

Tupul tragedy: Death toll rises to 45, search on to trace 17 others

Rescue operation will continue till all the victims are found: Minister Awangbow Newmai

IT News
Imphal, July 04:

The death toll in the unfortunate landslide incident in Manipur's Noney district rose to 45 after three more bodies were recovered from the debris on Monday, an official said.

Till 12:30 pm, three dead bodies, including one Territorial Army personnel and one civilian were retrieved from the landslide site, said the official. The other recovered body was yet to be identified at the time of filing this report.

Despite adverse weather conditions since Saturday night, the search operations continue on a fifth day to find the remaining 17 missing persons believed to have been buried under the debris after the massive landslide brought down a mega railway project construction site at Makhum.

Water Resource and Relief & Disaster Management Minister Awangbow Newmai who continuously checked and supervised the ground zero of the landslide affected areas stated that the rescue operation will continue till all the victims are found with the concerted efforts of all stakeholders.

Relief & Disaster Management Minister informed that Four (4) more dead bodies are found, death toll now reached 46.

The Minister also appealed to the people of the state not to visit the site and to donate the relief material through proper channels. The Minister personally reached the rescue site and instructed the security to focus on the suspected site where the victims are expected to be buried.

Clarification

IT News
Imphal, July 04:

As reported by numerous print and electronic media outlets in Manipur on June 30, 2022, an active KYKL cadet named Yaikhom Janendra @ Janensing (38), the son of the late Yaikhom Sidam, was apprehended by a team of Imphal West Commando during a search operation in his village.

A statement by proscribed group KYKL said that the report is untrue and without any basis in fact.

"Yaikhom Janendra is an innocent person who has no connection to the activities of the organization. Using his arrest as an example, one can see how Indian colonial masters and their allies use it as a tool to perpetuate colonialism in Kangleipak and to violate the democratic rights that Kanglei people hold dear. So, my message to all Kangleichas is to keep an eye out and defend themselves from these colonial designs", said M. Loya Khuman, Deputy Secretary, Publicity and Research, KYKL.



tims are expected to be buried.

Minister Awangbow also reached out to the victim's family at Makhum (Marangching) and assured all possible assistance from the State Government under the supervision of Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh. He also sought cooperation and support from all sections to successfully execute the rescue operation.

Awangbow expressed

gratitude to Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for their concern on the incident and for providing assistance by sending NDRF personnel and required manpower.

Union Minister of State Dr Subhas Sarkar visited the landslide site on Sunday and assessed the ongoing search and rescue operations undertaken by the NDRF, SDRF, Army, Assam Rifles, police

and local volunteers.

Speaking to media persons, MoS Dr Sarkar said the Center has taken the landslide incident very seriously and is ready to provide all possible help in rescue operations.

Of the 80 confirmed victims at the unfortunate landslide incident at Makhum in Noney district, the joint task force rescued 18 persons alive and 45 recovered mortal remains.

ZUF clarifies matters regarding merger of Raitu Chawang

IT News
Imphal, July 04:

The Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) today clarified regarding the public confusion and disappointment created by the merger group leader Raitu Chawang by his so called Anti-Circumvent abrogation published in print medias on 9th and 10th June, 2022.

In a statement the ZUF said that, the merger group with their declaration made on 26th October 2019 succumbing ZUF as a "cease-to-exist" matter by their willful declaration and still using the name

ZUF under the protected-cover name of NSCN-UI.

"Prior to this infamous declaration, was a bitter history of betrayal and division caused by the same group in the style of reconciliation and reshuffle of ZUF leadership", the statement said and added that Raitu Chawang came in as Chairman of ZUF with sinister design to blind fold and mislead the Front motivated by some few leaders behind.

"The same spirit of been displayed again. It has greatly disappointed the people and embittered the Front. Much damage and lost has been incurred to the Front by the group. However, the ZUF has withstood the pain, restored and sustained the Zeliangrong political movement to its status. Nevertheless, with much patience and humanitarian consideration and conceding to the pleading and persuasion of the Zeliangrong leaders and intellectuals to forgive and re-unite in the common interest of the people, the Front has reconsidered to accommodate the merger group despite their grievous attempts of fatally finish the only Zeliangrong political Front.

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The BJP-Shinde faction Wins the Floor Test in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, July 04:

The BJP-Shinde faction Government led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde won the Floor-Test in the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, defeating the three-party combine Maharashtra Vilkas Aghadi (MVA) Government by 65 votes on Monday.

The BJP-Shinde faction secured 164 votes against 99 votes bagged by the MVA in a test conducted by raising hands. Shiv Sena MLAs Sanjay Bangar and Shyamsundar Shinde, joined the Shinde faction thus taking the strength of the rebel group to 41 on Monday. It was a show of strength between 41 Shiv Sena rebels versus 14 Uddhav Thackeray loyalists.

Samajwadi Party's Abu Azmi and Races Shaikh and AIMIM MLA Shah Tarikh Anwar abstained from voting.

During the floor test, 10 to 12 MLAs including the Congress MLAs, reached late and the Speaker Rahul Narvekar directed the staff to close the doors of the Vidhan Bhavan lobby. Eventually, the late comers could not remain present in the House during the Floor-test and the MVA strength came down further.



The BJP-Shinde faction wins the Floor-test. Inset: Clockwise: Shiv Sena Chief Uddhav Thackeray, DCM Devendra Fadnavis, and CM Eknath Shinde.

Later the Congress leader Ashok Chavan told the media that as per the procedure, the floor-test is conducted only after the speeches on the motion of confidence and the motion to congratulate the new CM are over. However, in violation of rules, the doors of the Vidhan Bhavan lobby were closed before the members could reach and the floor test was conducted.

Shiv Sena MLA Sunil Prabhu said that the BJP was trampling the democratic norms. The issue of disqualification of MLAs is already pending in the Supreme Court and the matter will be heard on July 11. Yet all of a sudden, the state legislature secretary issued a letter on Sunday night cancelling his appointment as the whip of the

Shiv Sena Legislature Party (SLP). This was a pressure tactic and the murder of democracy, he added.

Shiv Sena MLA Aditya Thackeray, who too reached at eleventh hour said that the BJP was trying to disintegrate the Shiv Sena by using these types of unfair means. But the party will tide over all the difficulties and will emerge stronger once again.

