



PM-KISAN assistance to be increased from ₹6,000 to ₹8,000 per annum

Mangjil Thaba Manipur, Mipal Tangdaba Manipur

BJP Ga Loinana

Thambalgi Markada Namiasi  **BJP Bu Maipakhanlasi**

Governor greets on Chandra Shekhar Azad Martyrs Day

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

Governor of Manipur La. Ganesan, extended his greetings on the occasion of Chandra Shekhar Azad Martyrs Day which fall on 27th February, 2022.

Chandra Shekhar Azad, was born on 23rd July 1906 in Bhambri village, Alirajpur district, Madhya Pradesh. He was a revolutionary leader and a firebrand freedom fighter who revolutionized the struggle of Indian independence. At a very young age, Chandra Shekhar Azad took part in the Indian independence movement. He became the part of the Mahatma Gandhi's Non-Cooperation Movement and got arrested for being a part of the movement in December, 1921. After suspension of the Non-Cooperation Movement in 1922, he became a member of the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA), a revolutionary organisation. Later, he reorganised the Hindustan Republican Association (HRA) under its new name of Hindustan Socialist Republican Association (HSRA). His ideals, valour, sacrifice and spirit of nationalism will forever inspire every individual of the country.

Of the Rs 1,000 crore worth cash, drugs, liquor seized from 5 poll-bound states; Rs. 167.83 crores is from Manipur: ECI report

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

Since the enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct, the law enforcing agencies under the strict supervision of the ECI has so far seized items worth Rs. 167.83 crores including Rs. 4.17 Crore in cash from the state of Manipur as on February 25. Items seized included 60881 liters of liquors, Drugs worth Rs. 143.47 crore, precious metal and other freebies items that are suspected to use to influence voters during the election. In 2017 election total seizure of cash, liquor, drugs and other freebies was Rs. 6.42 crore.

A report of the ECI said that over Rs 1,000 crore worth of cash, drugs, liquor and freebies have been seized so far in the assembly polls in the states of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Manipur and Goa, the Election Commission said in a statement on Friday. The amount of seizures have increased more than four times when compared to the 2017 assembly elections in these states.

The amount of liquor seized from Punjab is the highest — a whopping 59 lakh litres — giving an impression that liquor was overflowing in the state. Punjab was followed by Uttar Pradesh with the seizure of 19 lakh litres of liquor.



Law enforcers checking vehicles under supervision of ECI at Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai

Punjab was also on top when it came to drugs as narcotics worth Rs 376 crores was seized from the state, followed by Manipur with Rs 143 crores.

Uttar Pradesh was at the top of the list in cash seizures with Rs 91 crores.

"Apart from above mentioned seizure figures, the Commission's visit galvanised enforcement authorities as the agencies seized drugs worth Rs 109 crore in Punjab and more than eight lakh litres of liquor in Uttar Pradesh in the run-up to the elections," the EC said in a statement.

The EC held multiple meetings with heads of Enforcement Agencies like - CBDT,

CBIC, NCB, Excise and senior officials of bordering states to poll-going states — for a thorough framework to ensure 'inducement-free' elections.

The EC also took extensive reviews of enforcement agencies and police nodal officers during the meetings held in the states, to emphasise close and effective monitoring of items meant for influencing voters.

The EC has deployed 228 expenditure observers. The EC has also appointed special expenditure observers, officers who hold an impeccable and brilliant track record of domain expertise.

The special observers have been travelling extensively in their assigned states

holding various meetings with the CEO office, district administration and enforcement agencies.

After due assessment, 63 assembly constituencies in these five states have been marked as expenditure sensitive constituencies for more focused vigil.

PREPAK clarifies, says those arrested are not related to them

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

Reacting to a news report, in connection with the arrest of five people by state police in connection with the bomb blast that occurred at various places on January 26 including the one that blasted at Wangoo Tera on February 20 where two personnel of the ITBP, the proscribed PREPAK has clarified that those arrested while conducting search operation at Wangoo Nurathel area are not related with either the PREPAK or its army wing Red Army, a statement by Mangal Khuman, Publicity Officer of the Department of Publicity and Propaganda, PREPAK said.

As per the statement, those arrested are Okram Manitomba @ Ango Meici (20) of Wangoo Mamang Sabal Nurathel Leikai, Sorokhaibam Goroba Singh @ Nganba (19) of Pangaltabi Makha Leikai, Sorokhaibam Arbin (26), Thongam Singhajit (20) and Irengbam Gitchandra Singh (53) of Wangoo Mamang Sabal leikai. It said none of them are related to the PREPAK or its army wing.

Crowd refuses to allow Minister's copter to land in Manipur

Courtesy: The Hindu
Noney, Feb 26:

The helicopter carrying R.K. Rajan, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Education, was not allowed to land in the Noney district of Manipur on Saturday.

Rajan had come to the district to attend an election meeting of Dipu Gangmei, who is contesting from the Noney constituency as the BJP candidate. It was to land at the Longmai ground. However, a large number of men and women, said to be supporters of Gaidon Kamei, Congress candidate of the assembly constituency, came out to the ground declaring that the helicopter could not land in the constituency.

One activist said the authorities had not given advance notice of the Minister's

visit. Some started burning logs and old tyres to prevent the helicopter from landing. The helicopter then turned back for reasons of security.

Reports say that there is tension among the B JP and Congress workers there.

Meanwhile, in a continuation of the ongoing pre-poll violence in the State, several shots were fired on Friday night at the house of Bangkabihari Sharma, a former pradhan of the gram panchayat of Heinou Khongnembi in Imphal west district. Family members recovered empty cartridges and a live round on Saturday morning.

A similar gun attack was made on his house on February 19. Police feel there could be a political angle to the incident, since Sharma is a close associate of a candidate for the upcoming elections.

