in Kutch district and six Pakistani crew arrested and in October (a joint operation by the Gujarat ATS and the ICG)-Drugs-50 kg heroin worth Rs 350 crore seized from a Pakistani boat near Jakhau harbour in Kutch district and six Pakistani nationals were arrested.

According to sources, while Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are leading in India's epidemic of opioid users, Gujarat is now the third-worst state in terms of deaths due to drug overdose.

According to sources, while Punjab and Himachal Pradesh are leading in India's epidemic of opioid users, Gujarat is now the third-worst state in terms of deaths due to drug overdose.

Red Sandalwood worth Rs 6 crore seized in Palghar in Maharashtra, two arrested

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Dec 27:

The Palghar Police and Forest officials in a joint operation, seized red sandalwood worth Rs 6 crore, from a truck on the Kaman-Bhiwandi Road, about 35 kms from Mumbai, and arrested two people on Sunday.

The logs (30 to 35 cubic mtrs) of Red Sandalwood, were concealed behind sacks of onions, and were being taken to the Nhava Sheva Port (near Panvel in Raigad district) to be shipped abroad, a police officer from Waliv Police station (Vasai East) said on Monday.

The consignment had come from Andhra Pradesh. Acting on a tip-off, the police intercepted the container truck near Kaman check post in the

early hours of Sunday and found red sandalwood concealed behind sacks of onions, Zonal DCP Subhas Bavche said. Two persons (including a driver) were arrested in the seizure and an offence under relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code and Forest Act was registered against them, he added.

The incidents of smuggling of Red Sanders continue to occur in different parts of India including Maharashtra. In June this year 60,660 kg red sandalwood worth Rs 3.25 crore illegally stored in a godown, was seized by the MIDC Police in Ahmednagar district in Western Maharashtra.

Similarly the incidents of smuggling of Red sanders wood are being detected by

different agencies across the country. In the fiscal years 2020-21 and 2021-22, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized 96 and 95 MT of Red Sanders respectively, estimated at over Rs. 150 crore in the international market, from different parts of India.

In March this year, DRI seized 12.20 MT of Red Sanders wood from a container in Container Freight Station (CFS), Krishnapatnam Port (Nellore district, Andhra Pradesh) that was being smuggled to Malaysia along with cover cargo of sand/cement chips/gravel and miscellaneous household items. In the same month, 11.7 MT of Red Sanders wood was seized at Mundra port (Gujarat), which was being

smuggled out of India in the guise of export of "tractor parts".

Red Sanders is a flora-species that is endemic to a distinct tract of forests in Eastern Ghats region of Andhra Pradesh and fall under "endangered list" in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List. It is also listed in Appendix-II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wildlife Fauna and Flora (CITES). Its rich hue and therapeutic properties are responsible for its high demand across Asia, including China and Singapore, for use in cosmetics, medicinal products and high-end furniture/woodcraft. The export of Red Sanders from India is prohibited as per the Foreign Trade Policy.

How to Write Perfect Answers and Score Full Marks in Board exam



By: Vijay GarG

No matter how well you prepare for the exam, but if you are not able to write down all your knowledge in the right way on the examination day, all your hard work goes in vain. Actually, it is a well-observed fact that students often become nervous and anxious while sitting in the examination hall. The pressure is so overwhelming that they tend to forget what they had learned during their exam preparations. Though it is natural for all, the situation can be made easy by following a few useful tips while sitting in the examination hall and writing your paper.

Board Exam 2023: Why Experts Consider Writing Practice Most Crucial for High Score

Here are some tips and strategies that will help you attempt your exam in the best possible way.

1. Use of the additional 15 minutes judiciously

CBSE provides its students with an additional 15 minutes time for the board examinations. This additional time is provided for students to read the questions properly before they start writing. Students can draft a plan in their minds about how they will solve the paper correctly without getting panicked. So, students must utilise these 15 minutes very carefully to make a strategy for writing their exam smoothly and correctly.

2. Set the priority

List out the questions in which you are more confident. There's no need to write the answers in the same order as in the question paper. Firstly, write those answers which you know correctly. This will help you gain confidence and will also help you spare enough time to think about the answers to other questions which are a bit blur in your mind.

3. Write brief, to the point answers

Read a question carefully and understand the sense of

the question. Try to limit your answer to the requirement of the question and avoid writing huge paragraphs describing useless information. Keep your answers left justified.

For example: If you are asked the question- "Define soil erosion", then you are asked to write the definition of soil erosion, not its causes or effects which most of the students write in order to make their answer lengthier. Actually, it's a myth among most of the students that the longer the answer the more they will score. But it's absolutely absurd as the examiner only looks for valid explanations, but not the stories.

