

Amidst pouring rains many turn out to pay tribute to June 18 Martyrs at Kekrupat



IT News
Imphal, June 18:

Amidst heavy rains that pours since early morning thousands from all sections of communities in the state today gathered at Kekrupat here in Imphal to pay homage to the June 18 martyrs of the state.

AMUCO and UCM jointly organized the 21st The Great June Uprising & Unity Day 2022 at Kekrupat in commemoration of the 21 martyred souls who laid down their lives during an agitation to save Manipur territory in June 2001.

The day is observed under the theme "Let Manipur live

and grow together" at Kekrupat in Imphal.

On June 14, 2001 the NSCN (I-M) and the Government of India signed a ceasefire agreement in Bangkok, which included "without territorial limit".

A large number of people came out on the streets and agitated, demanding the with-

drawal of the three words.

During the unprecedented agitation on June 18, 2001, 18 people were martyred. The protesters also burnt down the Manipur Assembly building and attacked the CM bungalow.

Since then, the United Committee Manipur (UCM) and the All Manipur United Club Organisation (AMUCO) have been observing the day annually as The Great June Uprising, Unity Day by paying floral tributes to the 18 patriots constructed at Kekrupat in Imphal.

Meanwhile, Rajya Sabha MP Leishemba Sanajaoba paid floral tribute to the martyrs of June 18, 2001 at Kekrupat.

"Amidst this incessant rains, I paid my befitting floral tributes to the Martyrs of June 18th, 2001 at Kekrupat, Imphal... May the great souls rest in peace. Because of your supreme sacrifice, we could save our Territorial Integrity...and will never allow to disintegrate our state at any cost," the MP said in a Facebook post.

Police seized over 600 grams of suspected Heroin powers packed in soap cases

IT News
Imphal, June 18:

A police team of Kaching district today seized 610 grams of suspected heroin power packed in 50 soap cases at around 11 am today while checking a suspicious vehicle at Laimanai Chingjin.

According to police source, the said seizure was made by teams of Commando Unit, Kaching led by Insp. Md. Abash Khan, OC, CDO Unit, Kaching with HC L. Rohit Singh, HC N. Bidyananda Singh and Havaladar N. Chaoba Singh under the supervision of Binoy Chongtham, MPS Addl. SP (Ops) Kaching, and under the overall Supervision of Shrey Vats, IPS, Superintendent of Police Kaching, while conducted frisking and checking at Pallel CDO Check-post at Laimanai Chingjin. One Wagon R (Smoke Grey in colour) vehicle bearing registration No.



MN02A/4499 coming from Pallel side was given a signal to stop for checking, but the vehicle tried to escape the check point by speeding the vehicle. However, the CDO teams managed to stop the vehicle at a short distance from the check-post.

The driver of the vehicle and other occupants were detained for verification. They were identified as (1) Lamvah Haokip (38) w/o Onthong Haokip of S P. Saichang, Molnoi Tenguonpal, (2) Lethogin Haokip (18) S/o

Onthong Haokip of S P. Saichang, molnoi Tenguonpal (3) Ch. Nemeikim Mate (43) W/o Ch. Chunglet mate of Khonomphai Village, Tenguonpal and (4) Nengneichong Haokip (37) W/o Paongam Haokip of Zalenphai Part-I, Moreh ward no. 1 Tenguonpal.

The driver along with the said vehicle was searched after observing legal formalities. From the vehicle, 50 (Fifty) soap cases containing suspected (Heroin No.4) powder were de-

tected. The driver of vehicle and its occupants was arrested by observing all formalities. On weighing, the suspected Heroin (No.4) powder was found to weigh approximately 610 grams (in total).

The arrested person along with the seized articles is handed over to OC, Kaching Police Station for taking up further necessary legal action.

The seized drugs is estimated to be worth Rs13.42 lakhs in local market and 1.34 crores in International market.

Can a sanctioned Govt. fund for development be transferred to personal account of an employee? It happens

IT News
Imphal, June 18:

Under what rules of the state government allows a government employee to transfer sanctioned fund for development of a government department to the personal bank account of an employee is still a confusing matter as such rules cannot be found at any state or central government service rules. But it happens in the state of Manipur, where the Chief Minister is assuring to show no mercy to any form of corruption.

Imphal Times have procured some incriminating documents at which a huge amount of money sanctioned by the government for taking up specific developmental programme in the Directorate of Information and Public Relation, Government of Manipur, deposited in a personal account of an employee identified as Seema

Sanjenbam. It happened on January 10, 2022, and Commissioner of the DIPR, may not have any idea of this as it happened before he took charge as commissioner of the department.

As per a reliable source, the government of Manipur has approved and sanctioned an amount of Rs. 4,49,028/- (Rs. Four Lakhs Forty-Nine Thousand and Twenty Eight only) for archiving the old and rare photographs and negatives available at DIPR.

On January 10, 2022, this amount was transferred to the account of Seema Sanjenbam, the then APO (Administration), now transferred at Rajbhavan, Imphal.

According to documents available with the Imphal Times, the sanctioned amount for official purpose was transferred to the personal account of the then APO (Administration) in two installments. First a sum of Rs. 2,79,028/- (Rs. Two Lakh Seventy Nine Thousand

only) was transferred on 10/01/2022 at Account No. 20065092873, SBI Secretariat Branch. This is the personal account of former APO Administration (DIPR) Seema Sanjenbam. On the same day, another sum of Rs. 1,70,000/- (Rs. One Lakh Seventy Thousand) was transferred to this same account.