Tug of war between development schemes between Congress and BJP

Congress story is about scams and for BJP its about new schemes – Sambit Patra

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

With poll campaign ending today for the first phase poll scheduled on February 28, major political parties contesting this election have organized a press conferences in their respective offices by their respective political parties.

Both BJP and the Congress Party which is major contender in these election claims and counter claims over development issues as well as maintenance of law and order conditions. Interestingly Dr. Sambit Patra during a press conference said that Congress story is about scams while BJP's story is about schemes for the welfare of the people.

While Congress party leader Okram Ibobi questions the kind of developmental schemes taken up by the BJP government, the former chief minister said that all the development projects taken up were during the period of Congress government and in the last five years of BJP led government no new schemes or development has taken up.

The former chief Minister was talking to media persons at Congress Bhavan as last minute campaign for the first phase election.

On the other, BJP had stated that after it come to power there has been a lot of improvement in the law and order section and had managed to complete many project which the Congress could not do in 15 years of its government. The BJP in Charge for Manipur, who is also the National Spokesperson, Dr. Sambit Patra while talking media persons organized at the same time today at its party head Office, Thambal Sanglen, Dr. Sambit Patra said that peace and normalcy had return to Manipur after BJP came to power in the state of Manipur.

The story of congress government is about 'Scams' but for the BJP led government it is now about the story of 'Schemes'. Dr. Patra talk about the various developmental schemes being introduced during BJP led government both at center and at state of Manipur.

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PREPAK (Pro) appeals to people to vote for NOTA

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

Terming the upcoming Manipur Legislative Assembly election as 'Fraudulent Election' to prove that Kangleicha accepts Indian democracy, the proscribed group People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (Progressive) has appealed the people to vote for NOTA to show that people doesn't believe in the Indian Election or democracy.

A statement signed by Th. Eshingchaoba, Assistant Publicity Secretary, PREPAK (Pro) said that various election-related violent activities committed by works of candidates like clashed between groups of peoples belonging to different candidates, burning or dismantling of houses, blocking or roads, killings that have been witnessed under

the influence of candidates by dragging them shows that there are full of mistake in the Democratic election. This election, which is meant to elect leaders to serve the people, is nothing but an election to hand power to demons. And the people also gives the mandate to these demons for committing atrocious activities towards them.

The PREPAK (Pro) said that almost all candidates incite violent activism to their supporters and many have criminal records. Handing of power by giving people's mandate to these candidates is similar to handing of power to fool the people by the people.

The armed rebel group also mentioned about the way that each candidate are spending for election. It said each candidates spend from Rs. 1 crore to Rs. 50 crore and if

counted together around Rs. 3000 crore are going to be wasted. These amounts of money are going to be used for buying drugs, illicit liquors and to incite violent activities. What is concern, is that this election may be over but the venoms injected to the people of the society will remain forever.

In connection with the integrity of almost all candidates, the PREPAK (Pro) statement said that these candidates are all after power. They didn't even bother to return to their constituency after getting the certificate but keep themselves busy in joining to whichever party that will form the government. None of the candidates had come out with promises to correct the wrongs in the government even by becoming a good opposition. This so call democracy is not to administer the

state but a fight for power to suppress the people of Kangleipak.

This election is conducted not for the welfare of the people but to prove to the world that the people of Kangleipak still accept Indian democracy, PREPAK (Pro) said and appealed the people not to trust this Indian Election. It said that, like the way that Hitler become a powerful man using the platform of election, winning is not a matter as it is easy if one learned the art of voting and winning, what is matter is the lack of sincere administrative art. As long as the political parties or the politicians remain undemocratic, conducting democratic election will be useless. This election is Free but not fair, and even the Economist Intelligence Unit had also stated Indian democracy as "Flaws" democracy.

Russian attack on Ukraine set to increase inflation

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



In view of the ongoing Assembly elections in five states, the central government has kept the increase in the prices of petrol and diesel stable for the past two months, which is now set to

increase with more buoyancy in coming weeks. Even under normal circumstances, the price rise was certain, but after the Russian armed forces' invasion in Ukraine, consumers' pockets are going to be hit hard in our country. The reason is that the war between the two prominent members of the former USSR has suddenly increased the price of crude oil globally. This is bound to influence the prices of petroleum products everywhere. This could pose further risks to India's rising inflation. We import more than 80 percent of our crude oil requirement from other countries every year. Crude oil imports account for about 25 percent of India's total imports. Crude oil prices hit \$ 96.7 a barrel on Tuesday, the highest since September 2014, after Russian President Vladimir Putin deployed his troops to Donetsk and Luhansk in Ukraine.

Rising global tensions and the Russian attack on Ukraine have fueled a surge in oil prices. The rise in oil and gas prices is directly related to food prices. Since it will become costly to transport goods from one place to another, everything else is sure to be expensive too. India imports crude oil worth \$ 150 billion every year. Due to this the trade balance of the country may deteriorate. In addition to petroleum products, Russia and Ukraine export sunflower oil in a big way and the two countries also account for 25 percent of wheat exports. This is sure to make a difference to Asia and especially India. Inflation resulting from the war will have an impact not only on Russia and Ukraine, but on the whole world, including US and European nations. It has to have an impact on India's inflation for sure.

Corona virus had already troubled the world in the past two years, now the trouble of war has come. By the way, despite the third wave of Covid in India, the first month of this year was good in terms of employment and recruitment. According to a job platform, Jobseek index, there was a 41 per cent year on year growth in recruitments in January 2022. In January last year, this index was at 1925, which reached 2,716 this year. The sectors which proved to be effective for increasing recruitment are IT, Software, Retail and Telecom. Along with this, the growth was 29 percent in the pharma industry, 10 percent in medicine and healthcare, 8 percent in oil and gas, 8 percent in insurance, 7 percent in fast consumer goods (FMCG) and 2 percent in manufacturing. FMCG sales in the month of January 2022 decreased by 10 percent as compared to December 2021. This happened because of the third wave caused by the Omicron variant. According to Bijom, a retail intelligence tracking platform, sales per active general store declined by 5 per cent in January. However, the third wave of Covid is now on the downside, so it is believed that the February report will reach the level of prior to the third wave.

