

PM shares highlights of '8 Years of Sushasan'

PIB

New Delhi, June 4:

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has shared articles and tweet thread from his website (narendramodi.in) and MyGov regarding various initiatives and reforms undertaken in the governance of the country during the last 8 years. These articles and tweet thread deal with the aspects of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, people-centric and humanitarian approach of governance, defence sector reforms and efforts to boost pro-poor governance.

In a series of tweets, the Prime Minister said: "130 crore Indians have decided that they will make India Aatmanirbhar."

Our push for self-reliance is driven by a vision of contributing to global prosperity. #8YearsOfSushasan

"Ours is a Government which cares for each and every Indian. We are driven by a people-centric and humanitarian approach. #8YearsOfSushasan"

"This article on the NaMo App highlights a series of reforms in the defence sector including focus on indigenisation, making of defence corridors, boosting defence exports and more. #8YearsOfSushasan"

"Inspired by the Mantra of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas' our Government has made a



series of efforts to boost pro-people governance which helps the poor, youth, farmers, women and the marginalised. #8YearsOfSushasan"

World Environment Day observed at Kangpokpi

DIPR
Kangpokpi, June 4:

World Environment Day is observed every year on 5th June as declared by United Nations General Assembly in 1972. It was established to mark the opening of the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. The day which was first observed in 1974, is observed across the world to raise awareness on conservation and protection of the environment and to describe the importance of Mother nature.

The theme for 2022 World Environment Day is "Only One Earth" and is hosted by Sweden. It calls for collaborative, transformative initiative to celebrate, protect

and restore our planet, promoting sustainable living everywhere and acting on the climate crisis. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the first global environment summit launch.

As part of the World Environment Day observance, Kangpokpi Forest Division today organised a mass plantation program near Toribari at the Kanglatongbi-Kangpokpi Reserve Forest (KKRF). The plantation program was participated by Kengoo Zuringla, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Kangpokpi; District Level Officers and Civil Society Organisations of the district.

Around 2,000 seedlings were planted today during the mass plantation program. Till

this season, the Kangpokpi Forest Division has successfully planted 12,000 seedlings near Toribari area and plans to continue it till the plantation season.

Ganesh Nagarajan, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO), Kangpokpi requested all the District Level Officers, Civil Society Organisations and general public to conserve the forest and environment. Further, he insisted that protection of existing forests needs top priority. He also urged everyone to respect the Government notified forests and gave a clarion call to protect the forests of Kangpokpi for a better future of the next generation.

YFPHR condemn Inhumane act at DE-ADDICTION centres in Manipur

IT News
Imphal, June 4:

Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) has expressed strong condemnation to the inhumane and barbaric act of some of the private run de-addiction and rehabilitation centres in Manipur as a result many have lost their precious lives.

"In several instances we have been observing the over smartness of the staffs of the deaddiction centre in which they threatened the guardians of the users friends so as the

guardians are compelled to keep them at the centres. We also learn that some of the drug peddlers, youth clubs, Meira paibi, police etc are engaged with these centres to forcefully make the people enrolled in these privately run centre just to make money out of it which is a very unfortunate and need an urgent attention to conduct strict monitoring from the side of the government", a statement by YFPHR.

"We appreciate the initiative, however, such inhumane conduct and misusing the ethics of the institution

cannot be tolerated though the initiative is good", the statement added.

The YFPHR appealed the government to strictly monitor the day to day mushrooming de-addiction centres and rehabilitation centre in Manipur and cancelled the registration whichever found inappropriate and make liable as per the rule of law.

It also appealed to the Director General of Police to book the perpetrators and punish them according to the rule of law in the best interest of public.

WMC submits memorandum to CM to apprise Center for inclusion of Meeteis in ST list of Constitution of India

IT News
Imphal, June 4:

World Meetei Council (WMC) has submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister of Manipur urging him to apprise the Central Government for inclusion of the Meetei to the list of Scheduled Cast under the Constitution of India.

In the memorandum the WMC expressed apprehension to the claim of ownership at Koubri and Thangjing by some groups.

The 'communal' atmosphere in Manipur caused by certain people who claim ownership of

Koubri and Thangjing disregarding and disrespecting the mythology and history of the land has become unbearable that requires appropriate action by the state government", the memorandum said.

It added that the Meeteis and Nagas who are the native indigenous people can no longer tolerate such obnoxious behaviour.

