

Rescue operation will continue for 3 more days: Minister Awangbow Newmai

IT News
Imphal, July 11:

Water Resource and Relief & Disaster Management Minister Shri Awangbow Newmai said that the rescue operation of the victims of Marangching (Makhaum) Landslide will continue for three more days.

The Minister reiterated that the rescue operation will continue till all the victims are found. He informed that three (3) more dead bodies are found, and the death toll mounts to 53 from the landslide that struck a railway construction site at Tupul in Noney district.

Considering the hardships faced by the officials and volunteers who had been carrying out the rescue and search operation for 12 days continuously, Awangbow said that a review meeting will be held to discuss for providing additional force in the rescue team. The minister also requested the



Army, NDRF, SDRF and volunteers for full cooperation unless the missing victims are found.

It may be mentioned that Minister Awangbow continuously supervised the ground zero of the landslide affected

areas.

Over 880 personnel, including those of the National Disaster Response Force, the State Disaster Response Force, the police, the Assam Rifles and local volunteers, have

been deployed in the search operation.

Over 43 excavators have been used to clear the debris which blocked the Jlei river, forming dam-like storage and threatening the people living nearby.

NSCN-IM not happy with GoI says, Naga people will not accept toxic divisive policy to repeat past blunder

Agency
Kohima, July 11:

NSCN-IM stated that Naga people will not accept toxic divisive policy to repeat the past blunder.

NSCN-IM stated the state of affairs on the ongoing Indo-Naga political talks as seen today is a matter of regret as rogue elements are pushing around with the blessing of the

GOI targeting the destruction of Framework Agreement. No where in the world had we witnessed such un-ethical political maneuver. Destructive forces are being sponsored by the very power engaged with National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN) to bring Naga

political solution since the talk began in 1997 after signing the historic Second Indo-Naga Ceasefire. The elements of perfidy, deceit, duplicity, double dealings and treachery had been planted by the government of India Intelligence agencies in the same manner when the state of Nagaland was created under the 16 Points Agreement.

The outfit said that this time round the GOI is desperately trying to push through a new edited version of 16 Points Agreement at the cost of betraying the Framework Agreement signed with the NSCN on 3rd August, 2015.

Interestingly, when NNPGs Convener Kitovi trav-

elled to Arunachal Pradesh to meet the Nagas of Tirap, Longding and Changlang, he was escorted by Assam Rifles. Ironically, some Naga CSOs were put in such condition that they were made to declare support to Agreed Position but under duress. And the main reason found out was that TLC (Tirap, Longding and Changlang districts) organization is headed by a close relative of Tikhat, the so called Ato Kilonser of NSCN(R) of NNPGs.

NSCN-IM said that this was followed by another meeting in Guwahati called by AK Mishra.

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6 houses damaged in erosion of Jiri river bank

IT Correspondent
Jiribam, July 11:

Around 6 houses were gobbled up by the erosion of the left bank of Jiri river at Jiribam district.

Affected residents have started shifting to safer places since Sunday morning as the river is gulping chunks of land every hour.

Sources said the Jiri river had started eroding land at the back side of Jiribam bazaar area on Sunday morning which affected 4 families and rented-2 houses.

After getting the information, the district administra-



tion took up prompt action and sifted the affected families and their belongings to the safer places.

The erosion that we have been witnessing since today morning. Within short period of 6 houses in a rows were collapsing into the river.

It might be recall here that, few years back river embankment was erected for the anti erosion at the Jiri river bank but unfortunately most of the embankment were collapsed and local expected due to which erosion took places in the areas.

On E-Pharmacy Companies: Gujarat High Court re-iterate Delhi High Court stand

IT News
Imphal, July 11:

Gujarat High Court had issued notices to the Central and State Governments along with E-Pharmacy companies on a case filed in relation to misuse of the process of arranging a call to the customer and their employed medical professionals where in on the basis of a skeletal discussion, a prescription of medicines is generated.

"During this consultation

which is very limited, the identity of the doctor is not known and they do not see any medical reports before issuing a prescription. This affects the health of the citizens directly", quoting the HC notice, a statement by the Manipur Chemists & Druggists Association (MCDA) said.

It was submitted that such prescriptions have not sanctity in the eyes of law and action needs to be taken by National Medical Commission (formerly Medical Council of

India) against the doctors who provide prescriptions which are not genuine. It was also submitted that it is even not known that such medical professionals have the specialized qualification to prescribe the drugs on tier letterhead.

It was further submitted that the websites selling the drugs and prescription medicines do not have licenses as required under Section 18 of the Drugs and Cosmetic Act, 1940 read with Rule 61 and 62 of the Drug Rules, 1945. Fur-

ther, it was submitted that it is shocking that in the online pharmacies, certain schedule drugs are dispensed without any Prescription, which can be ordered by the child aged below 18 years and which would be injurious to his health.