4. Choose questions wisely

Usually, some questions in the paper are provided with internal choices. The student has to select any one of those choices. But the tricky thing with these choices is that students often decide on instinct which question to attempt and later they regret not choosing the other question which they knew better. This happens because of haste. When it comes to you to choose the questions you want to attempt, give

a careful reading to each question at least twice and then create a mental picture of what you have to write in each case. This way you will be able to evaluate your knowledge about the particular question and help you clear away any doubts.

5. Attempt all the questions

We know that there is no negative marking for wrong answers in board exams. So don't be afraid to answer the questions about which you are confused, as you have nothing to lose. Read the question very carefully. Re-read the question. Try to understand the genre of the question and what it demands. If you know the answer, then write it. If you don't, then use your brain and make a smart guess. Examiners are always looking for technical terms or appropriate keywords where they may give you marks.

6. Don't decorate the answer sheet

It is well observed among many students that they have a habit of attempting their question paper in a colourful manner by using blue, green and black coloured pointers or markers for headings and underlining each one of them.

Doing this decorative work is nowhere going to gain you any extra marks but will definitely take away the precious time that you could have used in thinking and writing the answers to questions that you left for the end. Use only two pens; a blue pen for writing the text and a black for headings. While drawing diagrams, you must always use a pencil. It would keep your answer sheet simple and would also give you time to write more.

7. Space out each word properly

Make sure your words are properly spaced out. Don't squeeze in ten words in the same line. Examiners will find it difficult to read such overlapped words. This may cause a fall in your grades. Your paper should look neat and clean. Try to write the answers in points. Avoid bunching all sentences together. Leave at least two lines before and after each question. Doing this will also help you later when you feel you want to add something to your answer. This will prevent you from making your answer script messy.

India logs 157 new Covid infections, active cases tally at 3,421

Agency
New Delhi, Dec 27:

India recorded a single-day rise of 157 new COVID-19 cases, while the count of active cases of the disease has marginally decreased to 3,421, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Tuesday.

The tally of Covid cases in the country has now gone up to 4.46 crore (4,46,77,459).

The death toll due to the disease stands at 5,30,696 with one fatality being reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am showed.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.32 per cent, while the weekly positivity was pegged at 0.18 per cent, the health ministry said.

It said 49,464 tests for detection of COVID-19 were conducted in the last 24 hours.

Active cases now comprise 0.01 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has increased to 98.80 per cent,

according to the ministry. A decrease of seven cases was recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has surged to 4,41,43,342 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 220.06 crore doses of vaccines have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5, 50 lakh on September 16, 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and the one-crore mark on December 19, 2020.

The country crossed the grim milestones of two crore cases on May 4, 2021, three crore on June 23, 2021 and four crore on January 25 this year.

ECI initiates delimitation of Assembly & Parliamentary Constituencies in the State of Assam

PIB
New Delhi, Dec 27:

In pursuance to the request received from Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, Election Commission of India has decided to initiate the delimitation exercise of Assembly and Parliamentary Constituencies in the State of Assam as per Section 8A of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

The Commission led by Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar and Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel has directed the Chief Electoral Officer of Assam to take up the matter with State Government to issue complete ban on creation of new administrative units w.e.f. 1st January, 2023 till the completion of delimitation exercise in the State. As mandated under Article

170 of the Constitution, census figures (2001) shall be used for the purpose of readjustment of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies in the State. Reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be provided as per Articles 330 & 332 of the Constitution of India.

The Commission will design and finalize its own guidelines & methodology for the purpose of delimiting the constituencies. During the delimitation exercise, the Commission will keep in mind the physical features, existing boundaries of administrative units, facility of communication, public convenience and as far as practicable, the constituencies will be kept as geographically compact area.

Once a draft proposal of delimitation of constituencies in

the State of Assam is finalized by the Commission, it shall be published in the Central and State Gazettes for inviting suggestions/objections from the general public. In this regard, a Notice will also be published in two vernacular newspapers of the State specifying the date and venue for public sittings to be held in the State.

The Election Commission of India has been requested by the Ministry of Law & Justice to conduct the delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies in the State of Assam vide letter No.H-11019/06/2022-Leg.II dated 15th November, 2022. Under the provisions of Delimitation Act, 1972, the last delimitation of constituencies in the State of Assam was done on the basis of census figures, 1971 by the then Delimitation Commission in 1976.

Contd. from Page 1

Bharat Biotech's Nasal Vaccine to cost Rs 800...

Several states, meanwhile, have announced their own set of measures in order to keep Covid contained, especially with the New Year's just days away when people are expected to assemble in large numbers. The Karnataka government on Monday brought back mask mandate and made the use of masks a must at movie theatres and educational institutions in wake of the sudden rise in Covid cases globally. The Karnataka government asked sections of population including the elders to avoid crowded gatherings.

The state government also mandated two doses of Covid vaccination at bars, restaurants and pubs, which will operate only up to the seating capacity for the New Year, celebrations for which should end by 1 am on January 1.