WMC said that it has also been observing that this section of people intimidating even the state government not to send the necessary reports to the centre as required by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to

initiate the process of examining if the Meetei are indigenous people and on that basis whether the Meetei should be listed in the ST list of the Indian Constitution. This is what the saying goes - yongna mapu taamba. Today the hard reality is the Meeteis are no longer the rightful citizens of the state of Manipur. The Indian Constitution has not recognised them as native indigenous people and therefore they cannot enjoy the rights of a citizen in hill areas which constitute more than 90 percent of the area of Manipur.

"Therefore to make the

Meetei rightful citizens in their own ancient land WMC on behalf of the Meetei people reiterate its demand to the Manipur government to send the two reports (i) ethnographic and (ii) socio-economic reports of the Meetei to the Ministry of Tribal Affairs so that the Government of India may begin to examine if the Meeteis are indigenous people and on the basis of which if the Meetei could be enlisted in the list of Scheduled Tribes of the Indian Constitution," the WMC said.

It appealed the Manipur Government to take up the matter without further delay.

Workers, Small Traders, Enterprises, and Farmers rendered destitute Inequality Increased, Oligopoly of Indian Economy Strengthened

By Dr. Gyan Pathak

In the absence of adequate social security for migrant workers, their rural households of largely left-behind women supported millions of migrant workers when they returned after the COVID-19 pandemic struck the country and induced a severe recession that also rendered small traders and operators of microenterprises destitute and reduced the incomes of small-scale farmers. It did not only highlight the weakness in state policy and lack of resources, but also resulted in temporary loss of income, increased inequality, and strengthened oligopoly structure of the Indian economy.

It has been concluded by the latest ILO working paper titled "Growing Safety Nets and Gender Inequality: Pandemic-induced Recession in India" on the basis of study of food supply chains that found the gendered rural households functioned as safety nets during the recession. Workers drew on and liquidated much of their savings to meet the

immediate consumption needs of their families. These savings are usually accumulated for lumpsum expenses, such as children's education and marriages. Reducing these savings is a manner of mortgaging the future of workers and their families. This will affect the ability of these workers to undertake capability upgrading, for themselves and for their children.

The collapse of education for the poor, and the high costs of digital education, are not just a matter of losing a couple of years of education. They will have severe impacts on the capabilities of workers at the lowest level of the working class and are thus likely to affect their lifetime earnings. The loss of education will particularly affect Dalits in their ability to move out of caste-dictated occupations, and affect the ability of both Dalits and Adivasis to improve their positions in the labour market. Small-scale farmers have liquidated their assets, including jewellery, and have incurred debts. This will reduce their

ability to undertake investments. If left uncorrected, this economic shock is likely to result in small-scale farmers being forced to sell their lands and becoming wage workers or petty traders. Product markets, including auctions, are becoming more concentrated with large players increasing market share. Small-scale farmers have postponed their investments in growth and upgrading in value chains. These factors along with the fall in rural wages and the destitution of many small-scale traders and farmers have a feedback effect on rural demand for consumption goods purchased from urban industry. There are reports of stagnation in the demand for two-wheeled vehicles, otherwise purchased in substantial numbers by the rural population. This is in stark contrast to the boom in the stock markets and in urban start-ups, creating many new dollar millionaires and billionaires, with two Indians currently competing to be the richest person in Asia.

The social security policy seen during the recession forced the rural economy to accept the burden of sustaining laid-off urban workers. Bound to urban migrants by family ties, rural households of left-behind women and the elderly are forced to and will, of course, take up this burden. As this study shows, the result has been destitution and indebtedness of rural working people: wage workers, small-scale farmers and petty traders. Instead of dealing with the problems of agricultural stability and growth, which were made worse by the recession, the Government of India sought to bring in legislation to increase the role of agricultural trading conglomerates in agricultural marketing, thereby strengthening the role of trading monopolies in agriculture. The determined opposition of the farmers' movement in some states, and the importance of the rural vote in elections, seem to have forced a halt in these monopolization attempts as laws have been repealed and the Government has committed to minimum support

prices for some crops. Unless policy measures are taken to increase social security and capability upgrading for workers and small-scale farmers, urban-rural inequality, rural gender inequality and social inequality are all likely to increase in the Indian economy. These are the factors that would make for a K-shaped recovery: while shareowners and start-ups are in a V-shaped recovery, informal workers and small-scale farmers, continue at the bottom of the trough and experience, at best, a slow recovery.