Generally all approved and sanctioned amount for official purposes of the DIPR are transferred to Account No. 10329726333, SBI, Secretariat Branch open in the name of Director, IPR or at the account No. 10329727609, of the same bank open in the name of the DDO-DIPR.

Instead of transferring the money approved and sanctioned by the government of India for archiving the old and rare photographs and negatives available at DIPR to these accounts, one wonder on why the money has been deposited at a personal account of the then APO Administration.

Monthly Pension Distributed to destitute aged people at Langol Old Age Home

IT News
Imphal, June 18:

The Monthly Pension to all the inmates of Langol Old Age Home, Imphal West District, Manipur has been distributed today.

The Monthly Pension has been distributed to the inmates of the Home under the exclusive sponsorship of Thounaojam Romen Singh, the Managing Trustee of Thounaojam Chaoba Memorial Charitable Trust, Singjamei in a solemn function held in coincidence with the Death Anniversary Observation of Late Thounaojam Chaoba Singh at the Old Age Home today.

During the Pension Distribution Function, Romen Singh

said that he launches such kind of initiatives only to help such homes in managing its day-to-day chores. He has been helping the Old Age Home with food and other day today items since the last many months. He does so not to take any kind of advantage nor any of his own benefit from the Government or so but to show the solidarity in helping the aged ones, he asserted. It may be mentioned that the Langol Old Age Home cannot get any benefit from the Government as of now despite many requests to give some benefits raised to the Authorities of the State Government. It is run with their own without any Government Aid.

Romen Singh urged the Government Authority to help

the Home with the Chief Minister gi Sotharabasing gi Tengkang (CMST) and the Chief Minister gi Hakselgi Tengkang (CMHT) only to help the inmates for their welfare in their daily lives and also to give proper treatment. The Government Authority should give them the benefits meant for them relaxing some of the necessary major documents but taking only relevant papers such a way that they can easily get the benefits.

Romen Singh said that the work and initiatives taken up by the Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh for the welfare of the people especially the youths of the State is highly appreciated.

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27 years old man peddles in cycle across India with the message Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

By: Kongbrailatpam
Vishwanath Sharma
Imphal, June 18:

Wanderlust is an Unquenchable thirst for many. For 27 years old Gaurav Tiwari, it is a way of life to know the Socio-Economic, Cultural, Geo-political, and History of India.

A cyclist from Uttar Pradesh, Gaurav Tiwari, peddles across the country to raise awareness and study about Environment, civic sense, socio-Economy, Culture, and Geopolitical History of India.

For the last two years, Tiwari has travelled across the country except for the states of Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Andaman, and Pondicherry with the theme "Mera Desh, Mera Sandesh".

His journey is not just limited to exploring different villages, towns, and cities and meeting people. In-between, he also gazed upon society, Economy, Culture, Geography, politics, History of India, Environment issues, food habits, appearance, culture, etc of different parts of the country.

As a part of his journey when he reached Manipur, he visited the INA complex in Moirang. He thanked the people of Manipur for keeping the history and culture of India alive. In an interview with the Imphal Times, Tiwari mentions that, "When the time India was suffering from the brutality of British soldiers, the people of Manipur gave their space to Subash Chandra Bose and his team. Later, several Manipuris joined the INA and joined the fight against the British to free the land from the clutches of the British Raj under the lead-



ership of Subash Chandra Bose. It is a very big thing for the whole Indian History and the spirit of the Manipur people".

Tiwari also mentioned in the interview that he was very grateful after learning about different cultures, food habits, appearances, cultures, etc all over the country, but the spirit is only one that is Bharat; and he believes in the saying, the world is one family (Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam).

From October, he covered 12 states. He started his journey on the 10th of October 2020 from Solang. With the

slogan "My Country My Message," he started his journey. He belongs to District Partapghar village Kunda UP. He studied at Allahabad University. He concluded during his journey, that he came through India with different cultures, agriculture, economy, and religions.

"Through this journey, I wanted to deliver a message to our young before picking a career, first think about our country and world, and choose wisely going through our culture, society, and psychology, and then do your best," Gaurav Tiwari said.

★ Editorial

Lesson learnt from mass uprising of June 18

Nagaland/Greater Nagaland, Kukiland, Mizoland, Meitei/Meiteiland. While the rest of the world is coming to the realization that much more can be achieved with greater ease and efficiency with the integration and cooperation of different countries and their particular expertise and resources especially, but not limited to the fields of science and technology and even security and administration, the situation back home presents a diametrically opposite approach to the future. In stark contrast to the intensifying global efforts for disintegration of physical boundaries, the different communities in the state are staking their claim for separate states to be carved or chipped away from the present state of Manipur.

While the demand itself is a serious threat to the future of the state as it exists at present in terms of its physical features, a far more treacherous and sinister outcome will be the mutual bitterness and suspicious attitudes of the communities that will eventually develop which will be almost impossible to get rid of. While the grievances and the concerns of the people in these parts of the state against the administration may very well be genuine, there is no denying the fact that the demand for a separate statehood entails a complex and insidious work of a few politically motivated and self-seeking individuals in the garb of righteous leaders and philanthropists.

The question everyone in the state, especially those thousands rallying behind the leaders needs to ask, rather ponder over is: will the granting of a separate state be the ultimate solution to all their grievances and woes? Is there any certainty or assurance that there will not be further outcry or agitation for further demarcation or separation by the numerous sub-groups? Has it been established that the elected representatives of the various communities and regions of the state have tried their level best to address these complaints and fell short by way of the state government failing to cooperate or provide the required resources despite their due shares being in the possession of the government? Are the demands for these numerous separate states or administrative units even plausible?