Ways to Make the Most of your Beauty Sleep

Adequate and regular sleep is very important to maintain natural beauty and delay the manifestation of aging signs. During sleep, the body is most relaxed and the essential body processes slow down. This is when the repair and restoration process of the body goes on and the renewal of new cells speeds up. Blood circulation to the skin surface also improves while we sleep. This helps to add a healthy glow to the skin. No wonder, we call it "beauty sleep." On the other hand, lack of sleep reflects itself on the skin and eyes. The skin looks pale and dull. Fatigue also shows up in the eyes. In fact, lack of adequate sleep affects both beauty and health.

An average adult needs seven and a half to eight and a half hours of sleep every night. However, what constitutes "adequate sleep" can be an individual matter. Some people function well enough with less sleep, while others need 7 to 8 hours of sleep daily. Many have problems going off to sleep and there are those who have disturbed sleep, getting up every one or two hours. These patterns can be due to our stress levels and our ability to cope with stress. In every human being there is a "sleep point." It is up to each one of us to discover it. If yours is 11.30 p.m. and you have been watching TV till

1 a.m., you have missed the "sleep point" and may have trouble falling asleep.

Tips to help you sleep:

Your sleep attitude is important. Have regular hours for going to sleep and waking up. Have a time when you go to sleep everyday and keep to it. Try to break the connection between work and stress a little before going to sleep.

This can be done by having a short period of relaxation, when you do something else. A pre-sleep ritual can help..... like having a hot bath, or reading something light, having a glass of warm milk, or meditating, which is great for calming the mind. Try doing deep breathing, breathing in and out slowly and deeply. This also



By: Shahnaz Husain

helps to calm you and induce relaxation.

Recent studies also show that the increasing use of smart phones, tablets, etc., just before retiring for the night actually keeps one awake. It seems the blue light from the screens can lead to insomnia. Doctors advise stopping the use of smart phones and other gadgets

two hours before sleep. The mind should be clear and at rest.

Have a light dinner well before bedtime. Do not go to sleep immediately after a meal and also avoid exercising before bedtime. Avoid having stimulants like coffee before bedtime. Instead, add one tablespoon of honey to a glass of warm milk and have it before bedtime. It is said that minerals like calcium and magnesium help sleep by inducing relaxation and calming the mind. Many of the B Vitamins are also said to help sleep.

It's a good idea not to keep your television in the bedroom. You can try reading a book. It may make you feel drowsy. Have a bed switch to turn off the lights, so that you do not have to get out of bed. Your bed should be comfortable and firm and the room temperature should be comfortable too. Draw the curtains, if street lights or other lights are visible.

Doctors suggest a simple and effective way of dealing with the problem..... Sleep Masks! It is made with material that keeps away light and makes it easier to fall asleep. So, having a sleep mask on would help to keep any light in the room from disturbing you. So, if you are having trouble sleeping, try a sleep mask. Try it on before buying it, as it should fit comfortably round your head. A comfortable sleep mask should have elastic that does not fit too tightly around the head. It is said that a sleep mask is a way of having restful and undisturbed sleep.

However, if you have severe insomnia and these tips do not help, you should get a doctor's advice and treatment.

(The author is international fame beauty expert and is called herbal queen of India)

BENEFITS OF BEAUTY SLEEP

Lesser dark circles

Glowing skin

Skincare products work better

Reduced signs of ageing

Prevents breakouts

Transform schools by new learning methods



By: Vijay GarG

Today, many schools are adopting novel teaching-learning practices. Technology is bringing reforms to cater to individual needs and prepare students for the future. Innovations and advanced learning methodologies are being inculcated to refine and transform the teaching and learning experience to skill acquisition.

As per a global survey, 90% of children in low-income countries, 50% in middle-income countries, and 30% in high-income countries fail to master basic secondary-level skills. Cross-country differences in access to remote learning is also staggered, as less than 25% of low-income countries were providing remote learning opportunities as compared to around 90% of high-income countries. Amid the pandemic, digitalisation has transformed learning patterns and educators need to search solutions to revolutionise the one-size-fits-all classroom learning approach.

A blended learning model provides a solution to the issue of innovating education. It conglomerates the best of online and offline worlds to create tailored learning adventure

for students, teachers, schools, and universities. This change can be propelled along the following lines:

Modern technology helps

Innovations by artificial intelligence, machine learning, and robotics have accommodated the needs of collaborative and spaced learning even after reopening of schools. Classrooms are no longer only referred to as a room in a school/university and learning is no longer confined to lectures from teachers present physically in front of students. Rather, it has shifted to online classrooms imparted by digitally empowered educators through teaching methods like explainer videos to make students understand the concept with gamified tools.

Among other novel learning models, active learning has become an acquired trend during the digital transformation, making students self-learners who opt for learning styles that suit their specific needs. A visual, auditory, and kinesthetic (VAK) learning approach helps students explore their potential by visualising, hearing, and through feelings.

Evolving student-teacher relationship

The relationship between teachers and students has helped students by leading to an uninterrupted learning process. Teachers have transitioned to mentors and guides to innovate customised learning opportunities for each student. It also has brought the learning community on a common platform engaging students, parents, and educators in new ways using technological advancements.

Also, increased personalised interactions between educators and students has enabled them to craft their learning journeys at their own pace based on their skills and interest.

Powering up schools

Deploying education technology effectively helps prevent technology from becoming a costly affair, powering up schools, and improving learning by supporting crucial interactions. It also scales up quality education, facilitating global instructions through computer adapted learning or live classes and thereby, expanding opportunities for student engagement through cross-over learning.