This K-shaped recovery is reflected in the Indian gold market. The authors of the working papers have said, "Our study and others show that there was a considerable sale or mortgage of gold. At the same time, India imported gold worth a record US\$ 55.7 billion in 2021, which was more than twice the previous year's tonnage. Reports attributed this increase in gold imports to a backlog in marriages, which had been curtailed by the lock-downs. This pent-up

demand for gold was from the upper and upper-middle classes, who had not suffered extreme income losses. The K-shaped recovery is being precipitated by the Central Government's insistence on a policy of not using available fiscal space for income transfers to the poor. The K-shaped recovery is also being exacerbated by technological change in the retail trade. One of the biggest Indian conglomerates, the Reliance group, has launched an eCommerce application, JioMart, providing a link for small grocery stores (kirana stores) with wholesale purchases from the group's eCommerce unit. This is rapidly replacing the old system of distributors and wholesalers supplying retail stores. Prices from the eCommerce unit are up to 33 per cent lower than through the traditional distribution chain. When the JioMart app establishes a strong market position, an increase in prices offered to retail stores could be expected.

Platform-based food deliverers, such as Swiggy and Zomato, are also entering the food distribution chain. The process of Schumpeterian creative destruction is changing the structure of food distribution, with hundreds of thousands working in intermediary functions likely to lose their livelihoods as eCommerce and other platforms establish oligopolies in the distribution segments of food value chains. There have been reports of protests by traditional distributors against being replaced by the Reliance eCommerce giant.

The overall impact of the recession is likely to be an increase in income inequalities and other inequalities, such as those based on class, caste, community and gender, as well as location-based rural-urban inequality. The study clearly indicates the need to set up an adequate and universal social security system in the absence of which there is an unstated but taken-for-granted reliance on gendered rural safety nets. (IPA Service)

World Bicycle Day

Manipur on Friday joined the celebration of World Bicycle Day which was celebrated as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

As a part of the celebration organized by the Union ministry of youth affairs and sports, a big number of cyclists took part in a cycle rally carried out at Santhel Natural Park, Andro village in Imphal East. It was organised by NYK Sangathan Imphal.

The rally was a part of the celebration of the day when Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Shri Anurag Singh Thakur launched the nationwide Fit India Freedom Rider Cycle Rally at Major Dhyan Chand Stadium in New Delhi on World Bicycle Day this morning.

On the occasion, Thakur along with Union Ministers Shri Mansukh Mandaviya and Shri Kiren Rijiju as well as 750 young cyclists pedalled 7.5 km distance.

In Manipur, the event was held at Santhel Natural Garden in Andro of Imphal, an iconic place chosen for the event.

The bicycle rally kicked off from Santhel Natural Garden and pedaled across Andro town and culminated at the starting point followed by a cultural performance from Regional Outreach Bureau, Ministry of information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

Earlier, in the morning, the rally was flagged off by MLA Sheikh Noorul Hassan from Top Awang Leikai, Imphal East and rode across Imphal city.

The rally culminated at the starting point and followed by cultural performances from Regional Outreach Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

Addressing as the chief guest of the function MLA Sheikh Noorul Hassan stated that pedaling a bicycle can reduce pollution besides staying one fit.

Using bicycles will also promote the clean India campaign as there will be less or no pollution, he added.

He encouraged bicycle pedalling saying that if one pedals cycle on a daily basis, it will help one lose weight, prevent disease, and mitigate the negative effects of air and noise pollution.

"So, on this World Bicycle Day, let us begin pedaling in order to protect our own lives and make the world a better place for future generations," he said.

The function was also attended by Kshetri Tama Devi, Up-Adhakshya of Imphal East, Pradhan of Top Dusra GP Pradhan M Surbala Devi and president of Nehru Memorial Club (NMC), Top Awang Leikai L. Ibombi Singh among others.

The Union ministry YAS organized the event in a unique style in terms of scale and outreach as a large number of youth from all over the country participated in the event on institutional and voluntary basis.

The program also envisaged enhancing the spirit of brotherhood and nationalism, to popularize the usage of cycles to solve the dual issues of global warming and unhealthy lifestyle.

The United Nations declared June 3 as World Bicycle Day in 2018. It recognizes the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle which has been used for two centuries.