In the Assembly the Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis (BJP), Ajit Pawar (NCP), Balasaheb Thorat (Congress), and others spoke on the confidence motion. Fadnavis referred to the new government as the "BJP-Shiv Sena alliance" Government.

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Governor inaugurates new dormitory in Raj Bhavan

IT News
Imphal, July 04:

Governor of Manipur La. Ganesan today inaugurated newly constructed dormitory in Raj Bhavan with a Griha Pravasa rituals performed in the morning.

The newly constructed dormitory will house the Household staffs of the Raj Bhavan. A gym and a children park have also been opened at the Raj Bhavan complex earlier this year. This is the third



project which has been taken up in the Raj Bhavan since La.

Ganesan assumed charge as Governor of Manipur.

Grand Finale of Ace Dancer of North East held

IT News
Imphal, July 04:

Junior Commerce International (JCI) Dispur Capital organized Grand Finale of Ace Dancer of North East on June 29, 2022 at Mackhhuwa ITA Center with the aim of highlighting the talents of the society in the field of modern dance and taking them to the national level platform.

Earlier, 20 contestants participated in the Grand Finale in the end by conducting auditions at various places in North East. On this occasion, JFM Rishab Jain, President, Dispur Capital addressed everyone by giving a welcome address.



The program started by lighting the lamp by JCI Na-

tional President Anshu Saraf as the chief guest, JCI Zone

President Sital Lohia as the guest of honour and other of-

fice bearers. Rajsmitta Kar, the winner of Dance India Dance season 3 as the chief judge in the dance competition. The other judges were Shubham Das Uday Shankar and Pankaj Chhetri. While giving his decision, he declared the Odisha crew as the winner. The team was given a check and trophy of Rs 1.5 lakh.

Raj Singh was given one lakh rupees and trophy as the first runner up and as the second runner up, Rajat Vishwakarma was given a check and trophy of 50 thousand. In the program, JCI's Immediate past Zone President and National Director (Business) Ankur Jhunjhunwala, Past Zone President Rajesh Gangwal,

Advisor Amit Jain Patni, apart from JCI Dispur Capital Vice President (Programs) Daisy Patni, Vice President (Training) Mamta Jain, Treasurer Akash Jain K. Apart from this, Sangeeta Pradhan, Manmeet Kaur, Pooja Jain, Suchitra Rara, Sanjay Khakholia, Sangeet Patni, Pushpa Rani Vishwas, Lipika Kashyap, Archana Rai, Akash Kumar gave their active support. The first phase program was conducted by Deepak Jain and Shreya Sharma while the competition session program was conducted by Akhilesh Munda and Shreya Sharma.

The programme was sponsored by Jericho Jci Biz women Finedge services Ravi Agarwal Happy Fares.

★ Editorial

Agenda Manipur: The Vision 2047

Perhaps for the first time, after Manipur become a full-fledged state of India, the BJP led state government, on June 29, 2022, has launched 'Vision - 2047' – A vision for rapid and sustainable growth in Manipur in the next 25 years. After controversial merger of the erstwhile Nation – Manipur to the Union of India on October 15, 1949, Manipur became a full-fledged State of India on January 21, 1972.

Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh, the person instrumental for the launching of the auspicious dream mission needs appreciations sections of the people of the state. In the last fifty years, after Manipur become a full-fledged state of India, the N. Biren Singh Administration under the BJP regime is perhaps the first to initiate a long term planning for the future of Manipur. The Vision -2047 document and its content, however, is yet to be received by Imphal Times, but the title itself suggests that – the vision is all about making the future of Manipur to a bright, prosperous, peaceful and self sustained developed state. Achieving of this Vision – 2047, however is fully depended to not only scientific and proper planning but also to the sincerity, expertise and dedication of those responsible for making the mission successful. Besides, it is also important for the state authority to make public the content of the road map of the auspicious vision-2047 documents, so that people of the State can have the idea of what the government is expecting – Manipur after 25 years. It is also important to invite criticisms to any planning from experts working at various fields.

This is being suggested as each of us knows that Human needs and desires are never limited. And 'Human Greed' is one factor that often sabotaged missions for the cause of humanity. There will be certainly apprehensions to many on whether – the Vision -2047, the road map towards making a new Manipur may be reality or just a dream.

Even though, the content of the Vision -2047; which was launched by the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and his team is not made public, it naturally should be development of infrastructures of all kinds, streamlining of the government functionaries, improvement of health and education sectors and to ensure jobs to as many people either in public or private sectors. It is common knowledge to every people that providing government jobs to all the people is next to impossible. However, it will be the private entrepreneurs that will play major role in giving jobs to qualified youths of the state. So, people will definitely want to see the planning of the government vision to encourage and promote the private players of the state. (As for the start-up mission there are multiple complaints and if this mission is properly stream line with ideas from various experts and re-structured it, Start-up mission is not only the solution to encourage or promote private players).

People also want to know about the effective measures or planning for eradication of Corruption – which should be the top priority of the vision 2047 documents as 'Corruption' is a dangerous germs that had the potential of sabotaging the auspicious – Vision by the N. Biren Singh government.

The need of the hour is to make the 'Vision -2047' public and make sure that people of the state knows what the government is expecting Manipur after 25 years.



By: M.R. Lahu

The Udaipur shocker has become a gruesome tale of brutality executed in the name of religion. Once again there was uproar against radicalization, but of course, this time it was limited within the boundaries of Rajasthan. Bubbles of repercussion elsewhere got easily settled. The democratic minds in India are determined not to talk too much about this bone-chilling persecution. Not only India but also the world across, a sense of understanding is effervescent, that there is no escape but fall prey to the contradictions of beliefs which draw justice lines around the conscience of human intelligence. For India, this incident of beheading a Hindu shopkeeper is not less than the beheading of its democracy. The horror was capable enough to send feelers across India's social canvass, significantly reminding its people that it is not the percentage of population of a certain community that matters but the sense of unity that a thought can bind and blindfold its people. Kanhaiya Lal Teli's killing is seen to be justified as a reaction, a spontaneous outrage, an aftermath effect of the TV debate, which literally shook the country a little while ago and much to its surprise the West Asian friends of Modi dispensation came rattling and the BJP, in its diplomatic U-turn acted against its media faces. Paradoxically, India's precariousness is evident from its efforts to balance between its democracy and a theocracy terrifyingly pulling its ugly head from the dungeons of theology. The horror in Udaipur

Beheaded Democracy

was an act mostly determined to bring the idea "Kill one, frighten a thousand", a lesson that the plural social establishment should diligently learn from.