Parent-teacher relationship

Children learn and thrive when parents have an active role in the process of education. Technology has enabled teachers and parents to interact and discuss children's progress more often than in earlier teaching systems. It has enabled easy-to-understand information communicated through digital mechanism on an everyday basis as it has adapted to parents' schedules. An important insight to transform schools via new learning methods is to challenge the mindset of those who believe that families do not influence a child's learning growth.

Thus, transformation in schools will only take place when modern children learn to imbibe and utilise the technological tools available in today's digitally rich world. The impact of education is not limited to contextual knowledge and competencies tested based on school reports. Rather, it draws upon the school's vision for innovation for student's learning. Schools need to look beyond the walls of their schools to discover real transformation and adopt new learning strategies.

No NATO Membership of Ukraine may be the basis of Ceasefire by Russia

President Putin's Military Adventure gives Ominous Signal for Europe

By: C.J. Atkins

Despite the slanted propaganda that passes for "news" in the mainstream Western media right now, the truth of the matter is that there are no good guys when it comes to the conflict in Ukraine. But depending on the day, some of the bad guys outdo the rest.

In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin has said for months that he wanted only to stop NATO expansion into Ukraine and deter attacks against ethnic Russians in the Donbass, dismissing claims that Russia was planning an attack on its neighbor. The precision air strikes and border incursions now underway as part of his "special military operation" put the lie to that. Clearly, the Russian leader was preparing for what the old expert George W. Bush might have called "preemptive self-defense."

Putin sits at the head of a parasitical capitalist and gangster class that rules over the stolen wealth and resources that generations of Soviet workers and farmers built up during 70 years of socialism. He trashes the idea that peoples and nations have the right to determine their own future, questions the legitimacy of Ukraine's existence, and longs for the days of the old Russian Empire. As a political figure, this modern-day would-be czar certainly deserves no sympathy from progressives and leftists in the West.

But to simply portray Putin as the latest incarnation of Hitler, a territory-hungry madman, as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi does, is to intentionally ignore the legitimate security complaints that Russia has been making for years. (It's also a case of finding

Nazis on the wrong side of the Russia-Ukraine border, but more on that in a moment.)

The current crisis is underpinned by issues stretching back over 30 years—from the end of the Cold War to the present. Wayback in 1991, President Bush the First made a pledge to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev that when the USSR withdrew from Eastern Europe, NATO would not seek to add countries there to its ranks.

If the West had truly been interested in creating the conditions for lasting peace for Europe, it would have dissolved NATO completely in that moment. Instead, barely a minute was wasted in proving Bush's promise was empty; the alliance not only expanded into former Warsaw Pact countries like Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Romania, but actually gobbled up nations that were formerly part of the USSR itself, like Latvia and Lithuania.

With the excuse of being a "defensive" alliance against the Soviet Union gone, NATO was openly refashioned into a direct instrument of U.S. military policy. NATO helped tear the country of Yugoslavia to pieces, bombed Afghanistan after Sept. 11th, and pushed Libya into a civil war.

Given this history, Russia's fear of NATO pulling Ukraine into its sphere and creeping directly up to the Russian border is far from absurd. It is little wonder that Putin has been demanding the U.S. and NATO remove all weapons from Ukraine, that a guarantee be issued Ukraine will not join the alliance, and that all former Soviet nuclear weapons on Ukrainian terri-

tory be secured. Any Russian leader—left, right, or center—would ask the same.

On this side of the Atlantic, President Joe Biden has endlessly talked for months of "defending Ukrainian democracy" and of peaceful intentions, all the while deploying increasing numbers of U.S. missiles and troops closer to the Russian border—to not only Ukraine, but Poland, the Czech Republic, and other countries. Fully aware of Russia's security worries, Biden and NATO pushed the envelope anyway, acting as intentional provocateurs. A peacemaker the U.S. president is not.

Although too few have paid attention, Biden has also pulled back the curtain on the U.S. economic interests pushing for a Russia-Ukraine war—the ones who stand to profit here at home from fighting in eastern Europe. There are the usual suspects, of course, the missile makers and plane producers, but the other big winners in this war are the big oil and gas companies.

Repeatedly at points throughout the current crisis, Biden has threatened Germany and Russia's Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline and pushed Berlin to squash the project. All the pipeline talk didn't come out of nowhere.

Companies like Chevron, ExxonMobil, and Shell, along with the hundreds of drilling and shipping contractors that work with them, want to massively step up exports to a Europe starving for gas, but standing in the way has been Russia and its state-owned Gazprom company.

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P-3 Polling Teams Dispersed

IT News
Cepur, Feb 26:

Polling officials and security personnel detailed for duty in 23 polling stations located at far off places in 55-Tipaimukh and 57-Henglep ACs were dispersed from Peace Ground here yesterday General Observer, District Election Officer Pawan Yadav and SP Churachandpur Shivanand Surve oversaw the dispersal process.

Officials for 117 polling stations in Tipaimukh, Thanlon, Henglep and SinghatACs will be dispersed tomorrow.

At the same time Postal Ballot Facilitation Centre was also opened at the dispersal site wherein officials and staff on election duty cast their



votes. The centre will be opened on all dispersal days from 9 am to 1 pm.

Meanwhile, the District Election Officer has issued an order declaring all polling stations as 'No Smoking and To-

bacco Free Zone' by invoking COTPA, 2003. It also empowers the SPs of Churachandpur and Pherzawl to enforce the order and authorises them to take necessary action against violators.

FOB Senapati organizes ICOP on SVEEP

IT News
Senapati, Feb 26:

A one day Integrated Communication & Outreach Programme (ICOP) on Systematic Voters' Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) was organised by Field Outreach Bureau, Senapati under the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting at Kholep village, Kangpokpi District yesterday.

It was attended by Kaithang Haokip, Chairman of Kholep village and Jangkholing, Headmistress of UJB School, Kholep Village as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour respectively. Muan Tombing, Nodal Officer, SVEEP Kangpokpi also attended the programme as resource person.