In our quest to attain every right granted us by the constitution and then some, we have turned our back on our responsibilities. What the state is experiencing is the consequence of our own follies- of letting our greed and emotions getting the better of our rationality thereby selecting those representatives who can put the highest price for our universal suffrage. The people sitting over the affairs of the state- who are being scorned and damned for betraying the trust, aspirations and resources of the general public are the very people who have been adjudged the most popular or trusted of the lot, how the trust was won being another question altogether. Putting our emotions before reason will only result in further alienating the different communities- a situation none of us could afford to experience. What is needed at this juncture is an enduring political solution which would ensure that the system is tweaked and primed to cater to the needs and necessities of the public without undue interference or disturbance. The need of the hour is collective resolution and not a separate state.



By: Fr Paul Lelen Haokip

In earlier times, a man would say, 'my wife is pregnant.' Now, with more inclusive words, a man says, 'we are pregnant.' An inclusive word like 'we' sounds authentic and more participatory in the process of pregnancy, childbearing and child-raising. International Fathers' Day reminds the world about the participation of 'fathers' in raising families, forming children, and contributing to society and the world. This day does not merely praise 'fathers' but critically scrutinizes their role in societal growth – politically, religiously and socially.

Political Fathers
In the context of India, the 'so-called' democratically elected Members of the Legislative Assembly are supposed to be lawmakers. I used the word 'so-called' to hint at incidents where some legislators are not elected freely and fairly. It is a good sign that more and more educated MLAs are filling up the honourable seats at the assembly halls. The danger lies in not-so-educ-

cated legislators who could be influenced by money, muscle power or ethnic lines. All the same, voters look up to MLAs as their political fathers (mothers) as they have sworn to uphold the constitution of India and work impartially for all people. With that trust, people approach them to address their concerns and bring peace and development to society. MLAs have a significant role to play as political fathers for the people of their constituencies and states they belong.

When Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Railway Minister, he told his mother that he works in railway. He once came to an event organized by Railway where his mother also came, asking that her son is in the railway. People asked, what is his name? She said, 'Lal Bahadur Shastri'. People thought she was lying. She insisted that her son has gone for work in the railway. People took her in front of Lal Bahadur Shastri and asked, 'Is this your son?' She said, 'Yes, this is my son'. People showed the minister, 'Is this your mother?' Then Shastri called his mother and sat with her and after sometimes sent her home. So the reporters asked, 'Why didn't you give a speech in front of your mother?' Shastri said, 'My mother does not know that I am a minister. If she comes to know, she will start recommending people and I will not be able to refuse... and she will also have arrogance.' Everyone was shocked to hear the answer. We always look up to Shastri as our ideal.

Religious fathers

While the Catholic church uses the term 'Father' to address their priests, other Christian denominations use words like *pastor, evangelist, reverend*, etc., to address their religious heads. Whatever the form of address is, they are all religious fathers trying their best to care for the spiritual well-being of their members. Of course, it is high time to oversee the education, emotion, psychology and environmental well-being of the people under their mentorship. Shouting 'Halleluiah, Praise the Lord, Amen' alone will not work now in this fast-changing global inflation crisis and deteriorating ecology. God has to be found in the Bible and outside the Bible too. All created things on earth should be respected and nurtured. Humans should cease to think that we are the epitome of creation. Inclusive existence philosophy has to creep into our untaught minds and enlarge our idea of spirituality. Church leaders should expand themselves and teach peace, co-existence, environmental care, respect for all communities, and the true meaning of 'spirituality'. Since ordinary people take what the church leaders say as gospel truth, it is pertinent to appoint theologically sound persons as church leaders.

Social fathers

Innumerable social leaders rise above ranks, are loved by people, and give themselves for people's welfare (or section of people). Their area of popularity may depend on their influence and community spread. We have national, state, dis-

trict, and village social leaders. Entrepreneurs, educators, artists, actors, lyricists, book writers, journalists, commentators, philanthropists, activists, and motivators can be called socially-oriented fathers (mothers). They either reflect on the past and present; or foresee the future and add their mastery touch to art, creativity, sciences, social sciences and the like. They are influential persons who can mould people's minds towards a particular goal. A society that curbs its people's creative and original thinking potentials is a new form of dictatorship. And we know what dictatorial regimes are experiencing in the world.

There will be various other forms of 'fatherhood' in our lives. To have educated, balanced, intellectually matured fathers, we must educate our sons today. Holistic education plays an important role here. Sectarian and cocooned types of education will give us an inverted notion of education. We need to study philosophies of the world, histories, and psychological positions of the world so we can be locally effective for our people. We need the existence of democracy where dissents are welcome for the holistic picture of a thing. We require a secularist worldview. We hope to see and experience overall societal growth through our 'fathers' wisdom.

(The author is a PhD research scholar, Department of Sociology and Social Work, Christ University, Bangalore, Karnataka, India. Email: paulhowkeep20@gmail.com)

International Yoga Day on June 21 Yoga for health beauty and immunity



By: Shahnaz Husain

himself, here we bring to you a complete yoga routine that you can follow to maintain your immunity.

You do not have to be born beautiful. You can acquire beautiful, supple, glowing and flawless skin by treating yourself from inside through selection of yoga poses and exercises rather than relying on expensive cosmetics and time consuming salon treatments.