It's time for us to realize the quantum of mistrust and enmity that we as a nation have grown into. The street violence in the name of the controversial TV debate across the country was not a spontaneous outrage, India was clouded with a conspiring silence for almost ten days after the debate and the uproar was probably an effect of a meticulous plot hatched deliberately to create a whirlwind of unrest and bring the country on its knees. The idea of secularism that the country offers in its democratic platter has shrunk too little to be identified. If a majoritarian mindset was responsible for the horror that India witnessed in Udaipur, the violence erupted in West Bengal before and after the state elections, killing and raping numerous Hindus should have attracted equal reaction. It is time for India to define blasphemy based on its democratic principles. If blasphemy is punishable to one religion, a secular country should legally protect the same for all religions democratically. Easily getting offended on facts that are genuine and codified in religious texts is evidently meant to deliberately derail an intellectual discourse and an ideology, with short of facts to justify its anomalies, frequently attempts to make its presence felt through violence. Scarcity of intellectual depth and scientific comprehension in religions force them to pull cleavers to slit open their ideological opponents. The question is, how long the world should remain susceptible to brutality in the name of religion.

Should the barbarity on an innocent Hindu tailor be seen as reciprocation on what the liberals often call the provocations by an emboldened Hindu majoritarianism, supported by a government 'well-known' for its majority-appeal politics? Why should someone in their good senses believe

such a theory? If that was the case, the government and its entire mechanism could have come to the rescue of the poor Hindu sadhus who were beaten to death on April 16, 2020 in the town of Palghar in Maharashtra by a frenzied mob. The country should have expected a majoritarian outrage. Neither the political establishment nor the judicial system could so far bring justice to the poor sadhus. What might have led an unruly mob to kill two saffron clad men? Outcries in the name of minority rights are often heard in India. But no leaf fell in support of the sadhus and the intellectuals refrained from writing columns condemning the bloodcurdling lynching and most of the visual media remained silent. The whole intention behind the Udaipur barbarity was to defend a particular ideology and dance in tune with its pre-emptive gesticulation, which if not whole, a section of the supporters in India are aspiring to follow. Let us not deny the fact that assistance to build an ecosystem of horror in the name of religion practically comes from across the borders. But the real issue of concern lies in the increasing number of its takers in India. It is unnecessary to go into the details of the issue that turned two young Muslim men to become heinous barbarians. Their act of crime was in consonance with or a replica of a medieval savagery.

There were multiple instances in which Hindus and Muslims pitched bitter battles in the streets in India and most of them occurred in the minority dominated areas. From Kashmir to Kerala hostility was evidently purporting by an ideology which remained suffocated with its extremist and exclusive beliefs and whenever it was expected to shake hands with others in amity it disappointed the country with enmity. There is no denying the fact that India's recalcitrant neighbor, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, does everything that it can to bleed India by a thousand cuts. But the political

narrative that India is habituated to build is to deliberately camouflage the dubious intentions with which the youth in a particular community get radicalized. After Udaipur, the reasons behind the gruesome murder of a chemist in Amravati are unravelling. Both murders were executed as a particular community got offended on the Nupur Sharma episode and the shopkeepers from both the cities got their fate sealed forever for their alleged support for the former BJP spokesperson in the social media. Evidently, a democratic nation is seen to be digging in the heels, a futile exercise to maintain its constitutional values when it is clobbered hard by its own flattered demography. A tussle between democracy and a theocratic mindset in the slippery slopes of India's political hypocrisy is what the country is witnessing at present. And the barbarity that an uncivilized medieval period was known for is getting prominence in India and Udaipur and Amravati are its hapless victims.

Do not forget, this sickness or call it madness is an outcome of the education that many young children receive in seminars run by semi literate people. The boy, seated on the shoulders of a young man shouting blood thirsty slogans in the Alappuzha district of Kerala was an example of a parallel education system that injected hatred at a younger age distancing people as infidels and believers. The brutal killings of innocent people in the name of religions may be chest thumping for many in the mohallas of Jihad. Such episodes of bestiality are enough to topple the entire edifice of democracy. A country run by the rule of law cannot budge anymore with this fiendishness. We need fast track courts to speed up the legal proceedings to deal with such crimes. The more the religions agree to reforms, the more peaceful would be the religious space in the country.

(The writer is a Freelance Journalist/Social Worker)

Five years stronger



By: Nirmala Sitharaman

Today, we mark the completion of 5 years since the Goods and Services Tax (GST) was introduced in our country. It was first discussed in the report of Kelkar Task Force on indirect taxes in 2003 and hence took 13 long years in the making. Since 2017, GST naturally, has faced teething problems. But more than the teething problems, it has emerged strongly after facing the turbulence of Covid-19 global pandemic and its fall-out. It is to the credit of the GST Council that the centre and the states held each other's hands together to not just face the crisis but to lift our economy on to recovery. It is this working together that has made India stand out now as the fastest growing economy, as projected by many, this year and the next.

Several countries moved to the GST regime long before India did in 2017. But, the mechanism of the GST Council itself is unique to India. The quasi-federal nature of Indian polity wherein both the centre and states enjoyed independent powers of taxation demanded a unique solution. States of different sizes and in different stages of development with their legacy tax systems had to be brought together under the GST. States were also in different stages in the use of technology for revenue collection. The GST Council, the constitutional body, and a GST solution unique to India (dual GST) were the answers found to such a demand. With a few exceptions, taxes both of the Centre and the states were subsumed in the GST. Seventeen different laws were merged and a single taxation was brought in through the GST.

For India, the GST Council has played a crucial role in forging a national consensus on key issues of GST - rates, exemptions, business processes and movement of ITT etc.