While giving the keynote address, Waribam Umla, Field Publicity Officer, Field Outreach Bureau, Senapati stated that the ICOP was organised to create awareness among the people about the general electoral process before the upcoming elections.

Speaking as the resource person, Muan Tombing explained briefly about Systematic Voters' Education and Elec-



toral Participation (SVEEP). He mentioned that voter turnout was very less in Kangpokpi District and encouraged the young voters especially, to turn up in large numbers and take part in the decision making of the Government. He also requested the people to have trust in the election machinery and stated that the election department is working very hard to ensure that the electoral process goes smoothly and ethically.

The outreach programme was made all the more interest-

ing by performance of the M/S Thang-Ta & Cultural Research Academy, a Private Registered Troupe under Regional Outreach Bureau, Imphal. They performed three different items of Thang-Ta and one stick dance. Later, a quiz competition was also conducted and prizes distributed.

A. Sankhil George, Field Publicity Assistant, was the moderator of the programme. He encouraged everyone to vote and not to waste their right to vote that comes once in every five years.

No Transgender Electors in Mayang Imphal: RO Sukumar

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

23-Mayang Imphal had recorded the highest voter turnout of 94.37 percent in the 2017 Assembly election among the 13 Assembly Constituencies in Imphal West District, but there is no transgender elector enrolled in the constituency for the 2022 elections, said Returning Officer H Sukumar Singh, adding that every third gender should have enrolled themselves in the electoral list as they have equal right in the democratic process.

The Returning Officer further stated that 23-Mayang Imphal AC has 31,813 electors out of which 15,313 are male and 16,500 are female electors. The constituency, which has no identified transgender electors, has 219 PwD electors and 406 electors above 80 years. 175 electors have been found eligible for Postal Ballot (12D) for Absentee Voters.

Sukumar continued that out of the 41 polling stations in the constituency, 24 have been identified as vulnerable polling stations for the ensu-



ing Assembly election. 23/1-Samushang Shantipur and 23/9-Mayang Imphal Thana AwangLeikaiSokokManing have been identified as Model cum Women Polling Stations.

Md Abdul Latif, an Independent candidate, became the first MLA to represent 23-Mayang Imphal-AC in the Manipur Legislative Assembly by defeating Manipur People's Party candidate KhaidemGulamat Singh in the State Assembly Elections, 1972. Abdul Latif, contesting on MPP ticket, retained the seat for the second time defeating Khaidem Mangol of the Communist Party of India in the 1974 Assembly Elections. Khumujam Amutombi

Singh and Meinam Nilachandra Singh alternatively represented of the constituency from 1980 to 2002. In the 1980 State Assembly Elections, Khumujam Amutombi Singh of the Indian National Congress (Indira) defeated Md. Abdul Latif of the Janata Party. Amutombi, who fought as Indian National Congress candidate, lost to Janata Party's MeinamNilachandra Singh in the 1984 election; however, in the 1990 Assembly elections, Amutombi contested as Janata Dal candidate and defeated Nilachandra, who contested the election as the INC candidate.

INC's Nilachandra defeated JD's Amutombi in the 6th Manipur Legislative Assembly Elections, 1995. Amutombi once again returned as the INC candidate in the 2000 election and defeated Nilachandra, who contested the election as the Manipur State Congress Party candidate.

Nilachandra contested the 2002 election as the Federal Party of Manipur candidate and defeated Abdul Salam of the Manipur National Confer-

ence to return to the Manipur Legislative Assembly.

INC's Dr. Khumujam Ratanakumar Singh, son of former MLA KhumujamAmutombi Singh, defeated Maulana Abdul Salam of the Nationalist Congress Party in the 2007 election. In the 10th Manipur Assembly Elections, 2012, Khumujam Ratanakumar defended the seat defeating Kongkham Manglem Singh of the All India Trinamool Congress. However, in the 2017 Assembly Elections, Kongkham Manglem's son KongkhamRobindro Singh, who contested on BharatiyaJanata Party ticket, defeated INC's Dr. Khumujam Ratanakumar Singh.

23-Mayang Imphal has three candidates in fray for the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly Elections, 2022. They are Deputy Speaker and sitting MLA Kongkham Robindro Singh of the Bharatiya Janata Party, Indian National Congress candidate Dr. Khumujam Ratanakumar Singh and National People's Party candidate Urkhimbam Ramesh Singh.

Personnel fully trained, Set for Poll Duty: Nodal Officer

IT News
Imphal, Feb 25:

Nodal Officer, Training, Imphal West Keisham Jadumani Singh said that all polling and police personnel on poll duty in respect of Imphal West district have been trained and are all set for poll duty on February 28. He added that training for polling personnel for all 13 Assembly Constituencies of Imphal West have been conducted in three phases at 11 different venues.

Phase-wise training has also been conducted for police personnel regarding poll duty. So far five phases of police training have been conducted - three times at Police HQs level and two times at the



Police Stations level.

Preparation for the Election Training Programme for the Manipur State Assembly Election, 2022 in respect of Imphal West District started with the making of Video Explainers of various poll activities including Election Expenditure Monitoring, Model Code of Conduct, Media Certification and Monitoring Committee, Elec-

tronic Voting Machines & VVPATs, Poll Process and Counting of Votes. A total of 21 numbers of video explainers have been prepared, the Nodal Officer said, stating that the step is quite unprecedented and helpful to all who are performing election duty. All the Videos are made available on YouTube of DEO Imphal West and CEO Manipur. Some of videos have good viewership reaching 21K plus etc.

Considering the importance of Women empowerment and encouraging participation of women in the conduct of election, all women Assembly Level Master Trainers having 39 trainers were appointed and have provided training on EVM & VVPAT handling and poll process duty, he said.

In view of the COVID pandemic, two days Virtual Training Programme was conducted through E-Lite TV, social media like YouTube of DEO Imphal West. More than 7k people have viewed the programme and trained themselves, he added.