You can enhance your beauty with yoga by incorporating strict guidelines in your daily life. Regular yoga practice pranayama, and meditation aid you in reverse the signs of ageing including wrinkles, saggy skin, crow's feet and fine lines among others.

Pranayama helps purifying the blood because of the increased intake of oxygen, which is very crucial for improving immunity. Yoga is one of the most effective and time-tested natural immunity boosters that can lead to a healthy, sickness-free body.

Mindfulness meditation can have benefits for health and performance, including improved immune function, reduced blood pressure and enhanced cognitive function.

Those who regularly practice yoga and meditation have a certain glow about them that comes from within and radiates outward. Yoga helps lower stress hormones that compromise the immune system, while also conditioning the lungs and respiratory tract, stimulating the lymphatic system to oust toxins from the body, and bringing oxygenated blood to the various organs to ensure their optimal function which helps us to remain healthy and attain inner beauty.

Mindfulness meditation can have benefits for health and performance, including improved immune function, reduced blood pressure and enhanced cognitive function. Meditation produces more antibodies in people. It significantly increases left-sided, anterior brain activation (pattern indicating positive emotions) in meditators (compared to non-meditating controls) and that this activity was associated with the rise in antibodies

The practice of yoga may greatly aid in helping you look more youthful and more refreshed.

I have always said that a strong immune system, good health and beauty are complimentary to each other. Unless you are healthy from the inside, you cannot reflect true beauty. For a flawless skin, shiny hair and a slim figure, good health must be on top of the list. In fact, I promoted the Ayurvedic principles of holistic health, with yoga as an integral part of the program. This concept of holistic beauty care was unique and caught on worldwide. In fact, I believe that yoga is very relevant to our modern lifestyle, in terms of both health and beauty. Personally, it has been a part of my life and I have experienced its numerous benefits.

The appeal of Yoga lies in the fact that it helps both body and mind. It not only works on all the muscle groups, but also increases vitality, tones the internal organs, stimulates the nerve centres, relieves stress and clears the mind which boost immunity and gives you attractive personality and beauty from within. Although it is an ancient Indian discipline, it has also gained relevance as a means of attaining a well-balanced personality and delaying the visible signs of ageing. The other important aspect of Yoga is that it involves breath control and specifies the inhalation and exhalation of breath during the exercises. Thus, it helps oxygenation which boost immunity imparts a feeling of physical and mental exhilaration. This is so important for beauty, because feeling good is an integral part of looking good.

Yoga improves blood circulation, including the circulation of blood to the skin surface. This is so important for the good health of the skin, as it helps to supply essential nutrients to the skin. It also promotes the removal of toxins through the skin which boost immunity. This is so important, especially in cases of skin congestion. It tones the skin, improves oxygenation to the skin, imparts a beautiful glow and keeps the

skin youthful and free from problems. The same goes for the hair. Yoga helps to promote blood circulation and oxygenation to the scalp and hair follicles. This helps to supply nutrients in the bloodstream to the hair follicles. It promotes hair growth and keeps the scalp healthy.

When we talk of beauty, we do not talk only about the beauty of the face. It also includes the figure, giving it suppleness, good posture and grace. Where the appearance is concerned, a slim figure can take years off and helps in staying youthful for a longer time. It supplies oxygen to every tissue and this, itself makes way for both health and beauty. If you are leading a life that does not provide enough physical activity, you are actually encouraging ageing. Exercise is a potent remedy for pre-mature ageing, not only because it strengthens the body, but also keeps it looking trim, fit and enhances immunity in body. The yogic asanas are designed to keep the spine and joints flexible and supple. They make the body strong and agile, tone the muscles, improves blood circulation, imparts vitality and enhances both beauty and good health.

Many beauty problems are triggered off by stress. Since yoga helps to induce relaxation and reduce stress, it certainly helps in dealing with stress-related conditions like acne, hair loss, dandruff, etc. Studies conducted on those who practice yoga have shown that positive changes also occur in the personality, in attitudes, emotional stability, self-confidence. It has a direct effect on the mind, emotions and mood. In fact, it is a regular stress-buster and puts the glow back on the skin. You will feel instantly rejuvenated and good about yourself.

Indeed, the benefits of Yoga reflect as external beauty. For a flawless skin, shiny hair and a slim, graceful figure, make yoga a part of your daily life.

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

The importance of books will always be there even in the storm of internet



By: Vijay Garg

In today's internet age, readers have distanced themselves from books. There was a time when books were considered as a storehouse of knowledge, education and a carrier of culture along with the entertainment of human beings. From children to old age, he used to read books according to his own interest. Writers and litterateurs are writing a lot, books are being published even in the midst of the constant shortage of readers. It is a matter of concern that books are not getting the market and they remain as a mere beauty of a library. Keeping this in mind, this time on 23rd April, on the occasion of World Book Day, National Seminar on Mobile was organized on the topic "Importance of Books in the storm of internet".

Writers, writers, journalists, engineers, historians etc. from many places of the country joined this seminar and expressed their views. Most are of the opinion that the importance of books remains intact even today and will never be diminished.

It is up to the individual's interest in what he reads. A lot of new literature is being written on every subject. How close have the human beings in their wanderings come? Let us keep up with the times, that's why Hindi language and language is alive. The importance of books remains intact. We have opened our windows, knowledge and science are all welcome. No technology or internet-revolution can diminish the usefulness of a book.