Over 63.9 lakh taxpayers migrated into the GST in July 2017. This number has more than doubled to over 1.38 crore taxpayers as of June 2022. Over 41.53 lakh taxpayers and 67 thousand transporters are enrolled on the e-way portal, on an average generating per month 7.81 crore e-way bills. Since the launch of the system, a total of 292 crore e-way bills have been generated of which 42% are for the inter-state transport of goods. This year 31st May saw the highest single day generation of 31,56,013 e-way bills.

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Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



The number of adults in India is more than 100 crores, while more than 50 crore people use WhatsApp on their smartphones. That is, almost half the population of the country uses WhatsApp. True too, because WhatsApp has made life very easy. WhatsApp is used for most interactions because it is fast and easy to send photos and videos in a fraction of a second. However, many people misuse this facility and use it to increase obscenity and crime. For this reason, in view of the country's IT law, two crores 28 lakh WhatsApp accounts had to be banned in the last year. If we talk about last month, ie May 2022, then WhatsApp blocked 19 lakh 10 thousand accounts.

The WhatsApp report states that the maximum number of accounts was banned in July 2021. The number of such accounts was 30 lakh 27 thousand. WhatsApp bans accounts if someone shares obscene, defamatory, threatening, intimidating, hate speech, or objectionable content against local laws and is reported by another user. Facebook, WhatsApp, and Instagram are owned by the same company - Meta. In the first quarter of 2022, Facebook took action against 2 crores 17 lakh people for posting violent and inciting content and removed 1 billion 88 crores of fake information from the platform.

Similarly, 18 lakh posts promoting substance abuse were removed from Instagram as well.

WhatsApp and other social media platforms are there for our convenience to facilitate mutual conversation and communication. These mediums should not be misused. Forwarding or sharing fake information through them is a crime, which is not in the interest of the country. These days you must have noted that there is continuous action on social media on anti-national or defamatory posts, tweets, etc. and the guilty are being booked. If you have a smartphone in your hand and you have an account on social media, it does not mean that you can write anything and sleep quietly. Think twenty times before writing anything wrong on social media and do not post anything which is illegal or which causes harm to any individual or society. The same caution that is taken in speaking face to face, should also be taken on social media.

During the Covid pandemic, air travel was not possible for a full 2 years, due to which the aviation industry came to a standstill and people had to sit in their homes as no activity was taking place anywhere. Air traffic came to a halt all over the world and due to this airline companies fired several lakhs of their employees. But now that the pandemic is over, and the fear of Coronavirus is also not there, people have started roaming around. As a result, the pressure on the airlines has increased tremendously. Huge crowds have started gathering at the airports. Many people might be

thinking that lack of facilities and long queues happen only in India, but they are wrong as the situation is not good in the USA and European countries. Rather, the situation there is worse than in India because the airlines there had laid off employees on a large scale during the Corona period. One figure shows that 23 lakh employees were laid off from the airline industry during the last two years.

However, now the staff shortage is so high that it is becoming difficult to handle the rush of passengers at the airports. Hundreds of flights have to be canceled or passengers are made to wait for hours. There are long queues at the security gates themselves. According to the industry, air travel has grown by more than 400 percent. On the other hand, pilots, flight attendant security personnel, drivers running airport buses, etc. are falling short. It is not possible to increase the workforce overnight, as it is a lengthy process, which may take several weeks. The way the number of air passengers has increased in the US and European countries has broken the record in the last 40 years.

It is said that happiness is a matter of choice. Being happy is a decision that anyone can take at any time, which is the best policy also. The state of happiness keeps problems smaller, mood lighter, and mental stress at bay. The people of Ukraine understand this formula very well. The whole country has been troubled by the attacks of the Russian armed forces for more than two months now. Yet a comedy club

in a western Ukrainian city has been entertaining people through its laughter shows almost every night, where jokes are told about the enemy army. There is no particular comedian, anybody comes on the stage and shares a joke. One of its objectives is to reduce the tension of the local people by laughing about the enemy and reducing the troubles caused by the ongoing war. It also makes them motivated for further fighting. A survey has found that the South Indians are at the forefront of telling jokes in the office. In this matter, the people of Italy are no less if compared with others in the world. A recent LinkedIn survey has revealed that three-quarters of professionals in India consider jokes to be good in the workplace, although many find them unprofessional. Still, most people feel that laughing at the workplace increases productivity, lightens the mind, and keeps the mind stress-free.

Former Punjab Chief Minister and a probable contender for the post of Vice President of India, Captain Amarinder Singh has recently returned from a London hospital after undergoing his spinal surgery, on the other hand, former captain of the Indian Cricket team, Mahendra Singh Dhoni is getting treatment in the jungles of Jharkhand. He is getting his knees treated by a vaidya, who charges a small fee of Rs 40 only. Dhoni has been taking vaidya's medicine for the past one month, which is prepared from a local herb. It's a matter of choice, to get treated in the Indian jungle or in a foreign hospital.

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AAP to launch protest against Agnipath

Agency
Lucknow, July 04:

The Aam Aadmi Party will launch an agitation against the Agnipath scheme for short term recruitment in the Indian Army and against the shortage of funds for the security of the country's border.

Disclosing this, AAP leader Sanjay Singh said the workers and leaders of the youth and students' wings of the party would beg alms on Sunday to highlight the faulty policies of the Narendra Modi-led government and send Rs 420 through cheque or draft to the Union government to register its protest. He said the Government should stop lamenting about the shortage of funds for the security of the country's border.

"Leaders of AAP youth and students' wings, Pankaj Awana and Vanshraj Dubey, will lead the protest and beg alms in protest against the Agnipath scheme and other faulty policies of the Union government," he said. Elaborating further, Singh said 35,000 soldiers would be phased-out every year from the army.

"On the other hand, China is recruiting 4.5 lakh soldiers every year. What is the intention of the Union government? The Modi-led government is now saying it has no funds to pay salaries to soldiers," he



AAP leader Sanjay Singh

said. Singh said the Bharatiya Janata Party should bring back the money which was plundered and looted in the past.

"The government should not compromise on our country's security. They should give pensions to ex-servicemen and recruit youths in the army," he said. Condemning the Udaipur beheading, the AAP leader said the link between Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's Rashtriya Muslim Manch and the killers of

Kanhaiya Lal should be probed.