Further, it is submitted that the provision with regard to issuance of license to the e-pharmacy firms, also does not satisfy as there is no such provision mentioned in the Act.

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Welcome

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World population growing at a high pace

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



The world population is currently touching the figure of 8 billion. Looking at the speed with which the human population is increasing in various

countries of the world, it is estimated that by the year 2050, the total human population on the earth will reach 10 billion or more. This is a very huge number, which is posing a danger in terms of food supply and other day-to-day necessities of the people. The burden of the human population on the earth is increasing every passing year, while humans are destroying other creatures and trees for their greed and to make their life comfortable. The life of all living beings in nature is dependent on each other. This makes an ecosystem. The bio-balance of the earth is disturbed when the number of any of these organisms or vegetation increases or decreases out of proportion. As a result, all kinds of natural calamities and problems arise. Man is increasing his population, and is bent on destroying trees, vegetation, insects, birds, animals, and wildlife in different ways. This is a matter of great concern. Problems are arising due to this reason not only in one country but in all the countries of the world. In terms of population, China ranks first in the world, India is second, and America is in third place. As the population increases, facilities like education, health, and housing decline. The crisis of the availability of fuel to food arises in front of the world. Due to the increasing population, problems related to the environment, food supply, water shortage, energy crunch, unemployment, etc. arise in all the countries of the world. As the population increases, the standard of living falls and problems creep in. About 17 percent of the world's population lives in India, where illiteracy is the main reason for population growth.

About 50 percent of the world's population (8 billion) is present on various social media platforms. That is, about 4 billion people are constantly active on social media. Of these, 30 percent of social media users are those who are below 30 years of age. To attract most of these youth and make them join their gangs, terrorists from all over the world are super active on social media. The condition is that 90 percent of terrorist activities are being carried out through social media only. IS is considered the world's most dangerous terrorist organization, which has 70 million followers on Twitter. Terrorist organizations such as the Taliban and IS use social media, including platforms such as Facebook, YouTube, and WhatsApp, to recruit new members to execute their terrorist operations. These people make videos of terrorist incidents and post them on social media and make them viral. They also earn huge income from the advertisements running on their social media accounts.

Apart from climate and natural disasters, other problems facing the world population include wars, conflicts, and economic or political tensions between different countries. For example, in Sri Lanka at the moment the situation is very bad. Their people do not have food to eat, and there is no petrol and diesel available for transport or travel. The country remains politically unstable. The economies of south-east Asian nations like Sri Lanka and Pakistan have collapsed due to their dependence on China. A situation like Sri Lanka can get repeated in Pakistan any day, as is estimated by political experts. People in Sri Lanka are facing a severe shortage of food and fuel. There is an atmosphere of extreme anarchy in the country. The main reason behind this crisis is being told that the government there suddenly turned the country towards organic farming, and completely banned the import of fertilizers from outside. The people of Sri Lanka were not ready for such a big change. This created a crisis of agricultural production. Today the situation there is such that essential food items like tomato, potato, and rice are being sold at the rate ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 1000 per kg. The situation in Pakistan is also similar. The Pakistan government has to take new loans to pay the interest on its debt. The people there are also very upset. China gave huge loans to these two countries to implement many of its projects. Now China is not coming forward to help them.

The way floods create havoc in the northeast, particularly in Assam during the rainy season, almost the same devastation occurs every year in hill states like Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh as well. Due to excessive rainfall in these hilly regions, there is a lot of destruction to infrastructure and property. In many other states also accidents happen due to floods in rivers. Recently, a cloudburst near the Amarnath cave killed over 15 pilgrims, while many more are missing. Stones are falling on Kedarnath's all-weather road in Uttarakhand. Recently a car was badly damaged due to heavy stone falling in the Kasauli area of Himachal Pradesh. Those traveling towards the mountains during the rainy season should be very careful. Traveling on dangerous routes should be avoided as far as possible. It is not free from danger to visit places of tourist importance even on rainy days.

Almost every person in India has a mobile phone, while a large population owns a smartphone. According to a recent report by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), 60 percent of the people in the country use the Internet. In urban areas, this number is 70 percent, while in rural areas about 40 percent of people use the Internet. In the last year, the number of telephone and internet subscribers in the country has increased, while the income of telecom companies has gone down. Mobile phones have the largest number of Internet users in the country, and this figure is about 97 percent.

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Overpopulation, an Asset or a Curse



By: N. Munal Meitei

Economist think population as an asset but from environmental perspective, it's a curse. July, 11 is celebrated as the World Population Day as the world population reached 5 billion on this day during 1987. This day is observed to raise awareness among people about the impact of growing population, family planning, reproductive health, maternal health, poverty, issues on gender equality, human rights and environmental issues.