Books also play a major role in the protection, preservation, creation and refinement of knowledge. Books preserve human work, thoughts, knowledge, contribution to the development of society and culture expressing this view.

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India's daily Covid-19 cases go past 13,000-mark for first time in 113 days

Agency
New Delhi, June 18:

India's COVID-19 tally increased to 4,32,83,793 on Saturday as 13,216 more people tested positive for the viral disease and the active caseload climbed to 68,108, according to Union health ministry data.

This is the first time in 113 days that India has recorded over 13,000 cases.

The death toll increased to 5,24,840 with 23 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.16 per cent of the total infections. The national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.63 per cent, the ministry

said.

An increase of 5,045 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 2.73 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 2.47 per cent, the ministry said.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,26,90,845. The case fatality rate stood at 1.21 per cent, it said.

The cumulative COVID-19 vaccine doses administered in the country so far under the nationwide inoculation drive have exceeded 196 crore.

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on

August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

India crossed the grim milestone of 2 crore on May 4, 3 crore on June 23 and 4 crore on January 25 this year.

The 23 new fatalities include 13 from Kerala, three from Maharashtra, two from Karnataka and one each from Delhi, Meghalaya, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh.

Of the 5,24,840 deaths recorded so far in the country, 1,47,883 were from

Maharashtra, 69,866 from Kerala, 40,112 from Karnataka, 38,026 from Tamil Nadu, 26,226 from Delhi, 23,526 from Uttar Pradesh and 21,207 from West Bengal.

The health ministry stressed that more than 70 per cent of the deaths occurred due to comorbidities.

"Our figures are being reconciled with the Indian Council of Medical Research," the ministry said on its website, adding that the state-wise distribution of figures is subject to further verification and reconciliation.

As many as 8,148 people recuperated from the disease in the last 24 hours, bringing the total number of recoveries to 42,690,845.

PEC demands action against Bangladesh scribe killers

IT Correspondent
Geneva, June 18:

Press Emblem Campaign (PEC), the global media safety and rights body, expresses concern over the police inaction to nab the killers of Dhaka-based television journalist Abdul Bari, who was found dead on the bank of Hatirjheel lake in Gulshan area of the capital city on 8 June. Journalist Bari (28), who was associated with private channel DBC as a news producer, faced severe taunts by miscreants on his stomach and neck. Hailing from Sirajganj Sadar, Bari earlier worked for Mohona Television.



"PEC is alarmed at sharp increase in the number of journalists affected by violence this year, where Ukraine and Mexico emerge as the most dangerous countries in the globe so far. Since the beginning of 2022, at least 65 media

workers have paid with lives for doing their job, which is a worrying development," said Blaise Lempem, president of PEC (www.presseemblem.ch), adding that Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina should direct the concerned

authorities to punish the perpetrators and adequately compensate the bereaved family.

Bari is the second journalist to be killed in Bangladesh this year after the murder of Mohiuddin Sarker Nayeem in Cumilla locality by suspected drug dealers, said Nava Thakuria, PEC's south Asia representative. Bangladesh's eastern neighbour Myanmar witnessed the killing of one scribe (Pu Tui Dim) and its western giant neighbour India lost four journalists (namely Rohit Kumar Biswal, Sudhir Saini, Juned Khan Pathan and Subhash Kumar Mahato) to assailants since 1 January 2022, he added.

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The importance of books will always.....

The growing influence of the Internet has not posed any challenge to the existence of books and no readers did not distance themselves from the books, but the reality is that there is a lack of good books in India.

The first requirement is to increase the quality of books. He says that the government should encourage book culture. Publications Department of Government of India, National Book Trust can play a good role in quality standard publication. There should be a suitable arrangement for payment of royalty to the author. The library organization has expanded but there is a shortage of library personnel. The libraries of information centers in Rajasthan have been closed for years.

The importance of the book is universal, everlasting and universal, its importance cannot be diminished in any era or storm, there will be many storms like the Internet, but the book culture will be able to maintain its usefulness and relevance in every storm. Expressing this view, Delhi's

Books open doors to new worlds, contribute to increase the store of human values in man. He says that perhaps it is only these books, by reading which Prime Minister Narendra Modi has become a super-

power of the world today. He himself has become a superpower, wants to make every citizen of his country powerful, that is why he has called for a book-reading and library movement across the country, which will not only make people literate, but also bring social and economic change. He says, 'Literature is that magic wand, which shows the spirit of the universe in animals, in bricks and stones and also in trees and plants.'

Books are not only a means of acquiring knowledge, but books play an important role in understanding the philosophy of life. In every difficulty and adversity of life, one can give new condition and direction to life by taking oneself towards positivity, so wear old clothes and read new book. He says that the importance of books has not diminished from the Internet, the form has changed. The Internet can never replace the effect that the words printed on the paper have on the mind, but if seen from a wider perspective, the Internet has increased the importance of books. The trend of the new generation is increasing towards books with e-books.

It is the responsibility of parents and teachers to inspire children to read Indian literature from the very beginning. The immortal literature

that our eminent litterateurs have created is an immeasurable storehouse of knowledge. It is said that literature is the mirror of society. By studying literature, we get an opportunity to know our society, whereas on the internet we get only summary. Internet cannot be a substitute for books.

If there is any companion to spend a few moments comfortably with someone in a run-of-the-mill life, then it is a book. The writer of Bhilwara, Mrs. Shikha Aggarwal* says while stating this, the digital world is as if flooded with electronic gadgets. In ancient times, when people were attached to books, their mental and emotional development was also good.