"There are some leaders of Rashtriya Muslim Manch, namely Tahir and Irshad, and the agencies should probe their links with the killers of Kanhaiya Lal," he said and asked why the BJP was silent on this issue. "The investigating agencies should make an in-depth probe into the incident. I urge the Rajasthan government to quiz the leaders of Rashtriya Muslim Manch," he said.

The AAP leader hit out at

the Enforcement Directorate, saying the agency had become a puppet in the hands of the BJP. "The ED played an active role in the BJP's plot in toppling the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government in Maharashtra. Why is the ED not acting against those who defrauded several thousand crore from banks in the country and have settled in foreign countries," he said. Singh said he was surprised why the ED was silent on the Rs 34,000 crore scam of Dewan Housing Finance Corporation Limited (DHFL). "This is the biggest scam till date. But the ED is not initiating any action in it," he said.

Furthermore, speaking about the killing of Kanhaiya Lal, a tailor in Udaipur, Sanjay Singh questioned the role of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and its affiliated organization Rashtriya Muslim Manch in the incident. "Why did Riyaz and the other killer, who killed Kanhaiya Lal in the Udaipur incident, have relations with BJP leaders? What was the reason? This conspiracy should be exposed in front of the whole country," he asked.

Earlier this week, Kanhaiya Lal was brutally beheaded in broad daylight at his shop by two men who posted videos online claiming they were avenging an insult to Islam.

India logs 16,135 new Covid cases in last 24 hrs; Weekly infections highest in over 4 months

Agency
New Delhi, July 04:

India on Monday recorded 16,135 new Covid-19 cases in the last 24 hours with a positivity rate of 4.85 percent. The country has registered the highest Covid-19 weekly count in over four months in the week ending on July 3 (Sunday), surpassing one lakh coronavirus cases. Few states, including West Bengal and Odisha that are witnessing Rath Yatra festivities and flood-hit Assam, have reported a manifold increase in Covid-19 cases.

Meanwhile, states like Maharashtra and Delhi that were earlier reporting a spike in cases show a decline in the graph.

Besides, in an alarming pattern, at least 192 deaths were reported during the June 27-July 3 week, which amounts to a rise of over 54% in comparison to 125 in the last week.

According to the data published by the Union Health Ministry, the country India reported 16,103 new Covid cases in a span of 24 hours, which is a marginal decline from the previous day's count of 17,092 on Sunday.

In the same period, the country reported 31 more Covid deaths, taking the nationwide toll to 5,25,199.

Meanwhile, the active caseload of the country has

also risen to 1,11,711 cases, accounting for 0.26 per cent of the country's total positive cases.

The recovery of 13,929 patients in the last 24 hours took the cumulative tally to 4,28,65,519. Consequently, India's recovery rate stands at 98.54 percent.

Meanwhile, India's daily positivity rate has also marginally increased to 4.27 per cent, while the weekly positivity rate currently stands at 3.81 per cent.

Maharashtra
Maharashtra on Sunday recorded 2,962 COVID-19 cases, including 761 in Mumbai, and one more patient of BA.4 sub-variant of Omicron besides six fatalities, the health department said in a bulletin. With the latest additions, Maharashtra's tally of infections rose to 79,85,296 and the COVID-19 death toll to 1,47,940. A day earlier, the state had seen 2,971 cases and five fatalities.

Delhi
Delhi on Sunday reported marginal decline in fresh Covid cases in the last 24 hours, at 648 as against 678 reported on the previous day, but there were five fresh Covid-related deaths, as per the government health bulletin.

West Bengal
West Bengal reported 1,822 new COVID-19 cases on Sunday, recording a positivity rate of 14.10 per cent, as per the

state Health Department. Three more COVID-19 patients died, taking the toll to 21,225.

Tamil Nadu
Tamil Nadu has witnessed a rise in the number of new coronavirus cases. It saw 2,672 in the last 24 hours, including two returnees from Maldives, pushing the overall tally to 34,82,775 till date, the Health Department said on Sunday. There were no fatalities in the last 24 hours and the death toll remained at 38,026, a bulletin said here.

Gujarat
Gujarat on Sunday reported 456 COVID-19 cases, which took the tally to 12,33,698, while the death toll remained unchanged at 10,947, a state health department official said. The recovery count increased by 386 during the day and reached 12,19,203, leaving the state with an active caseload of 13,548, he added.

Assam
As many as 110 more COVID-19 cases were reported in Assam, the highest single-day tally in over four months, pushing the caseload in the state to 7,25,036, a National Health Mission (NHM) bulletin said on Sunday. No fresh death due to the virus was reported with the toll remaining unchanged at 6,639. Apart from that, 1,347 coronavirus-infected patients have died due to other reasons since 2020, the bulletin said.

Growing Difficulties of The Elderly Population



"The foundation of the family was from the elderly" - Vijay Garg

Today, the way the spirit of collectivism in the society is ending, the concept of family has started ending. If the situation continues like this, then the time is not far when the family institution itself will stand on the verge of extinction. The question is, how can the disintegration of family, society or social organization be prevented? There is no denying the fact that the foundation of every family is its elder generation. Especially in Indian society, it has been believed that in the house where elders are blessed, there always resides prosperity. But do people still think or believe the same thing today? Possibly not.

The truth is that eighty-two percent of the elderly live with their families, but most of them feel victimized by their sons and daughters-in-law. Such incidents are also seen and heard every day. Due to the misbehavior of the family members, more than three quarters of the elderly suffer from loneliness despite living in the family. From time to time survey and survey about the condition of the elderly in the country there are studies going on. It has come to the fore from these that about 60 percent of the elderly in the country feel that they are mistreated in the society. However, only 10% admit that they too have been victims of abuse. The reason for this is probably related to the social prestige of the family. He wonders what people will think of this family. Recently,

a survey revealed that thirty-six percent of the elderly are upset with their relatives, thirty-five percent of children and twenty-one percent of their daughter-in-law. While fifty-seven percent disrespected, thirty-eight percent reported verbal abuse, thirty-three percent neglect, twenty-four percent economic abuse and 13 percent of the elderly reported physical abuse. Analyzing these data, it is clear that the culture of the families is largely responsible for such incidents.