No simple relationship exists between population size and environmental challenges. However, overpopulation triggered climate change, pollution, water crisis, soil erosion, deforestation, loss of ecosystems and biodiversity, fossil fuels and emergence of new diseases. We cannot have a sustainable planet without stabilizing population. It will lead to more starvation, hunger and unhygienic living conditions in poor countries. As human populations grow, the price of all this "growth" is paid for by other endangered plants and animals and an increasingly volatile and dangerous climate crisis.

Each human being has a legitimate claim on a sufficient and fair amount of Earth's resources. But with a population approaching 8 billion, even if everyone adopted a relatively low material standard of

living, it would still push Earth to its ecological breaking point. Unfortunately, the average person on Earth consumes about 50% and in developed countries, it's almost five times more than the sustainable yield of the planet. Thus mankind will need two Earths by 2030. Overpopulation and overconsumption will affect everything from climate change to sociopolitical unrest.

The current world population is 7.96 billion and India's population is 1.40 billion as on July 7, 2022 as per Worldometer. Thus 1 in every 5 persons on the earth is an Indian. The world population will touch 12 billion by 2100 and that will really be a population bomb. The theme for world population day, 2022 is "A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all."

India was the first country to launch the national family planning program in 1952 with the objective of reducing birth rate to stabilize the population with the requirement of national economy. Reproductive health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease. Therefore it implies the rights of the citizens to have access to safe, effective, affordable and acceptable methods of family planning at their choice.

It gives the messages that to live together equitably on a healthy planet will depend on the choices and decisions we make now. This is an opportunity to celebrate our common humanity in diversity. It is also a reminder of our responsibility to care for each other and our planet.

Human and environmental health underpins in the millennium development goals which seek to

eradicate poverty and hunger and ensure environmental sustainability. But to fulfill the requirements for 7.96 billion peoples by the mother earth is almost impossible. Thus 821 million people in the world - 1 in 8 - do not have access to enough food. Around 2.2 billion population i.e. 1 in 3 people do not have safety drinking water and 1 in 5 do not have their adequate housing.

One of the reasons for the rapid population growth is technological development which push environmental capacity to another limit. We mined, farmed, built power plants and many development works to make us suitable, which in turn leads to population growth. Another reason for population growth is improvement in health sector. People live longer and longer increasing the average global life expectancy 67 years in 2000 to 72.6 in 2021.

At present, globally, 5 persons are born and about 2 persons are died every second resulting an increase of approximately 9.46 crores population per year. FAO estimates that a person required about 1.57 kg. of food per day. Hence in order to feed these increased population, a huge tropical rainforest are cut to the size of 20 football grounds per minute amounting to 6 billion trees which is almost the size of North-East India every year. But, a tree can sink about one ton of CO2 and can also produce the oxygen requirement for 8-10 persons annually.

Due to faster in population growth in forest and tribal areas, naturally available forest resources and non-timber forest products are becoming inadequate for their basic livelihood. Many tribal people are giving up their traditional lifestyle and taking up farming and

cattle ranching in the forest areas causing irreparable damages. Such people, formerly the protectors of forests, are gradually becoming threats to the forests and wildlife. Governments should devise schemes to avert this harm and save the dwindling forest areas including the flora and fauna.

Our planet can offer a quality of life to not more than 2 billion people. Human have a greedy tendency to want more and more in the name of development. Thus, there will come a time when population growth and welfare collide. That time, floods of people will trek all over the world searching for more food and welfare causing for political conflicts and wars. The only solution is a population policy applied on a worldwide scale. The business world and the religions are generally interested in population growth.

In Manipur, the population impact to our environment is innumerable. To meet the requirement, many wetlands of the state have now turned into croplands and fish farms. But we know wetlands are the cradle for biodiversity. Hence, we should protect our wetlands and paddy fields by strictly implementing the Manipur Conservation of Paddy Land and Wetland Act, 2014. Due to large scale poppy plantation, Jhuming, illicit felling of trees, extraction of firewood etc. have given a big challenge to our environment too.

Therefore until and unless we control the population explosion, we would not be able to save our environment and if we do not voluntarily accept this fact and take the responsibility, then we will surely be in an environmental dilemma within the next few years.

(The author is an Environmentalist, email-nmunal@yahoo.in)

Poppy/Ganja Plantation and Christianity

By:Ayo Kasar

In Manipur, large quantity of drugs are seized/recovered every day from different places by Police and other Security Forces since last 2/3 years. The place where drugs were manufactured was "Golden Triangle" located between Laos and Thailand and soon its kind first entered the state Manipur in the first part of 1960. On hearing about this, people were so scared and even hesitate sitting together by the side of the addicts. But now, Manipur among the Northeast States has become the second "Golden Triangle", because poppy plantation is very famous in Manipur. Why so abundance of drugs in Manipur? The answer can be given by a boy either from Ukhrul or Senapati or Churachandpur easily because poppy plantation and manufacturing are only done in hill districts where God-fearing people dominate having big, big Churches built up on the top of the villages having white cross showing "This is the house of God". Shame! shame in the eyes of the world. Do you not even once remember the speech of Rev. Dr. Tuishim Shishak who shouted in a Church saying "God will never accept your tithes of Ganja". Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, let us always keep in mind