The Offline Training for 2,544 polling personnel including All Women Polling Teams for all the 13 ACs has been done in three phases. The trainings were conducted with teaching aids like Projectors, Video Explainers, Practicing on Printed Forms, etc. Moreover, after completion of normal trainings, On Demand Training was arranged for all Returning Officers on 25th February, to clear doubts regarding poll duty. A dedicated team is ready to clear any doubt of the poll process. WhatsApp Groups of all AC-wise Polling Personnel have been created for any queries. Some other new things that have been introduced in training of Polling Personnel are teaching of PwD signage to the Polling Officers for easy facilitation of PwD voters while casting votes, installation of web casting cameras, booth

apps for using on poll day, e-tracker application for tracking the polling personnel.

Trainings for Micro-observers and Polling Personnel for Absentee Voters have been held two times each. Trainings for Model Code of Conduct, in two phases, were conducted for all teams of AEO, VST, VVT, FST, Call Centre and Complaint Monitoring Cell, he said. Training for C-vigil App has also been conducted to provide awareness on how to use the App to check Model Code of Conduct violation. The EEM team was also trained in two phases. Training for Sector Officers regarding maintenance of law and orders, EVM, VVPAT working etc. was held at the SCERT Hall.

Regarding Media Certification, training was held for all staff concerned and for representatives of political parties and candidates. Training was also conducted for representatives of Candidates/Election agents for account reconciliations.

The nodal officer said that Presiding Officers will command the poll at the polling stations. They are the leaders who will exercise the powers of conduct of election rules and instructions of Election Commission of India, and as such should perform their duties sincerely to let the people exercise their franchise in a fair and peaceful manner, he added.

All Polling Officers should carefully read all forms/handbooks/printed materials that have been provided to them and at the same time go through all documents on the day before poll day, he said adding that they should also clear their doubts from the master trainers before the poll day.

All officers and officials who have been appointed for election duty shall be proud of election duty and perform their duties with motivation and dedication, said Nodal Officer Keisham Jadumani.

Contd. from Page 2

No NATO Membership of Ukraine may be the basis....

Currently, Russian natural gas accounts for over 30% of all imports into the European Union. Leading EU powers Germany and France get 40% of their gas from Russia, while some other countries, like the Czech Republic and Romania, use only Russian gas.

In order to dislodge the competition and grab market share, the Western multinationals need to slow the flow of gas from the east. Completed late last year and due to become operational in 2022, Nord Stream 2 would permanently cap U.S. sales, which arrive via expensive shipping terminals.

The government of Ukraine, which benefits from transit fees for existing overland pipelines, lobbied Washington all summer last year to impose sanctions on Nord Stream 2 and the German and Russian companies behind it. With Putin's invasion, Ukraine's rulers and the Western gas companies got what they asked for. Nord Stream 2 is postponed, indefinitely; Germany has revived plans for more

terminals to ship in U.S. gas; and world energy prices have soared as a result of the war.

Now, as for the talk of Nazis—well, the real fascists in this situation are the ones who rule the roost in Kiev and have command over the Ukrainian Armed Forces. Though he's playing a starring role at the moment, President Volodymyr Zelensky—a Russian-speaking comedian turned nationalist politician—is just the latest in a string of rotating faces at the top of the right-wing Ukrainian state.

The current government came to power in the wake of the 2014 "Euromaidan" protests that overthrew the corrupt albeit democratically-elected administration of President Viktor Yanukovich. Trying to play Russia and the EU off one another to get the best economic deal for Ukraine when he was in charge, Yanukovich became the target of Western-backed business interests in Ukraine and ultra-nationalist neo-Nazi groups. The latter

joined together, with U.S. support, to carry out a coup and send Yanukovich running for Moscow.

In the wake of that coup, labor unions and left-wing parties were severely repressed in Ukraine. In Odessa, dozens of union members were burned alive in one case of mass murder, while activists of the Ukrainian Communist Party and other groups have been forced underground.

From the beginning of the current crisis, the Zelensky government has waffled. At one moment, it presses for confrontation because it thinks it might be able to extract more military and economic aid from NATO while protecting its own pipeline profits as the handler of Russian gas. Then, at another moment, it cautions against war panic when it starts to look like the situation might actually engulf them in a real war.

Zelensky openly announced his desire last week to execute a war "with foreign military support" against Russia

and the breakaway regions its east. Then, when Russian missiles start to rain down and troops cross the border, he suddenly casts his country as a poor victim in a "war of aggression." Having perhaps convinced himself Russia would never actually ever respond with a full-scale military assault, Zelensky may now be waking up to the realization he made a bad gamble.

Does all of the foregoing justify the "special military operation" now being carried out in Ukraine by Putin's forces though? His claim that Ukraine needs to be "demilitarized" and "de-Nazified" is certainly a laudable goal, given the clique that holds power in Kiev and the developments in that country since 2014. But the actions taken by the Russian military—which so far involve strikes on Ukrainian military infrastructure, air defense sites, airfields and military aircraft—constitute a major escalation of the conflict and must be condemned. Putin said he wanted

no invasion but launched one anyway.

But there's more than enough blame to go around. The U.S., NATO, and Ukraine said they wanted peace but provoked a war anyway. The U.S.-led imperialist encirclement of Russia after the Cold War and the brutal actions of the fascist-backed government in Kiev conspired together to bring us to this moment.

In this war, the Ukrainian people will lose. The Russian people will lose. The people of Europe will lose. And the American people will lose. In all these places, money will be redirected toward wasteful military spending or the energy monopolies and away from people's needs. In Ukraine and Russia, hundreds or perhaps thousands more lives will be lost.