In Tamil Nadu, the state government on Monday directed private hospitals and labs across the state to send Covid-positive samples to government lab for whole genome sequencing (WGS) to monitor existing variants and detect newer variants.

Other states and UTs like

Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra etc., too, have started preps to tackle another possible wave.

Speaking publicly for the first time over the current Covid crisis in China, President Xi Jinping on Monday urged officials on to take steps to protect lives in the planet's biggest surge that the country is experiencing after abruptly lifting restrictions that torpedoed the economy.

Jinping said, "At present, Covid-19 prevention and control in China are facing a new

situation and new tasks."

"We should launch the patriotic health campaign in a more targeted way... fortify a community line of defence for epidemic prevention and control, and effectively protect people's lives, safety and health," Jinping said.

Hospitals and crematoriums across the country have been overflowing with Covid patients and victims, while China's National Health Commission on Sunday announced it would stop publishing daily nationwide infection and death statistics.

Digital attendance of MGNREGA will be....

Taking feedbacks and experiences from the applicability of NMMS, first, it was decided to discontinue the manual attendance on 1st May, 2022 for all the worksites, wherein muster rolls issued for 20 or more beneficiaries. Finally, the system came into force from 16th May, 2022. Now, the concerned ministry

has decided to make it universal by ensuring capturing of attendance for all the works of every Individual Beneficiary Scheme, through NMMS from 1st January, 2023.

Since any transition takes some time to take the right shape, the Government of India has also given enough time to the process and persons to

adapt to the new system. Women mates are encouraged to take the responsibility of capturing the attendance of the workers through the NMMS App. The ministry has been providing training to the states and union territories to ensure smooth transitioning to NMMS app as and when requested by them.

The technical issues faced by workers, were taken up with NIC, rural development on real time basis. The new provisions and suggestions requested by the states, have been incorporated in the system. All the issues concerning the NMMS application, have also been reviewed and resolved from time to time.

CRPF DIG interacts with inmates of Old Age Home Langjing



IT News
Imphal, Dec 27:

DIG P.K. Nayak of the CRPF Langjing center today distributed sweets and other edible items to the inmates at Old age home(Day care cen-

tre) Langjing Achoubada in connection with the Christmas festival.

DIG P.K.Nayak interacted with the aged inmates and listen to their problems.

A simple function was held in connection with the day. Dr.

T.M. Rajen Ayangba, Dr. Mayengbam Kamala Devi, Salam Ongbi Bhajani, Lai Surjit etc. also attended during the visit of the DIG CRPF.

DIG P.K. Nayak assured to provide assistant to the Old Age Home in future.

Hunger in India remained a major concern....

Feeding large number of empty stomachs (above 57 per cent of India's population) has remained the chief concern throughout the year. People were being given only free foodgrains, 5 kilogram per person.

How can one hope that the persons who are not able to even purchase foodgrains can buy their all nutritional needs including pulses and vegetables the cost of which remained unaffordable for the majority? Moreover, from the beginning of the current fiscal year, cost of medicines has further hiked making them out of the reach of poor people. All these are leading towards an-

other health crisis rooted in hunger and nutrition deficit.

The Centre had to make great efforts to ensure foodgrains throughout the year, while Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman, revealed the government's faulty mindset by equating delivery of free foodgrains to poverty elevation. She tried to distort the concept of 'poverty elevation' which includes raising incomes so as to make people above poverty line. Free foodgrains is not the earning of the hungry, and hence the recipient remains poor. As the year is closing, we see people everywhere with the

marks of hunger and poverty.

Malnutrition tells even more poignant story of hunger. Apart from two schemes under NFSA - Antyodaya Anna Yojana, and Priority Household Scheme, and the PMGKAY, the Centre needed to provide support to the poor under ICDS and PM POSHAN in all states and UTs. TPDS and OWS is being implemented in 112 Aspirational and 250 High Burden Districts on stunting (total 291 districts) which was commenced on April 2022. However, the implementation is not satisfactory since out of 291 only 250 districts have lifted 16.79 LMT by December

13. The remaining districts would be covered in the next year, and hence, wasting and stunting of children will have to wait for help.

Production of rice and wheat has suffered in 2022 due to a range of reasons which included heatwaves and floodings, and hence their prices have increased over 25 per cent. The year 2023 is thus beginning with greater challenges on the hunger and poverty front, with risk of deceleration of Indian economy in 2023, and emergence of China's new COVID-19 variant enhancing greater uncertainty. (IPAService)

Sports

Women's National Boxing Championships: Nikhat Zareen, Lovlina Borgohain clinch Gold; Railways crowned Champions

Agency
Bhopal, Dec 27:

Living up to their favourites tag, Tokyo Olympics bronze medalist Lovlina Borgohain and the reigning world champion Nikhat Zareen registered contrasting victories to clinch the titles while Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) lifted the team trophy with 10 medals at the 6th Elite Women's National Boxing Championships in Bhopal on Monday.