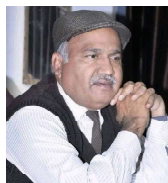
the Words of God, quote:- "No one can serve two masters, either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other"- Mathew 6:24 unquote:- Dear Christian fellows, remember one day or the other we shall stand before God and He will exhibit everything, all that we have done, either good or bad and accordingly be put to judgement. Recovery of such huge quantity of drugs are reported daily and handsome rewards were given to the Police officers and other concerned Forces. But people are murmuring among themselves that since last many years we have not

heard of any major punishment award-A to such offenders in spite of recovery or seizure of such large quantity of drugs. We have come across in the daily media that quote :- Singapore highest court has upheld the death sentence of two India origin men convicted of conspiring to traffic only 1.3 kilograms of Cannabis in March, 2016 according to media report in the Sangai Express dated Nov. 28, 2021 unquote:- In Manipur, a Jeepload of drugs in soap cases were seized but not awarded any terrible punishment in Manipur. Thus the blame goes to the concerned departments.

However, keeping in mind the problem of the elderly, the governments make arrangements for medical etc. Some governments have also made arrangements for pension etc., but all that is so insufficient that their troubles do not go away. This has once again underlined the question of social security of the people. Now there is no pension facility even in government jobs, what about private institutions.

Many people have already spent out of the money of provident fund etc. while in the job, what is left is not useful for life. Those working in the unorganized sector do not have any support for that either. Many times there was a demand to mobilize measures for the social security of the people, but no government took any practical step on this. In the coming times also, the face of social security from the governments is not visible. How can the plight of the elderly be removed in the last phase of life.

Plight of the Elderly man



By: Vijay Garg

How can the plight of the elderly be removed in the last phase of life

Indian society is known for the service and respect of its elders. Of the three debts that have been said to not be released without repayment, one of the debts is also of the parents. That is, the service of the parents who raised them in old age is considered the highest

value. But it seems, these prices are going to materialize. Complaints about parents, disrespect to their elders, not taking proper care of their maintenance, harassment etc., are heard a few times in the society, but the evidence of this is also available from a recent survey. Help-Age India survey shows that forty-seven percent of the elderly are financially dependent on their families.

This survey has been studied by dividing it into several parts, in which the serious aspect is that the elderly are dependent on their family members due to lack of pension and deposit capital. They neither get proper medical treatment nor other health related things. Being financially weak, many elderly people get humiliated and neglected by their own children. From human point of view, this condition cannot be said to be a sign of a healthy society.

It is strange that the parents who spend their whole life in rais-

ing, educating, nurturing their future, in old age the same children start considering them as a burden. The truth of our own society is also that many elderly people live in old age homes in big cities. Many elders look to their children for food, water, treatment and suffer their scolding every day. How much has been written against this trend, how many films have been made, many voluntary organizations are trying to overcome this problem, but the reality is that the problems of the elderly are increasing.

Those whose children have left them and moved to other cities, their economic and emotional problems are different, those who are part of their children's family also do not get respect. Depend on the kids for pie-pie. Many elders have spent all their earning money on building houses for children, their education, other amenities etc. and are empty handed after retirement. Even if there is some pension or deposit, it is not worth living with respect.

India reports 16,678 new cases, 26 deaths; BA.2.75 variant may be able to spread rapidly, say scientists

Agency
New Delhi, July 11:

With 16,678 new coronavirus infections being reported in a day, India's total tally of COVID-19 cases rose to 4,36,39,329, while the active cases increased to 1,30,713, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday. The death toll climbed to 5,25,454 with 26 new fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

Meanwhile, the quickly changing coronavirus has spawned yet another super contagious omicron mutant that's worrying scientists as it gains ground in India and pops up in numerous other countries, including the United States. Scientists say

the variant – called BA.2.75 – may be able to spread rapidly and get around immunity from vaccines and previous infection. "It's still really early on for us to draw too many conclusions," said Matthew Binnicker, director of clinical virology at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. "But it does look like, especially in India, the rates of transmission are showing kind of that exponential increase."

Multiple Chinese cities are adopting fresh Covid-19 curbs, from business halts to lockdowns, to rein in new infections, with the commercial hub of Shanghai bracing for another mass testing campaign after detecting the BA.5 Omicron subvariant. As China sticks to its "dynamic

zero-Covid" policy of promptly stamping out all outbreaks, the strict curbs by local governments come despite low caseloads, at a time when much of the world co-exists with the virus.