To avert further catastrophe and upset the plans of the war profiteers, all the governments and forces involved must be pressured to pull back and return to the negotiating table. (IPAService)

Campaigning ends for First Phase Poll in Kangpokpi

IT News
Kangpokpi, Feb 26:

Campaigning for the first phase of the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly Elections, 2022 ends as silent period begins from 4 pm today in Kangpokpi district. Two days are left for the 10,0351 (49,631 male and 50,720 female) voters of the district to decide the political fate of 17 (seventeen) candidates contesting in the three assembly constituencies.

The silent period is a ban on political campaigning prior to voting, to give voters a peaceful time to consider and make a final decision on their vote. The period starts from 48 hours prior to close of the poll. The presence of political functionaries from outside the constituency will be restricted.

Also, election matters shall not be telecasted/broadcasted in radio, TV or similar apparatus, while pre-certification by State/District Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) is mandatory for publication of political advertisement in newspaper during the silent period. Public Meeting, procession among others will also be prohibited.

On poll day, candidates shall not canvass within 100 metres of polling station and shall also not enter polling booth with security. No one will be allowed to carry mobile phones inside the polling



booth except for the Presiding Officer and Polling Officer-I.

As per Section - 126 of the Representation of People Act 1951, holding public meeting is prohibited during period of 48-hours ending with hour fixed for conclusion of poll. No person shall convene, hold or attend, join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with an election.

No person shall propagate any election matter to the public by holding, or by arranging the holding of any musical concert or any theatrical performance or any other entertainment or amusement with a view to attracting the members of the public thereto, in any polling area. Further, any person who contravenes the above provisions shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

Meanwhile dispersal of Polling Parties, Micro Observ-

ers (MO) and Sector Officers (SO) in respect of the three assembly constituencies of the Kangpokpi District is scheduled on February 27, 2022. The Dispersal cum Reception Centre (DCRC) for the ACs will be at the Kangpokpi DC Office.

Voter Assistance Booth will be set up in all polling stations. Provisions for pick up/drop facilities for persons with disability (PwD) and aged voters are made available with wheelchair facility being provided. Dedicated five vehicles for each constituency are deployed in Kangpokpi district for PwD and aged voters. For 80+ and PwD, who have not yet applied for postal ballot will be considered as normal voters.

To ensure safe voting for electors, all polling stations will be sanitised one day before polls. Earmarking of circles, token system will be in place to avoid crowding in polling stations and adequate sanitiser,

mask, glove, face shield, PPE kit among others will be provided to polling parties.

LIVE Webcasting will be done in 73 polling stations - 12 in Saikul (ST), 27 in Kangpokpi and 34 in Saitu (ST) Assembly Constituencies and videography will be done in 93 polling stations of the district.

Meanwhile speaking to the DIPR officials of the Kangpokpi District, General Observer Shri Probbudutta David Pradhan, IAS, appealed to the general public for a free and fair election in the district. Wishing good luck to the entire district election team, he appealed the public to extend cooperation to the polling team.

He also urged everyone to cooperate with the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and police personnel deployed for the smooth conduct of the election. He opined that the polling will be conducted smoothly.

MSFDS calls for entry for the 14th Manipur State Film Awards, 2022

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

Manipur State Film Development Society, MSFDS, is accepting entries for the 14th Manipur State Film Awards, 2022 to be given to Manipuri feature films, Documentary films, Short films, and Music Videos produced and censored by the Central Board of Film Certification, CBFC, between 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2021.

Entries for the State Film Awards are also invited for Best Writings on Manipuri Cinema, consisting of awards for Best Film Critics and Best Book on

Manipuri Cinema published between 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2021 in Manipuri or English language. Films made in Manipuri language or any dialects spoken in the State and censored by the CBFC are eligible for entry in the Competition.

For Non-feature films, the commentary/narration may also be in English. Interested filmmakers, producers, film critics and authors of film books may apply online for the State Awards from 1st March 2022 onwards on www.msfsds.org or www.msfsds.net. The last date for online as well as offline submission of entries is 15th

March 2022 and distribution of the prestigious awards would be organized on Mami Numit, the 9th April 2022 at the Palace Auditorium, Palace Gate.

The State Film Awards is an annual State Film event organized by MSFDS on behalf of the Government of Manipur mainly to encourage the production of Manipuri Cinema of aesthetic excellence and social relevance that contribute to the understanding and appreciation of cultures of different regions of the State in cinematic form, thereby promote integration and unity of Manipur State.

11,499 new Covid cases in India, positivity rate drops to 1.01%

Agency
New Delhi, Feb 26:

India on Saturday reported a jump of 11,499 coronavirus, pushing the overall tally to 42,905,844, according to the daily health bulletin by the Union ministry. The death toll saw a rise of 255 fatalities, the ministry data also showed. It now stands at 5,13,481. The number of active cases further declined to 1,21,881. It currently comprises 0.28 per cent of the total infections, the ministry also said. A reduction of 12,354 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

As the third wave of the Covid is subsiding in the coun-

try, the positivity rate has fallen to 1.01 per cent. While the national Covid-19 recovery rate has improved to 98.52 per cent, the health ministry said.

As many as 23,598 people recovered in the last 24 hours, taking the overall figure to 4,22,70,482.

The weekly positivity rate stands at 1.36 per cent, the ministry added.

So far, the country has administered 177.13 crore doses of the Covid-19 vaccines. Meanwhile, 11,36,133 samples have been tested for the viral disease.

On Friday, the Union home ministry called upon states and Union territories across the country to consider easing

pandemic-related restrictions in view of the steady decline in fresh cases. In the monthly Covid-19 guidelines issued on Friday, the home ministry directed the states and Union territories to implement the resumption of activities based on "risk assessment".

The Centre's new directive includes cinema halls, schools and gyms along with other social restrictions.

The home ministry also stressed that while allowing all such activities, Covid-appropriate measures such as wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing, washing hands and ensuring ventilation in enclosed spaces should continue to be enforced.