Bicycles are simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally friendly, help keeping the human body fit and many other benefits. Bicycles are the oldest means of communication on earth.

Agenda for education in 2022

The future of education looks as promising as never before. The two years of the pandemic have paved the way towards newer possibilities and innovative dimensions in learning. The NEP 2020 has laid down many structural and functional changes and updations are on the cards.

The education industry stood up with the help of technology and catered to the needs of the children. In the year 2021, many schools could not reach the very remote locations of India due to the lack of basic infrastructure facilities for electricity and internet availability. It got us thinking about reducing the future so that not a single child is left behind.

The year 2022 needs to get to the homes of the remotest location of India, not just on paper but physically too, so that education does not just remain as basic but more employable.

Today we are only making children learn facts and figures. In order to make them future-ready, we need to focus on making education more employable. We firstly need to reach every nook and corner of the country with better infrastructure and technological integration.

1. Skill development:

Even after the six years of the formation of a separate ministry for skilling, the Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) continues to be scattered

and fragmented. It is being supervised by 17 different ministries in their respective areas without any coordination among them. At present, the 'Skill India' mission is blowing at full steam.

2. 'Mirror world', or the 'spacial internet', or even the 'AR cloud', a virtual learning experience with enhanced physical reality, is the future of education in the coming years. Online learning will be more real with the help of metaverse, which involves the concept of Augmented and Virtual Reality.

The year 2021 had a large virtual format, almost real, like platforms for hosting school events. With the coming of metaverse events, the online classroom will look more real than ever. One can be both offline and online at the same time, leading to a surreal learning experience.

3. Blockchain in education for data security:

The use of blockchain in education is still in its nascent stage, but the future seems to come closer to using blockchain as a tool for data security. Gartner's survey of 2019 reveals that in the next two years almost 20% of higher educational institutes will be using blockchain. It will help streamline the tedious process of verification, transferring records, employee records, students' unique credentials, making the process easier and error-free.

contd. on page 3



By: Vijay GarG



By: Er. Prabhat Kishore

Life and pure environment on earth are complement each other and trees play the role of catalyst in this work. But unfortunately under the guise of so-called development, natural resources are being exploited and trees are being cut indiscriminately by humans, which has adversely affected the environmental balance.

Madhya Pradesh Government had surveyed the Bundelkhand regions under "Bunder Diamond Project" through Australian company Rio Tinto in 2000-2005 to explore the possibility of diamonds. In the survey Kimberliferous, which is the major source (ore) of diamonds, have been traced out in the Buxwaha forest areas. Presently, Panna of MP is the largest repository of diamond having approx. 22 lakh carats. It is said that Buxwaha forest contains 15 times more diamond than Panna. The State government has allotted the mining area to Aditya Birla Group's Essel Mining and Industries Limited (EMIL) on lease for 50 years. The mining area of 364 hectare is a part of approx. 3000 hectare of Buxwaha protected forest. The heart breaking aspect is that to excavate the diamond nearly 215875 trees of various species will be cut down, threatening large scale ecological imbalance in the region.

Presently not only MP, but the whole world is suffering from Pandemic Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), one of the major cause of which is the disturbance

of nature and ecological imbalance. Currently the main thrust to combat the pandemic is the production of artificial oxygen in laboratories, which is nothing but result of neglecting natural source of this life supporting gas, i.e. trees. Ideally a country must have at least 33% of its areas covered with forest, but currently it is just 20% in India. The Central as well as State governments have separate jumbo-sized ministries and departments for this purpose; but despite huge expenditure of public money, even after 73 years of independence all have failed to achieve this goal.

Trees & plants are the major components of the environment. They balance the proportion of Carbon Di-oxide in the atmosphere. Gradual rise of temperature on earth is not a natural disaster, but a scientific and environmental problem. There is a certain proportion of oxygen, nitrogen, carbon dioxide, carbon mono-oxide and other gases in the air. Steep growth of factories & motor vehicles, rapid pace of urbanization, population rise and indiscriminate reaping of forests have led to unexpected increase in the proportion of Carbon di-oxide in the atmosphere. With the rise in population, the consumption of oxygen and the production of carbon di-oxide have also increased. There has been gradual rise in carbon di-oxide gas due to conventional source of energy such as burning of coal, wood, petroleum, cowdung etc. This gas has a tendency to pass sunlight through it, increasing the temperature of the atmosphere and resulting in unwanted geographic & seasonal changes.