The active cases in India comprise 0.30 per cent of the total infections, while the national Covid-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.50 per cent, the ministry said. An increase of 2,023 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 5.99 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 4.18 per cent, according to the ministry. The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to

4,29,83,162, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.20 per cent.

According to the ministry, 198.88 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination drive.

Meanwhile, Macau shut all its casinos for the first time in more than two years on Monday, sending shares in gaming firms tumbling as authorities struggle to contain the worst coronavirus outbreak yet in the world's biggest gambling hub. The city's 30-plus casinos and other businesses will shut for one week and people were ordered to stay at home though short trips for essential services were allowed.

Shiv Sena to seek urgent hearing of petitions before Supreme Court on Monday



Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari, CM Eknath Shinde, and DCM Devendra Fadnis during the swearing-in ceremony. (Inset: Former CM Uddhav Thackeray. (File pic)

By: Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, July 11:

The petitions related to Maharashtra political crisis although were scheduled to be heard in Supreme Court (SC) before the division bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala on Monday, they were not listed till Sunday night.

With SC slated to resume regular functioning after summer vacation on Monday, Chief Justice N V Ramana constituted a three-judge bench on Sunday. However, the approval for the Maharashtra matter from the Chief Justice was pending. If the issues aren't listed, Senior advocate Kapil Sibal will request the urgent hearing on behalf of the Shiv Sena, on Monday.

Shiv Sena MP Vinayak Raut said that since the matter remains unlisted, the party will request the bench headed by Chief Justice to take it up for hearing as early as possible or allot it to any other bench.

The issues including the Shiv Sena's opposition to the governor's decision to invite rebel MLAs to form the government, the petitions on trust vote issues, the appointment of the chief whip in the Assembly by the newly-elected speaker, and disqualification pleas pending against 16 rebel Sena MLAs are to be heard by SC.

Cabinet expansion
Pending hearing of the petitions, uncertainty hangs on the cabinet expansion of the Eknath Shinde-led Government, which was planning to go

ahead with expansion on July 13 (Guru Purnima day). Now it may take place after the Presidential election slated to be held on July 18.

A war of petitions/Notices
June 20: Eknath Shinde rebels along with 34 Sena MLAs. He is removed from the post of the leader of the Shiv Sena legislature party (SLP) and is replaced by Ajay Chowdhary by Shiv Sena party chief Uddhav Thackeray. **June 21:** Former Deputy Speaker of the Assembly Narhari Zirwal recognizes the appointment of Chowdhary as Leader of the SLP.

June 22: Shiv Sena MLA Sunil Prabhu issues a Whip asking Shinde and others to attend a meeting at 5 pm organized in Mumbai. Shinde responds stating that Prabhu did not have the authority to call an SLP meeting. **June 25:** Shinde and 15 rebel MLAs receive disqualification notices under Rule 6 of Maharashtra Legislative Assembly (Disqualification on Ground of Defection) Rules, 1986 ("Disqualification Rules") read with the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution from the Deputy Speaker. The notice seeks replies by 5:30 pm on June 27.

June 26: Shinde and the 15 MLAs challenge the notice in two different writ petitions before the SC – challenging their disqualification and the appointment of Chowdhary, as the SLP leader. **June 27:** The SC orders a status quo in the matter till July 11 and asks the

Shinde faction to respond to the disqualification notices sent to them, till July 11. The Thackeray faction advised to approach the apex court if any attempt to conduct a floor test to change the status of the Assembly was made before them.

June 27: The SC issues notice to the Deputy Speaker seeking his reply on the plea filed by the Shinde camp against his disqualification notices. **June 29:** The Maharashtra Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government is toppled after Thackeray steps down as chief minister, ahead of a floor test. Shinde is sworn in as the CM the next day.

July 01: The MVA alliance moves the SC seeking the suspension of 16 rebel MLAs till the deputy speaker decides on the disqualification petitions filed against them. Shiv Sena chief whip Sunil Prabhu seeks suspension of newly inducted Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and 15 more rebel MLAs, till the final decision is taken on their disqualification. The plea also seeks an order restraining them "from entering the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly or participating in any proceeding related to the House till the final adjudication of the disqualification proceedings against them."

July 04: A petition by the Shiv Sena objecting to recognition granted by Speaker Rahul Narvekar to the whip Bharat Ghogawale appointed by the Shinde camp. The matter is mentioned by Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi before

a bench of Justices Indira Banerjee and JK Maheswari, saying that the speaker has no jurisdiction to recognize Shinde's whip nominee, as Thackeray is still the head of the official Shiv Sena party.

July 08: A petition by Thackeray, challenging Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari's decision to invite Shinde to form the government on June 30. It argues that the new coalition of the 39 rebel Shiv Sena MLAs is "ex facie unconstitutional since the rebel MLAs have not merged with the BJP, and thus are liable to be disqualified under the Tenth schedule. The petition also raises questions about the validity of the Assembly proceedings conducted on July 03 (election of BJP MLA Rahul Narvekar as the new speaker) and July 04 (the floor test in which rebel Sena MLAs-BJP coalition proved its majority). The Thackeray camp argues that the floor test was illegal since 16 rebel MLAs who voted were facing disqualification.