Books awaken the Indian public consciousness and inspire in the direction of building a new India. Literature is that strong medium, which while keeping our national consciousness alive, does an important job of preserving Indian culture and transmitting it from generation to generation.

The literature of all languages from the Vedic period to the present is so rich that it is a powerful medium to open the eyes of human knowledge, to develop understanding, reasoning power and to know the social conditions of a particular period.

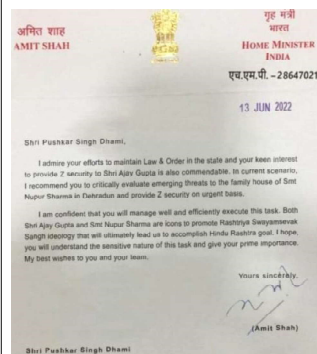
Book is a smooth medium of experience accumulation and knowledge transmission, which helps in increasing logical and concentration power, getting good sleep, increasing indelible knowledge. Their importance cannot be judged from the Internet.

Before and after the independence of the country, people's love for books remained for many years. In today's era, in the storm of the Internet, readers get information about any subject on Google instead of reading books, but this situation is a state of confusion and disorientation. Extensive and real knowledge is possible only from books.

The more good libraries a country has, the more prosperous and developing the country is. Internet cannot be a substitute for a book. Even today children like to read books like Harry Potter, Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Goosebumps, Cereale Home etc. in the library. Young readers like Amish, Dan Brown, Paulo Coelho, Rhonda Byrne and older readers like to read books by Bengali authors, Narendra Kohli, Amrita Pritam, Amish, Shiv Kheda, Krishna's autobiography - Manu Sharma, books on yoga. The scent of books still haunts me today.

Nupur Sharma untraceable in Delhi: Mumbai Police

Union Home Minister asks Uttarakhand CM to provide Z Plus Security to her family house in Dehradun



(Left): A letter was written by Union Home Minister to provide Z plus security to (Right): Nupur Sharma.



By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, June 18:

BJP spokesperson Nupur Sharma who was suspended following the controversy that erupted due to her disparaging remarks against Prophet Muhammad in a TV debate, has caught in a crossfire with police across the country summoning her for interrogation.

The Mumbai police team has already reached New Delhi to bring her to Mumbai since she is wanted in connection with two FIRs registered in and around Mumbai. She has been asked to appear before Mumbai police (near Thane) on June 22 based on an FIR registered by a teacher Mohammed Gufran Khan on May 28. Similarly, the Pydhonie police in South Mumbai have issued a summons asking her to remain present for interrogation at 11 am on June 25.

She is required to appear before Narkeldanga police in Kolkata (West Bengal) on June 20. This is as per the FIR lodged by Abdul Sohail, General Secretary of the Minority cell of the Trinamool Congress. In addition, she has been named in the FIR along with Naveenkumar Jindal, Shadab Chauhan, Maulana Mufti Nadim, and five others on charges of inciting communal violence, by the Delhi Police (Cyber Cell).

In another development, the Union Home Minister Amit Shah has asked Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, to provide Z plus security to the family house of Nupur Sharma in Dehradun and provide Z plus

security on an urgent basis.

In a letter dated June 13, Shah has stated that "I admire your efforts to maintain law and order in the state, and your keen interest to provide Z plus security to Ajay Gupta is also commendable. In the current scenario, I recommend you to critically evaluate emerging threats to the family house of Nupur Sharma in Dehradun and provide Z plus security on an urgent basis".

"I am confident that you will manage well and efficiently execute this task. Both Ajay Gupta and Nupur Sharma are icons to promote the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh ideology that will ultimately lead us to accomplish the Hindu Rashtra goal. I hope you will understand the sensitive nature of this task and give it your prime importance" states the letter.

While Shah's letter to Uttarakhand CM has created ripples in political circles, it is not clear where Sharma is. First, a copy of the summons was sent by e-mail to her by the Mumbai police. But she did not respond to the summons. As such the Mumbai Police team reached Delhi to hand over the summons papers as per rules. But could not find her at her address.

Maharashtra Home Minister Dilip Walse Patil said, that Maharashtra police's attempts to bring her to Mumbai are on and Delhi Police should co-operate with them.

If Sharma has shifted to Dehradun the job of Mumbai police and the police across the country to trace her is going to be tedious.

The BJP had taken disciplinary action on June 05, against Nupur Sharma and Delhi BJP media in-charge Naveenkumar Jindal, for violation of Rule 10 (a) of the Constitution of the Bharatiya Janata Party. While Sharma was suspended for her remarks against the prophet in a TV debate, Naveenkumar Jindal was removed from the primary membership of the party, due to his tweet about the Prophet, which he later deleted amid rising outrage.

Over 15 Islamic countries expressed displeasure and many Gulf nations had summoned Indian envoys and expressed condemnation over what they called "anti-Islamic statements" by BJP spokespersons. However the government, in an attempt to defuse the tension, told the Gulf nations that the comments reflected views of "fringe elements".

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ONE DAY SEMINAR CUM WORKSHOP PROGRAMME HELD

One day Seminar Cum Workshop Programme was held on 9 June of 2022 at Thayong Village, Imphal East, Manipur. It was organized by Alliance for Integrated Management (AIM), Uripok Takhellambam Leikai, Imphal West, Manipur and sponsored by Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts), Ministry of Textile, Govt of India.