While the Assam boxer Borgohain beat Arundhati Choudhary of Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) quite comfortably by 5-0 margin in the 75kg final, Zareen faced a stiff challenge from RSPB's Anamika in the 50kg gold medal match before the 26-year-old Telangana pugilist tilted the match 4-1 in her favour to successfully defend her title.

Players received the medals in the presence of Hon'ble Union Minister for Youth Affairs & Sports and Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, Shri Anurag Singh Thakur along with the Boxing Federation of India officials.

Another highlight of the



day was Manju Rani, who led the domination of RSPB on the final day. The 2019 World Championships silver medalist handed RSPB its first gold after outpunching Tamil Nadu's S Kalavani 5-0 in the 48kg final. Shiksha (54kg), Poonam (60kg), Shashi Chopra (63kg) and Nupur (+81kg) were the other gold medalists for RSPB, who also bagged three silver and two

bronze medals.

Madhya Pradesh, with one gold, two silver and five bronze, and Haryana (two gold and two bronze) claimed second and third position respectively.

Manipur's young boxer Sanamacha Thokchom Chanu, who won gold medal at the 2021 Youth World Championships, also put up an impressive show to secure

the title in the 70kg by beating Madhya Pradesh's Shruti Yadav 3-2 in the thrilling final.

Haryana's Manisha (57kg) and Saweety (81kg), SSCB's Sakshi (52kg), Madhya Pradesh's Manju Bamboria (66kg) also clinched gold medals in their respective categories at the prestigious tournament which witnessed participation of 302 boxers fighting in 12 categories.

KIYG Men's Under-18 Qualifiers: UP, Manipur, Haryana, Odisha qualify for QFs

Agency
Bhubaneswar, Dec 27:

Uttar Pradesh Hockey, Manipur Hockey, Hockey Haryana and the Hockey Association Of Odisha were on top form as they won their respective matches on day five of the Qualifiers - Khelo India Youth Games 2022 (Men's Under 18) in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Hockey Haryana, Uttar Pradesh Hockey, Hockey Punjab and Hockey Chandigarh have qualified for the Quarter-Finals from Pool A, while Hockey Madhya Pradesh, Hockey Association Of Odisha, Hockey Jharkhand and Hockey Bihar have qualified for the last eight from Pool B, as per a press release from Hockey India.

In the first match of the day, Uttar Pradesh Hockey defeated Hockey Punjab 3-2 in Pool A. Shahrukh Ali (21, 55) led the charge for the winning team, scoring a brace while Manoj Yadav (54) also found the back of the net for Uttar Pradesh Hockey. For Hockey Punjab, it was Harpreet Singh (132, 422) who made it to the scoresheet.

Manipur Hockey registered a 6-2 win against Hockey Andhra Pradesh in the second Pool A match of the day. Thokchom

Singh (442, 502) struck a brace for Manipur Hockey, while Silheiba Lisham (52), Sorokhaibam Singh (262), Suresh Adhikarimayum (402), Thounaojam Luwang (482) scored to contribute to the team's handsome victory. Captain Madarasu Prasad (102) and Kovuru Sai (452) scored the goals for Hockey Andhra Pradesh.

In the third Pool A match of the day, Hockey Haryana defeated Hockey Chandigarh 3-1 in a close contest. Roshan (282, 322) scored two goals for Hockey Haryana. Amandeep (112) also got himself on the scoresheet for the winning side. The lone goal for Hockey Chandigarh was scored by

Gurpreet Singh (302) in the second quarter.

The first Pool B match of the day between Hockey Jharkhand and Dadra & Nagar Haveli And Daman & Diu Hockey was forfeited in favour of Hockey Jharkhand.

Hockey Association Of Odisha defeated Hockey Bihar 7-2 in the second Pool B match of the day. Anmol Ekka (42, 262) was on top of his form in the match, scoring two goals for the winning team. Rosan Kujur (232), Paulus Lakra (312), Deepak Minz (362), Aryan Xess (472) and Captain Jasman Munda (582) scored a goal each to round off the win. For Hockey Bihar, it was Bhavuk (492) and Ravi (562) who struck.

Passbook Lost

I have lost my Passbook for "Mayam Kanaminaba Marup", drawn every month subscribing Rs. 3,000/- per month since 5 July 2019 at the residence of Maibam Bishorjit Singh of Yairipok Nungbram (Ngamukhong) on the way to Marup Mafam from my residence on November 5, 2022.

Finders may please handover the said passbook to the office of the Imphal Times or contact me personally. Due regards shall be made.

Sd/-
Heikrujam Rojtkumar
Heirangthong Maibam Leikai
Imphal West, Manipur