It is to be seen whether Thackeray can still win back the government through the Supreme Court proceedings. However, the hearings should be held without a break.

More than 600 people of

Assam Floods: Death toll rises to 192 as 5.39 lakh people in 12 districts still affected by deluge



Agency
Guwahati, July 11:

The death toll in floods and landslides in the state has mounted to 192 this year so far.

Nearly 5.39 lakh people in 12 districts are still affected by the deluge. In the last 24 hours, two people died after drowning in flood waters in the Hailakandi district. Out of this, 173 people died in floods, and 19 lost their lives in landslides.

According to the daily flood report of Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), nearly 3.56 lakh people are still affected in Cachar district while 1.42 lakh people are affected in Morigaon district. 38,751 people have still lodged in 114 relief camps in eight districts.

The daily flood report of ASDMA also stated that 390 villages and 7368 hectares of cropland are still under flood waters. Earlier, the people of the state are now worried over the post-flood complications including diseases.

As the flood water starts receding, there is an increased risk of water-borne diseases through direct contact with polluted waters. Many flood-affected people of the Morigaon district have suffered many diseases that as high fever and diarrhoea.

More than 600 people of

Solmari Dekargaon village have taken temporary shelter on roads, schools as their houses are still submerged under water.

"My house is still inundated by flood water. For the last six days, we have been staying at a school. We are very distressed," Moneswar Deka, a victim told news agency ANI. Hemanta Kumar Deka, a local villager said that many people including senior citizens, women and children of the village have contracted many diseases.

"The water entered the village 15 days ago. Water is now receding, but it will take at least a month till the lands dry up. Many villagers developed several diseases during this period. They are doing self-medication. No doctor or medical team has visited the area yet. People are still in relief camps," Hemanta Deka said.

Sumitra Deka, a mother of a 4-year-old said that she and her son have also been suffering from many post-flood diseases. "My child is now sick, and I am too. Not only me or my child, but many others in our village have also suffered many diseases. We appeal to the government to provide some medicines." Another victim, Banti Deka said that the relief material provided by the administration has proved in-

sufficient.

People of Kamrup area in Assam's Nagaon district are also worried about their future as the floods have left a trail of destruction. The devastating flood hit the Kamrup revenue circle in the central Assam district twice this year.

Hundreds of families at Gejaipam, Kachua area have now become homeless after the flood washed away their homes and properties and they are now taking shelter on roads, and embankments by making temporary sheds. Many school buildings, and religious institutions in the area were also damaged in the deluge.

After receding flood waters many villagers have moved to their areas, but they now see only devastation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said during a virtual event today for an Assamese newspaper, "Assam is facing the challenges of floods. Normal life has been affected. CM Himanta and his team are working continuously on relief operations. I have been in constant touch with the officials and the people there."

According to the Assam State Disaster Management Authority (ASDMA), nearly 9.68 lakh people in 20 districts of the state are still affected by the deluge.

Amarnath Yatra halted due to heavy rain shortly after resumption

Agency
Srinagar, July 11:

The Amarnath Yatra was suspended again shortly after resumption on Monday due to heavy rainfall at Panjtarni and near the holy cave. A fresh batch of pilgrims left for Kashmir valley from the Bhagwati Nagar base camp of Jammu at 5 am on Monday.

The yatra resumed after a cloudburst that triggered flash floods on Friday near the cave, in which at least 16 people lives and around 40 people are still missing.

Deputy Commissioner Jammu, Avny Lavasa, had asked all the Yatis registered on or before July 11 to move to the Bhagwati Nagar base camp.

Government sources had earlier told CNN-News18 that

the local administration was keen to restart the Amarnath Yatra by Monday or Tuesday. "There should not be unnecessary hurdles for people who are already booked for the trip," the sources said, adding that officials also felt assured about the road conditions to begin the Yatra again.

Jammu and Kashmir Lt Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday visited the Nunwan base camp at Pahalgam to oversee efforts for the resumption of Amarnath yatra. Sinha will camp overnight at Nunwan to oversee rescue and relief operations and efforts being made to resume the yatra as soon as possible, an official spokesperson said. Sinha also interacted with yatis staying there and reviewed arrangements at healthcare facilities

and 'langars', the official added.

Meanwhile, rescuers said hopes of finding those missing in the Amarnath flash floods alive are fading by the hour despite making last-ditch efforts to look for any survivor. "The rescue operations are going on as personnel from various agencies are clearing the debris in the hope of finding any survivor," a State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) official told PTI. "We are still hopeful but anyone still alive under that debris will be a miracle," the official added. Besides sniffer dogs, the rescuers are also using hand-held thermal imagers and other sophisticated devices to check for any sign of life under the mounds of debris.