Yumnam Jagyashwori Devi, Assistance Director Handicrafts O/o of the D.C. (HC), Ministry of Textile, Govt of India and Birenjit Retel, Asst. Director Handicrafts and Handloom, Govt of Manipur

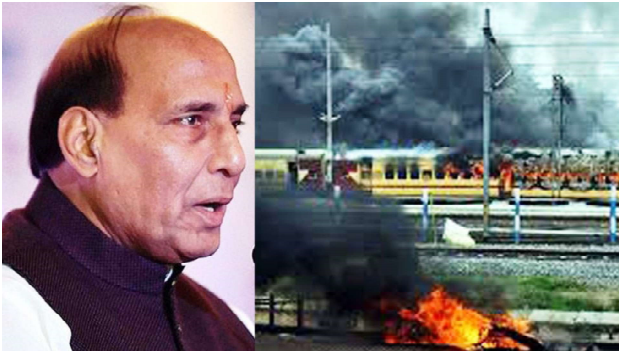


and also Shantibala Devi, State Awardee were consented to Grace the function as Chief Guest, President and Guest of Honours respectively.

Yumnam Jagyashwori Devi, Assistance Director (Handicrafts) be, O/o of the D.C

(H.C), Ministry of Textile, Govt of Manipur Chief Guest of that Seminar Programme stated that every Artisan should know the status and history of Handicrafts and need to make our products in standardized form for exports.

Govt goes in for a damage control exercise as "Agnipath" scheme misfires 10% Job Reservation for Agniveers in Govt establishments including the Indian Coast Guard



(Left): Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. (Right): A loss of public property due to angry protests against "Agnipath" in parts of the country.

IT Correspondent
Mumbai, June 18:

With the recently announced scheme "Agnipath" for short-term recruitment in Defence Forces evoking angry protests in parts of the country, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh announced a 10 percent job reservation for "Agniveers" in certain Defence establishments on Saturday.

Soon after the scheme, "Agnipath" was announced on June 14, the misguided youth torched trains and police outposts in some parts of the country including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Telangana.

The agitation sparked with the misunderstanding that henceforth the recruitment will be made in Defence forces only on contract basis for short term duration.

However, the Government clarified that the "Agnipath" scheme is over and above existing recruitment schemes and "Agnipath" offers the opportunity to patriotic and motivated youth to serve in the Armed Forces for four years.

Given nearly two years lost in the Corona pandemic, the government also extended the age limit for recruitment to 23 years as against 17.5 to 21 years earlier. There had been

no fresh recruitment in Defence establishments in the last two years.

"Agniveers" will be recruited to serve in the Armed Forces for four years and they will be absorbed if found suitable based on terms and conditions. To begin with, the Government plans to recruit 46000 "Agniveers" this year to bring about a transformational shift towards a more tech-savvy Armed Forces.

On Saturday Defence Minister Rajnath Singh approved a proposal to reserve 10% of the job vacancies in the Ministry of Defence for "Agniveers" meeting requisite

eligibility criteria. The 10% reservation will be implemented in the Indian Coast Guard, defence civilian posts, and all the 16 Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs).

The DPSUs include Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML), Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Limited, Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL), Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL), Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDL), Mishra Dhatu Nigam (Midhani) Limited, Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited (AVNL), Advanced Weapons & Equipment India Ltd. (AW&EIL), Munitions India Limited (MIL), Yantra India Limited (YIL), Gliders India Limited (GIL), India Optel Limited (IOL) and Troop Comforts Limited (TCL). This reservation would be in addition to existing reservations for ex-servicemen.

Necessary amendments to relevant recruitment rules will be undertaken to implement these provisions. The DPSUs will be advised to make similar amendments to their respective recruitment rules. Necessary age relaxation provision will also be made to enable recruitment of "Agniveers" to the above posts, the official statement said.

31 dead in Assam, 3,000 villages under water as rains continue to batter state

Agency
Guwahati, June 18:

The flood situation in Assam has deteriorated with rising water levels in major rivers and 31 people losing their lives so far.

Several parts of the state received incessant rains, triggering landslides at multiple locations.

Nine more people including two children lost their lives on Friday. Another person remains missing.

The flood has affected nearly 19 lakh people in 2,930

villages across 28 districts of the state.

A total of 17 people have lost their lives in the current wave of floods this year.

In Guwahati, fresh landslides were reported from various parts of the city amidst heavy rainfall, which also led to waterlogging in different places.

In the Basistha area of Guwahati, a house's guard wall was destroyed by a landslide.

As per the reports, the residence belonged to a lady identified as Kalpana Kumari Deka. However, no injuries or casualties were reported in the incident.

Another incident took place in the Mathgharia area where a mudslide damaged a house.

Assam has been wracked by heavy downpours for the last five days, resulting in knee-deep water logging on all major roadways in Guwahati.

According to the Regional Meteorological Centre, Guwahati, the rain is unlikely to let up for the next two days at least.

Both Assam and Meghalaya are under a 'red alert' till June 18.

Contd. from Page 1

Monthly Pension Distributed....



The launching of War on Drugs to keep the youths of the Society away from drugs is appreciated. Moreover all the Communities of the State supporting the Campaign is remarkable. It comes following the good governance served by the Chief Minister, Nongthombam Biren Singh. He said that the different Initiatives taken up by the Chief Minister such as War on Drugs Campaign, Save Youths Schemes etc are highly appreciated. He thanked the Chief Minister for doing many things to protect and restore Reserved Forest Areas. He assured that the Chief Minister will do a lot

more for the welfare of the People of the State.