Western Naval Command Conducts High-Level Meeting on Theatre Commands

IT Correspondent
Mumbai, Feb 26:

Tri-services discussions on the modalities and structural framework for the creation of Integrated Theatre Commands for the Indian Armed Forces were held under the aegis of Western Naval Command at Mumbai on Friday.

The meeting aimed at building togetherness and enhancing organizational synergy among the three Services.

A total of nine Commanders-in-Chief from the Indian Army, Navy, Air Force, and Andaman and Nicobar Com-

mand, came together for a high-level meeting to discuss and deliberate on various aspects related to setting up the Integrated Maritime Theatre Command. The meeting was chaired by Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, nominated as the lead Commanders-in-Chief, for the Study.

In addition to the Commanders-in-Chiefs, nearly 50 senior officers from various Commands of the three Services as well as from Headquarters, Integrated Defence Staff and Department of Military Affairs also attended the meeting and provided inputs

towards laying a strong foundation for the Theatre Command. The meeting was conducted on Thursday and Friday.

Japanese Navy Chief visits India

In another development Admiral Hiroshi Yamamura, Chief of Staff (COS), Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) on a visit to India, was accorded a 50 men guard at the majestic South Block lawns in New Delhi followed by an interaction with Admiral R Hari Kumar, Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) on Friday.

Both the Principals high-

lighted the excellent ongoing interaction between the two professional Navies and discussed avenues to enhance cooperation through capability enhancement and collaborative efforts, an Indian Navy statement said.

Earlier, Admiral Yamamura paid homage to the fallen heroes at the National War Memorial. Admiral Hiroshi Yamamura is a distinguished speaker at the "International Maritime Seminar (IMS)" being conducted by the Indian Navy on Sunday at Visakhapatnam, as part of the multilateral Naval exercise "MILAN 2022".

Russia-Ukraine War: High Rise in Kyiv hit by Missile; 3 Kids among 198 Ukrainians Killed 2 Days into Fighting

Agency
Moscow, Feb 26:

Ukrainian soldiers repulsed a Russian attack in the capital, the military said early Saturday, only hours after President Volodymyr Zelensky warned that Moscow would attempt to take Kyiv before dawn in the conflict that is now escalating every hour.

Russian leader Vladimir Putin unleashed a full-scale invasion on Thursday that has killed dozens of people, forced more than 50,000 to flee Ukraine in just 48 hours and sparked fears of a new Cold War in Europe.

India is 'deeply disturbed' by recent turn of developments in Ukraine, said India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations. Urging that all efforts be made for the immediate cessation of violence and hostilities, he said no solution could ever be arrived at the cost of human lives.

Speaking at the UNSC meeting on Ukraine, Tirumurti said India was also deeply concerned about the welfare and security of the Indian community, including a large number of Indian students in Ukraine. "Contemporary global order has been built on UN Charter, international law and respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of states. We agreed to the Russian Federation's

President's proposal. Currently, the parties are debating the location and timing of the negotiation process during these hours. The sooner negotiations begin, the better the chances of returning to normalcy," he said.

Russia, as expected, vetoed a UN Security Council resolution on Friday that deplored "in the strongest terms" the country's "aggression" against Ukraine and demanded the immediate withdrawal of its troops. Eleven of the council's 15 members voted for the motion, which was co-written by the United States and Albania. China, India and the United Arab Emirates abstained.

The resolution was always doomed to fail because of Moscow's veto power as a permanent member of the council. However the debate offered member nations an opportunity to voice condemnation of President Vladimir Putin's decision to launch a full-scale offensive against Russia's neighbor.

"Let me make one thing clear," US Ambassador to the UN Linda Thomas-Greenfield said after the vote. "Russia, you can veto this resolution, but you cannot veto our voices, you cannot veto the truth, you cannot veto our principles, you cannot veto the Ukrainian people."

The word "condemns" was replaced by "deplores" and a reference to Chapter 7 of the UN Charter, which allows members to take military action to restore peace, was deleted.

The resolution reaffirmed the sovereignty of Ukraine and called for Russia to "immediately cease its use of force against Ukraine." Ultimately, more than 70 countries co-sponsored the resolution.

"Make no mistake, Russia is isolated. It has no support for the invasion of Ukraine," said Britain's ambassador to the UN, Barbara Woodward. Before the vote, Thomas-Greenfield described Russia's attack as "so bold, so brazen, that it threatens our international system as we know it."

"We have a solemn obligation to not look away... At the very minimum, we have an obligation to object," she said. "Vote yes if you believe Russia should be held to account for its actions. Vote no or abstain if you do not uphold the charter and align yourselves with the aggressive and unprovoked actions of Russia."

Moscow's UN envoy, Vassily Nebenzia, denounced the resolution as "anti-Russian and anti-Ukrainian." "It is difficult for us to compete with the US in terms of the number of invasions carried out. You are in no position to moralize," he said.

Sports

Tug of war between development...



Spokesperson of the State Government and the member of the National Executive Committee member Th. Biswajit while re-iterated that BJP will win in over 40 seats in this election. The

State BJP leader said that while visiting and campaigning at various assembly constituencies in the state he is confident that the BJP will get absolute majority. This is because the BJP

led government has cleaned the dirt during the congress government and the BJP initiative to develop far-flung villages in the state has made people confident to BJP.

Assam Rifles apprehends 3 Armed

IT News
Imphal, Feb 26:

In a major breakthrough against the insurgent groups in Manipur, Jwalamukhi Battalion of Headquarter 22 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of Headquarters Inspector General Assam Rifles (East), apprehended 03 active Cadres of KRA with three 9mm pistols, 25 live rounds and two mobile phones in Kangchup, KANGPOKPI District of Manipur on 25 February 2022.

The operation was carried out by COB Kangchup of Jwalamukhi Battalion. The party established a Mobile check post on Singda-Kangchup road based on specific information of mov of armed cadres in the AoR. The Mobile checkpoint stopped 3 suspected vehs and while carrying out search, apprehended indls near Singda Dam.