The Army has also pressed heavy machinery into service

to restore the track to the holy cave shrine, reports said.

Dramatic visuals showed the exact moment the flashflood hit the camp site where hundreds of devotees were staying during their onward journey. In one such video, water is seen rushing towards the tents and people are seen trying to escape amid shouts, and cries for help.

A day after the tragedy, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a high level meeting on Saturday to review the ongoing rescue and relief operation.

The annual 43-day pilgrimage had commenced from the twin base camps, Nunwan-Pahalgam in south Kashmir's Anantnag and Baital in central Kashmir's Ganderbal, on June 30.

4-Day Anal-Meitei Children's cultural exchange learning program

IT News
Imphal, July 11:

A 4-Day Anal-Meitei Children's Residential Cultural Exchange Learning Program concluded today at Cheengkhu village with Anal and Meitei children performing folk songs and dance of the two communities together ending with Thabal Chongba. The concluding function was attended by 70 persons from the surrounding village and jointly sponsored by La Ganesan, Governor of Manipur and Th. Satyabrata, Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly. Speaking as the special guest of the occasion, Rungwar Tongsin appreciated the initiative of MDFS in reconnecting the younger generation through performing cultures and art. He also thanked Chhaya Devi, Gurumayum, Director, MDFS for bringing such a cultural exchange learning program among the younger generation who are moving away from their cultural tradition and practices.



The 4-Day program was attended by 22 Children including 11 boys and girls representing both Anal and Meitei communities. Rungwar Tongsin, Chief of Cheengkhu village & President of Naga Chief's Association, was the Special guest of the occasion, Thohring, Chief of T. Mino village as the guest of honour and presided by Jamhring

Wanglum, General Secretary, Anal Naga Tribal Association (ANTA). The function was moderated by Ts. Ngamvar, Principal, Koinonio Training School, Chandel. The Program was part of series of programs being organized by Manipuri Dance Foundation School (MDFS) of Chandrika Trust, Imphal. Earlier, MDFS organized 5-Day Children's Resi-

dential Cultural Exchange Learning program between Rongmei and Meitei children at Tamenglong and Imphal sponsored by Ministry of Culture. The purpose of the program is to reconnect the younger generations between hills and valley through mutual appreciations of diverse cultures; folk tales, songs and dances.

SF apprehends PLA insurgent

IT News
Imphal, July 11:

Based on credible intelligence input provided by Mantripukhri Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South), Manipur Police launched an operation and apprehended an active cadre of proscribed group PLA from Moirangpulei Khunou Leikai, Imphal East district yesterday.

The apprehended insurgent was actively involved in extortion activities on behalf of the proscribed group in the valley areas.

The apprehended insurgent was handed over to Thoubal Dam Police Station for further investigation.

The new building is expected to accommodate up to 888 members in the Lok Sabha chamber, 384 in Rajya Sabha and up to 1,272 seats for a joint session, keeping in view a possible expansion of Parliament after the next delimitation.

Sports

44th Chess Olympiad torch relay reaches Manipur State receives torch bearer grandmaster Saptarshi Roy in Imphal's Kangla fort

PIB
Imphal, July 11:

The historic torch relay for 44th Chess Olympiad reached Imphal on Sunday.

MLA S. Premchandra received the torch from grandmaster Saptarshi Roy who reached Imphal with the torch here at an event held at Kangla fort.

The MLA again handed over the torch to the grandmaster who will proceed further to Nagaland.

Later, a reception function was held inside the Kangla fort. It was hosted by the Manipur Chess Development Association.

The event was marked by a chess game played between grandmaster Saptarshi Roy and young chess players of the state including students of various schools.

Playing with the grandmaster will be a boost to the young budding chess players of the state, said MLA S Premchandra in his speech as chief guest of the reception function.

"Playing with the grandmaster will surely give a new taste of the game to the young



budding players of the state," he said.

Despite its small size, Manipur has been actively participating in almost every discipline of sports and brings laurels to the nation in most of the events.

Being India's sports powerhouse full of talented sportspersons, there is no dearth of chess players in the state and state players are not lacking behind in any sports discipline.

In chess too, state's players will one day shine and bring laurels for the state in the national arena as well for the country in the international arena, the MLA said.

The MLA also extended his heartfelt thanks to the parents and guardians of the young budding players who attended the event.

Their participation will surely encourage the players and help in reaching the national and international arenas,

he hoped.

President of the Manipur Chess Development Association Soibam Mangijao, in his presidential speech of the function, informed that Manipur is the 32nd state of the country the torch rally reached.

From here, the torch rally will proceed to Nagaland for its onward rally to other states of the country. The torch rally will cover 75 iconic places of the country, he added.