Romen Singh has been helping different patients, who are living under Below Poverty Lines, in their treatment in the hospitals. He helped many patients with money and materials treated at the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS). The kind of treatment given at RIMS is remarkable and tremendous, Mr. Romen Singh assured. For this, he thanks the Director of RIMS Prof. A. Shanta Singh for giving such service to the people of the State and abroad. During his tenure, the hygienic condition of RIMS comes in the topmost manner

in comparing to the other hospitals in the State. Such activities taken up by the Director for the upliftment of the Hospital is great. Before his tenure, the condition of the Hospital is not good. RIMS Hospital is now becomes neat and clean. This is due to the effort initiated by the Present Director. It is highly appreciated, Romen Singh asserted.

He further said that he will do more in other Old Age Homes which do get any benefit from the Government.

Chingakhom Sunder Singh, Thounaojam Ongbi Ibemhal Devi and the Founder of the Home, Oinam Mangi Singh attended the function.

AR foils Cross Border Narcotics Smuggling

IT News
Imphal, June 18:

Tengnoupal Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South) foiled cross border narcotics smuggling in Khudengthabi on June 17, 2022.

While carrying out routine checking at Check post Khudengthabi, troops of

Assam Rifles intercepted a vehicle. On thorough checking of the vehicle, five packages containing 5.85 kgs of WY tablets were found concealed inside vehicle.

The seized narcotics were assessed to be worth Rs 2.5 Crores. The seized narcotics were handed over to Moreh Police Station for further investigation.

Assam Rifles conducts lecture on rain water harvesting

IT News
Imphal, June 18:

Loktak Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR(S) conducted a lecture and demonstration on rain water harvesting at Sendra village, Bishnupur district today.

The event was conducted to generate aware-

ness on scarcity of water in the environment, various aspects of rain water harvesting and ways and means to enhance the ground water levels.

The local populace were also briefed on means to save water like closing the taps after use and judicious use of water for washing and cleaning etc.

Sports

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the first-ever Torch Relay in New Delhi on Sunday

Historic Chess Olympiad Torch Relay set to travel in to 75 Cities Across India

IT Correspondent
New Delhi, June 18:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the first-ever Chess Olympiad Torch Relay for the 44th edition of the event on Sunday at the Indira Gandhi International Stadium in New Delhi.

The inaugural edition of the Chess Olympiad Torch Relay will visit 75 cities across the country as the All India Chess Federation (AICF) revealed the route map on Friday.

The International Chess Federation (FIDE) introduced an Olympic-style Torch Relay tradition for its Olympiad from this year's event and named India as the starting flame point for each edition, commemorating the popularity of chess in the country where the sport originated.

"I'm really excited to be part of this historic moment. I was always fascinated by the Olympic Torch Relay concept and now we also have one in chess. But the most amazing thing about it is, it will always start from India. And as an Indian, I feel really proud about this fact," said the five-time World Champion Viswanathan Anand while addressing the media during a press conference at a city hotel in New Delhi.

AICF President Sanjay Kapoor and AICF Secretary and Olympiad Director Bharat Singh Chauhan were also present at the event along with Tech Mahindra's Chief of Strategy Jagdish Mitra and Ms. Apoorva, principal Secy. Govt. of Tamil Nadu.

Starting from the national capital, the historic Olympiad Torch Relay will travel across the country before reaching its



destination—Mahabalipuram on July 27. Leh, Srinagar, Jaipur, Surat, Mumbai, Bhopal, Patna, Kolkata, Gangtok, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Thrissur, Port Blair and Kanyakumari will be among the 75 cities.

"Chess Olympiad Torch Relay is a great medium to popularise the sport in India.

We have ensured that it visits and covers every corner of the country, inspiring many individuals. It will be a once-in-a-lifetime experience for everyone. I believe this will contribute immensely towards making India a global chess powerhouse," said AICF Secretary and Olympiad Director Chauhan.

"This Olympiad Torch Relay will add a golden chapter in Indian sporting history and, starting from India every edition, it will motivate generations to take up this sport. On behalf of the federation, we thank Honourable Prime Minister Modi ji for accepting our invitation. Events of such stature take a lot of effort and we

are fortunate to have received the support from everyone including the government and other stakeholders," AICF President Kapoor added.

The 44th edition of the world's biggest chess event will be held in Mahabalipuram near Chennai from July 28 to August 10.

Nearly 100 years of history of the Chess Olympiad, it's the first time that India will be hosting this prestigious event. With 188 countries registered for the upcoming Olympiad, Indian sporting history is also set to witness a huge congregation of countries on Indian soil for the first time at an event. And celebrating this, AICF has unveiled a social media campaign 'Namaste World', welcoming the chess community from around the world for this event.

Jagdish Mitra, Chief Strategy Officer and Head of

Growth, Tech Mahindra, said, "The origins of the game of chess can be traced back to India. At Tech Mahindra, we have proudly pledged to keep this legacy alive and are pleased to support the first-ever Torch Relay for the 44th Chess Olympiad. Our engagement with FIDE and AICF will help extend our expertise in leveraging digital technology to promote, revolutionize and drive fan engagement in the game. This is the beginning of a long-term engagement with the world of Chess, which we believe will be a game-changer for all involved in the game of chess from players, fans and administrators."

AICF had earlier announced two Indian teams each in open and women's section as the 44th Chess Olympiad has attracted 343 teams in both sections.