From the very beginning, parents in India invest all their deposits in the upbringing and future of their children, with the hope that children will be their support in old age. But when children start earning, they leave their parents and go to their country, state or city. They go out and establish their own world. In fact, for today's generation, family means husband and wife and their children. They are not concerned with their parents or siblings. Or by sending monthly expenses, consider your duty to be fulfilled. Obviously, in today's digital age, the importance of emotions has been lost. Films and serials have been made from time to time to spread awareness among the people about this serious problem of the society. Everyone in the film Baghban will remember how in this film the children were able to see their parents. For some time they are ready to keep them alternately with them, so that their burden does not fall on any one. They not only misbehaved with them, but also neglected them considering their health problems as frivolous expenses. But the paradox is that when this generation sees these serials or films, their eyes become moist, but after coming out of the cinema hall, they do not hold back in behaving the same way. Forget what message the film is giving. Many such messages are found on social media. Which shows how much the today's generation

cares about relationships with elders. Old age is such a stage of age when both the mind and body of a person start to relax. In such a situation, they need the most support from their loved ones, especially emotional support. In such a situation, it is normal for the elderly to develop symptoms like stress, despair and loneliness. It has been revealed in many researches that due to loneliness, memory problems arise in the elderly.

According to the doctors, the patients suffering from this problem are physically Not mentally, but mentally he becomes more weak. Even for completing the daily tasks, he has to take the help of others. It is no less a tragic situation that when the elderly are most in need of family and children, they are not with them. Many incidents are heard and seen that elderly person or couple found dead in the house or domestic servant killed them with the intention of robbery etc. etc. There are many elderly people who have no one behind them. In such a situation, these elderly people should stay alone in the house. They are easy targets for criminals during travel or when out alone. The rapidly increasing incidents of crime against the elderly indicate this. In today's consumerist society, expressions like relationships, feelings, commitment and sacrifice have become meaningless.

In their place, materialistic items like gadgets, branded goods, social media flaunting have become so dominant on the younger generation that the older generation of the family has become kind of meaningless for them. In today's digital society, most of the work is done online. But also true Even today most of the elderly are not able to easily take advantage of digital technology or various online facilities.

According to the survey, seventy-one percent of the elderly do not have a smartphone

and those who use a smartphone are also not fully aware of its benefits. A survey has shown that forty-nine percent of elderly people use mobile or smartphone primarily for making calls, thirty percent for social media and seventeen percent for banking transactions. There is no denying the fact that the generation gap in the society went on for centuries is coming. The difference in thinking and behavior of two generations is normal, but marginalizing one generation to the next, considering them as meaningless or a burden on themselves is posing many kinds of risks to the society. Forty percent of the elderly admitted that they do not feel financially secure. In traditional families, parents have always spent all their savings and deposits on their children. He would never have imagined that the children would treat him neglectfully. So this modern character of the family needs to change.

Today, the way in which the sense of collectivity in the society is ending, the concept of family has started ending. If the situation continues like this, then the time is not far when the family institution itself will stand on the verge of extinction. The question is, how can the disintegration of family, society or social organization be prevented? To prevent this disintegration in the family system, it is necessary that democratic values should be included in the family. By giving less time on technology and social media, family members You have to learn to give importance. Human relations have to be given more importance than material things. It is said that if the family is strong then the society is strong and if the society is strong then the state is also strong. And if the state becomes strong, then economy, politics, culture, all the systems go on getting stronger.

Contd. from Page 2 Five years.....

The average monthly collections have increased from Rs 1.04 lakh crores in 2020-21 to Rs 1.24 lakh crores in '21-22. In the first 2 months of this year the average collections are Rs. 1.55 lakh crores. It is a reasonable and fair expectation that this steady increasing trend will continue.

GST has eliminated the tax arbitrage that existed among Indian states under the CST/VAT regime. An intrusive control system, then, involving border check posts and physical verification of goods-laden-trucks played havoc resulting in loss of time and fuel. As a result the logistics chain for movement of cargo, even within the country, could not acquire scale and efficiency. Logistics costs were estimated to contribute as much as 15% to the cost of goods.

With no such arbitrage under the IGST and with the e-way bills, the logistics supply chain efficiencies have increased manifold. With our focus on multimodal transport and now with PM Gati Shakti these gains are only sure to multiply.

In the pre-GST regime, on most of the items, the combined centre and states rates were more than 31%. However, under the GST, the rates of over 400 goods and 80 services have been reduced. The highest 28% rate is restricted to sin and luxury items. Out of a total of 230 items which were in the 28% slab close to 200 items have been shifted to lower slabs.

Special attention has been paid to the needs of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The objective continues to be that their tax and compliance burden be kept low.

Equally, it was important to ensure that they remain integrated with the supply chain for the purpose of ITC. In this context, there were two important steps that were taken up: the enhancement of the threshold exemption limit from Rs 20 lakh to Rs 40 lakh for goods and the introduction of the Quarterly Returns and Monthly Payments (QRMP) scheme which has the potential to benefit 89% of the taxpayers.

Since inception, the administration of GST continues to be IT based and fully automated. The creation of GSTN, a professionally managed technology company to run the platform was a step in the right direction. Constant review and upgrading of the hardware and software capacities have helped in keeping the system nimble.

The system of automated IGST refunds by Customs and refund of accumulated input tax credit (ITC) to exporters by the GST authorities has made the neutralisation of input taxes on export goods and services seamless and hassle-free.

It is noteworthy that most litigations on GST matters have centred around issues such as ITC, powers available to the GST officers on aspects of enforcement such as issuing of summons, arrest of persons, attachment of property for recoveries etc. Even in the much highlighted recent judgement of the Hon. Supreme Court in the case of Mohit Minerals vs UOI, the Court has not set aside or altered the fundamental features of the GST.

Asim Dasgupta, Finance Minister of West Bengal for 24 years, was the Chairperson of the Empowered Group of State Finance Ministers from 2000-

2010. The first formulation of the GST laws were made in 2009. In an interview given to a business newspaper on 2 July 2017, he highlighted the significant features of the GST, which remain intact to this day: "The States never had the power to levy Service Tax. States have been asking from the very beginning for the power to levy Service Tax, and not simply [get] a share of it. With GST that has been brought in."