NEP 2020; A more holistic approach to education

Agency
New Delhi, July 11:

The Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam (ABSS) at Varanasi concluded after each broad theme of NEP 2020 was discussed at length. These themes give a large picture of what NEP-2020 aims to do. The first thematic session at the event was on Multidisciplinary and Holistic Education. In Industry 4.0, when companies hire workers with a wide range of skills and knowledge, this theme acquires more relevance. Sadly, the current higher education system in India values specialisation. NEP 2020 will transform this model through a flexible curriculum that creatively combines various disciplines.

Learners will be able to

choose from languages and also integrate Applied Sciences, Mathematics, and Business Studies with humanities and arts. A student opting for a particular subject doesn't have to sacrifice his interest in other subjects. NEP 2020 wants technical institutes, even IITs, to move towards more holistic and multidisciplinary education with more arts and humanities. Such an approach has resulted in better learning outcomes worldwide and also higher order thinking capacities in students. NEP 2020 envisages departments in the field of humanities and science in all HEIs and also a proper mechanism to learn these disciplines in ODL mode, when they are not offered in-class at the HEI. Further Global Citizenship Education (GCED) course that enumerates global

challenges and courses on value education and environmental education will create a well informed citizen with urgent and right motivations.

The National Higher Education Qualifications Framework (NHEQF), a broad framework of qualifications with consistency across programmes, an academic bank to store credits and guidelines to enable mobility are the tools that will enable this vision. Experts at the Akhil Bhartiya Shiksha Samagam also called for creation of digital platforms providing opportunities to have courses of choice other than their core disciplines. There were suggestions to provide colocation to the industry R & D units for promoting experiential learning through internship.

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NSCN-IM not happy with GoI says.....

The confused bona fide Arunachal Pradesh Naga leaders wants to know the reality of the actual status of the Indo-Naga political talks and requested Hebron to update them the actual position. Accordingly, a meeting was called at Hebron on 29th June, 2022.

However, some heavy-weight political leaders, village chiefs council, GB Council,

Naga Hoho (Arunachal unit), Arunachal Naga Students Union and some people could only turn up at their own risk. These Naga CSOs who could come to Hebron told us in a very clear vision that they are for genuine Naga political solution and not otherwise.

Such conduct engineered by GoI is more a nuisance than a catastrophe but it can be

avoided if sincerity and democratic transparency are not stored in cold storage. Such manner of undermining Naga political issue resorting to the highly demeaning manner is the most annoying thing that keeps coming up at crucial stage of Naga political process. NSCN and Naga people will not accept toxic divisive policy to repeat the past blunder.

On E-Pharmacy Companies....

This order by the Gujarat High Court is in line with the Stay Order issued by the Delhi High Court on December 12, 2018 where in 'the online sales of medicines without license was injected' and the stay order was continued on subsequent dates on January 1, 2019.

The statement by the MCDA said, "It is indeed very regretful and despite Delhi

High Court injecting the sales of medicines online without license, still the online pharmacies continue to mushroom and prosper with the backing of corporate funding and support from the Government, leading to severe ill effects on the health of our citizens. Till date, no license has been prescribed to sell medicine online and all online

pharmacies are operating in illegal area".

All India Organisation of Chemists & Druggists has been regularly corresponding with our Government to implement the order of the High Court and stop this unlawful activity and abuse of law by the E-Pharmacies for the sake of the health of our citizens.

Women's Hockey World Cup: Heartbreak for India as Spain march into quarter-finals with 1-0 win

Agency
Amstelveen (Netherlands), July 11:

Indian women's hockey team lost its match against hosts Spain by 0-1, in their must-win crossover match here at the FIH Hockey Women's World Cup Spain & Netherlands 2022 on Sunday.

It was Marta Segu (57) who scored the lone goal of the match. The Indian Women's Team will next play against Canada in the 9th to 16th placing match. With a place in the Quarterfinals at stake, both teams got off to a nervy start. It took them a while to settle down and build a good structure. It was not until a little over eight minutes into play that India earned the first PC of the match through Neha, who skillfully tackled the Spanish defender inside the circle.

India, however, could not make much of the opportunity with the hosts defending very

well. They further built on a speedy counter-attack creating a brilliant shot on goal but Beatriz Perez was slightly off target. The following minutes saw Spain being awarded back-to-back PC but they could not beat India's PC defence.

The second quarter witnessed both teams trade PCs but the goalkeepers were on top of their game. Savita made three brilliant saves off a PC which Spain won early in the second quarter. Even though their attackers picked up the rebound and took fierce shots on goal, Savita stood like a wall to maintain a clean slate for India.

The Spanish goalie Melanie Garcia came up with her 'A game' too when India won two PCs in this quarter. While Monika's attempt was well-defended by their rushers, Gurjit Kaur's drag-flick which was on target was brilliantly padded away by Garcia.