He further added, "The Empowered Committee has been taking a firm stand on the autonomy of the States. The GST Council, incidentally, is a recommendatory body to Parliament for Central GST and to Assemblies for the State GST. Technically, the legislature may or may not accept it. So, this power of the legislature has not been taken away."

Importantly, Dasgupta says, "As far as the rates are concerned, States and the Centre together are accepting a kind of single tax for both. So, in a sense, there is a partial sacrifice of States and the Centre in the interest of cooperative federalism. GST is giving additional powers to the State in terms of service tax. Half of state domestic product is services."

Former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, on the completion of 2 years of GST said in his blog, "...GST proved to be both consumer and assessee friendly." Thanks to the positivity shown by the taxpayers and the assessee's embracing technology, GST, indeed has made India a single market.

(The writer is a Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs)

Meeyamgi Numit for Kakching District held



IT News
Kakching, July 04:

District Administration, Kakching organized Meeyamgi Numit (People's Day) for Kakching District today at Deputy Commissioner

Office Complex, Kakching.

The programme was inaugurated by Adhyakshya, Kakching Zila Parishad Phuritsabam Jiten Singh. Speaking to media persons, the Adhyakshya said that Meeyamgi Numit has been or-

ganized under the instruction of Chief Minister and altogether 25 department have opened stalls and provided their services to the general public. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kakching A. Adahrii Maheo informed that

Meeyamgi Numit for Kakching district will be organized on 4th of every month.

As part of the programme, District Agriculture Office, Thoubal/Kakching have distributed 160 nos. of Micro-nutrient Fertilizer (Microfert-L) to the farmers free of cost. District Health Society, Kakching too administered Covid vaccination, testing of sugar, BP etc. free of cost while Kakching Range, Thoubal Forest Division provides free seedling distribution.

Mentioned may be made that Meeyamgi Numit is a service platform for the general public to address their grievances. Hundreds of people turned up to highlight their grievances. District Level Officers have attended the programme.

Contd. from Page 1

ZUF clarifies matters regarding....

Thus, mutual declaration to re-unify was made with leadership principle and in the larger interest of the Zelaingrong and the kindred tribes. However, it was then again abrogated on the 9th June 2022 with twisted allegations and bare excuses and baseless accusations only to further confuse and disappoint the people. The people are the best judge whom shall all this mockery be blamed and know what justice is required to be exercised. The said abrogation declaration reflects immaturity and has disproved his leadership. What remains is nothing

but his mere person discredited by the people. Therefore, any amount of attempt to resurface the bitter facets of the past by trying to re-unite without denouncing the corrupt motivated interest will not hold any importance or accountability. It is advised, that Raitu Chawang refrain from doubling his role in the Zelaingrong issues and the Nagas. Nothing good and gain will make out of it by sailing on two boats. Either he relinquishes his post and designation by tendering resignation or remain in the Naga faction. The ZUF shall no longer toler-

ate any act of betrayal or treachery designs that hinder the cause and progress of the people", the statement said.

Chairman of the ZUF, Yenchui Kamei, appealed to all citizens and leaders to understand and spell out the truth without any merited or discriminative favor or fear of adverse implication.

"We shall no further wait or remain silent at the tardy and ineffectual manner of our people's leaders but go-ahead with drastic measures to clear and pave the way for furthering the cause of the people", Yenchui Kamei said.

The BJP-Shinde faction Wins....

Shinde in his speech invoked Shiv Sena patriarch late Balasaheb Thackeray and Thane strongman Dhamvir Anand Dighe. He said that he could reach this position only because of the blessings of Balasaheb Thackeray and Dhamvir Anand Dighe. Over 33 countries have taken note of the development in Maharashtra. The Shiv Sena is my family and I made every effort to expand it. I am not a traitor. I am not happy that Uddhav Thackeray resigned. But all these efforts are aimed at restoring the party to its original position since it was going adrift due to its alliance with the ideologically different parties."

Bhaskar Jadhav (Shiv Sena) in his speech, lambasted the BJP saying that on one hand it was talking of ideology and was harassing opposition by instituting the inquiries by Enforcement Directorate against them on the other. This was an attempt to compel them to cross the floor.

"The situation in Maharashtra was like a war of Panipat. Due to the infighting in Maratha ranks, the Mughal Emperor Ahmad Shah Bahadur was benefitted.

Jadhav equated the Maharashtra situation also to the epic "Mahabharat" and described the political situation as a battleground-"Kurukshetra". All these are attempts to be made to decimate the Shiv Sena. But such attempts will never be successful" Jadhav added.

Rebel Shiv Sena MLA Gulabrao Patil said that if 4 to 5 MLAs defect, then it could be described as a rebellion. But when 40 odd MLAs cross the floor it is an uprising. It is displeasure against the coterie around "Matoshri". During the association with MVA, the Shiv Sena's position came down to the number four position. When we tried to reach Shiv Sena party chief Uddhav Thackeray, he was not accessible. Now, this new Government is an attempt to salvage the loss, that Shiv Sena suffered, he added.

Samajwadi Party MLA Raees Shaikh said that the MVA Government had neglected the problems confronting the minorities. The funds worth Rs 150 crore were distributed but the money never reached the right hands.

The minorities Commission and Urdu Academy remain neglected. He urged chief Minister Shinde to do justice to the minorities.

Hitenra Thakur (BVA) urged Shinde to do something to improve rail/road infrastructure in the Vasai-Virar belt (outskirts of Mumbai) since there is a tremendous increase in the population in that area. "We are a group of 29 (Independents and smaller parties) in the Assembly and you will have to pay attention to our grievances," he added.

In the meanwhile, the Uddhav Thackeray camp of Shiv Sena on Monday mentioned before the Supreme Court, the matter relating to Maharashtra political crisis objecting to how the newly elected speaker recognized the new whip appointed by the Eknath Shinde camp. The matter was mentioned by Senior Advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi before a bench of Justices Indira Banerjee and J.K. Maheshwari. Still, the bench said that the matter will be heard on July 11 along with other cases related to the Maharashtra crisis already pending before the top court.

Television and Cine Foundation, Manipur elects its new office bearers

IT News
Imphal, July 04 :

Television and Cine Foundation, Manipur a 16 year old film organisation working towards good cinema movement elects its new office bearers for the year 2022-2025. The newly elected members are Bobby Wahengbam as President, Saikhom Ratan as Vice President, Borun Thokchom as General Secretary, Sonia Nepram and Manas Maisnam as Joint Secretary, Meena Longjam as Treasurer, Romi Meitei, Khogen Khoibam, Ashish Hamom, Chaoba Thiyam and Ashok Veilou as Executive Members.

Oken Amakcham, Laimayum Surjakanta, Ronel Haobam, and Haobam

Pabankumar will be the advisors of the organisation.

Television and Cine Foundation Manipur in the recent years have been organising international incubation and documentary project development workshops in collaboration with Manipur State Film Development Society and Documentary Resource Initiative, Kolkata. It also organises monthly film screening programs for the filmmaker's community and the same platform has been a learning space for filmmakers. Its members have been continuously bringing laurels for the state by winning various national and international film awards. The foundation continues to inspire young filmmakers from the State.

Book released



IT News
Imphal, July 04:

A book on short stories titled "Asengba Eral" authored by Kshetrimayum Subadani and another book of poem collection, written by Mutum Ramani was released yesterday at Manipur Dramatic Union (MDU). The book release func-

tion was organized by Leimarol Khorjeikol (LEIKOL) and was attended by Karam Shyam, Nongmaithem Kirankumar, and Prof. Nahakpam Aruna Devi as Chief Guest, Guest of Honour, and President respectively. Salam Tomba Singh and Wahengbam Kumari Chanu watched the function as key speakers.

Sports

Women's Hockey World Cup 2022:

India play out thrilling 1-1 draw against England in tournament opener

Agency
Amstelveen (Netherlands), July 04:

The Indian Women's Hockey Team and England produced a high-voltage campaign opener in their Pool B match here at the prestigious FIH Women's Hockey World Cup Spain and Netherlands in the packed Wengler Hockey Stadium, Amstelveen on Sunday, which ended in a 1-1 draw.

Goals were scored by Isabelle Petter (9') and Vandana Katariya (28') as they helped their respective teams add on a crucial point on the pool table.

Both teams got off to a rollicking start pushing each other for ball possession and creating space in each other's circle. England drew the first blood when their striker took a fierce shot on goal but an alert Savita averted early danger with a diving save only minutes into the first quarter.

But England were successful in their second attempt when their experienced player Lily Owsley with a total of 182 international caps, set up Isabelle Petter with a fine assist. Petter sent the ball high,



pocketing the top of the net to fetch England that much-needed 1-0 lead in the 9th minute to put pressure on India.

Determined to stay on-par with England in the game, India kept their calm and worked on their strategy to create chances in the circle. They were awarded a PC in the following minutes, but missed the goal by a margin as Gurjit Kaur's dragkick bounced off the goal post. Despite missing out on a goal, India remained

patient in their approach, building on a good structure and when they were awarded a PC for foot-foul in the 28th minute, experienced striker Vandana Katariya picked up a splendid rebound off England goalie Maddie Hinge's pads after Monika had taken a shot from the PC. She deflected the ball perfectly past Hinge to earn India the equaliser and keep the game open in the second half of the match.

Coming back from the ten-minute break, feeling pumped

up India upped the pressure on England with potent attacks. They played with speed, and dominated the ball possession but England's defence was rock solid with their experienced custodian Maddie Hinge up to the challenge, making some fine saves and guiding her team's defence from the back.

With no goals scored in the third quarter, the match went down to the wire as both teams fought hard for that elusive lead. Though England cre-

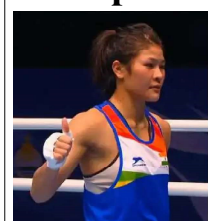
ated a couple of chances in the D with shots on goal, they were off target on most occasions. India could have extended the lead in the 56th minute when Neha and Navjot worked inside the D to help Sharmila find a deflection. But Sharmila unfortunately could not get her stick on the ball, thus missing out on a great opportunity.

With less than four minutes for the final hooter, the game continued to remain tense when Monika won India's seventh PC of the match. However, the team could not make much out of the chance with a slow execution of the PC battery and once again England putting up a fine PC defence with Hinge leading the charge. A good video referral by India in the following minute ensured England were denied a PC. For the next few seconds, England dominated the ball but could not make much of it, ending the match in a draw.

Earlier in the day, China drew 2-2 against New Zealand in the Pool B match, keeping the pool open.

On July 5, India will take on China in their second pool B match at 2000 hrs IST.

Assam's Jamuna Boro enters final of Elorda Cup in Kazakhstan



Agency
New Delhi, July 04:

World Championships bronze medalist Jamuna Boro got the better of Kazakhstan's Anel Sakys to enter the final of Elorda Cup in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan on Sunday.

Jamuna, who hails from Dhekiajuli in Assam's Sontpur district, produced a clinical performance against the home boxer to emerge victorious by unanimous margin in the 54kg semi-final.

Apart from Jamuna, three other Indian boxers, Kalaivani Srinivasan (48kg), Gitika (48kg) and Alfia (81+kg) will play the final on Monday.

25-year-old Jamuna's speed and footwork were spot on as she managed to evade her opponent's punches sev-

eral times before freeing herself up to land a few of her own towards the end of the opening round.

While the Indian dominated the proceedings in the second round, Jamuna's determination and composure under pressure gifted her the win in a highly competitive final round.

Among other Indians, two women boxers — Sakshi (54kg) and Sonia (57kg) ended their campaign with 0-5 and 2-3 defeats against Uzbekistan's Nigina Uktamova and Sitora Turdibekova respectively.

The challenge in the men's section also ended in the semi-finals as all the four pugilists lost unanimously.

While Kuldeep (48kg) and Jugnoo (92kg) lost to kazakh boxers Asilbek Jalilov and Aibek Oralbay respectively, Anant went down fighting against China's Fang Bo.

Sachin (57kg) showed great courage against 2021 World Championships silver medalist Serik Temirzhanov of Kazakhstan but lost the bout eventually.

Late on Saturday night, World Youth Champions Gitika (48kg) and Alfia (81+KG) stormed into the final.