The emitting smoke from factories & vehicles not only contains carbon di-oxide but also harmful carbon mono-oxide, nitrogen oxide, lead oxide, carbon particles, heavy hydro-carbon, formaldehyde, benzene, which pollutes the atmosphere and affects the cells in the human's lungs to become cancerous. The Ozone-layer protects us from the

harmful ultra-violet rays of the Sun. Industrial chemicals, particularly chloro-carbon and nitrogen oxides from nuclear and atomic explosions, damage the Ozone-layer. If these chemicals are not controlled, then the Ozone-layer of the earth will be damaged upto 25 to 30% in the coming 50 years, resulting in rapid increase in atmospheric temperature and danger of cancer to human and animal bodies. A report reveals that at present, pollution from municipality is 45.62%, Bio-medical/chemical - 20%, Various mode of transport - 14%, Industry - 6.4%, Thermal power station - 6.4% and from other sources is 6.7%.

In various religious literatures, the importance of trees has been highlighted. In Sanskrit literature, trees like Peepal, Neem, Tulsi, Bargad/Vat, Anwala have been worshipped and cutting of green trees have been prohibited. Obviously, the Holy literatures have glorified the trees due to its life-supporting quality. In the MatasyaPuran, a tree has been mentioned as equivalent to ten sons (Dash Koop SamavapiDashvapiSamohridah. Dash HridsamahPutron Dash Putra Samodrumah). In the Bhagwad Gita (10.26), Bhagwan Krishna have glorified the Vat/ Bargad tree as "AshvatthahSaraVrikshanam". In Yajurved, the tree has been said to be the reflection of Bhagwan Shiva. As Shiva ingested the poison and released the Amrit, in the same way trees desiccate the poison (poisonous gases like Carbon di-oxide) and pump out Amrit in the form of oxygen.

Gautam Buddha has attained enlightenment under the Peepal tree called Bodhi Vriksh in Bodhi Gaya. As per Buddhist scriptures, nature creates as well as preserves life and it is the duty of the people to preserve the plant considering it as living being. All the 24 Jain Tirthankars meditated under the tree to attain enlightenment. Islamic literature mentions that "whoever plants a tree and

diligently looks after it until it matures and bears fruit, will be rewarded by Allah as charity". Holy Bible says "God made trees with seed bearing fruits. He gave us the possibility to increase their numbers by planting seeds." Actually all these aspects have been emphasised keeping in mind the social concern regarding the importance of trees & plants for the conservation of the environment.

Forests are not just densely covered areas of trees & plants, but are the source of livelihood of human as well as other biological creatures. It is responsible for rain, reduces the effects of natural calamities like tsunami, prevents soil erosion, minimizes air pollution, produce shelter for birds and wild animals, availability of food etc. It is the source of numerous herbal plants for the manufacture of medicines. In other words, it is the lifeline for millions of people and other living creatures.

Conservation of the environment is not possible only through some government initiatives; civil societies too have to come forward. Otherwise, in coming days, due to the unexpected rise of carbon di-oxide and damage to Ozone-layer, the earth would be so much heated that existence of life on the earth will be in danger mode.

Although Buxwaha lush green forest is not the only natural resource whose existence is in danger, earlier hundreds of various such resources have been recklessly destroyed in the name of development causing disastrous climatic changes in those regions. Undoubtedly, diamond or other valuable minerals are essential for the growth & prosperity of the nation, but not at the cost of life-supporting natural resources like the forests and the trees. Once again, the million dollar question arises - "what is the urgency of nation - Diamond or Oxygen?"

(The author is a technocrat & educationist)

Facial Cleansers for Oily Skin This Summer



By: Shahnaz Husain

ing the right cleanser to control and balance the sebum production of skin while getting rid of all the impurities to help decongest it and keep it fresher for longer. These face washes will heal and nourish your skin without stripping away its essential oils and causing damage to the skin barrier.

Cleansing is the main aspect of care for oily skins, especially since they tend to attract more dirt and pollutants from the environment. The oil also has to be removed and the pores have to be free of hardened oil. However, this does not mean that the face should be washed with soap and water several times a day. Actually, too much soap and water washing disrupts the normal acid-alkaline balance of the skin and makes the skin too alkaline. An alkaline skin is prone to problems like pimples and acne.

Use a cleanser, which is specially formulated for oily skins. A cleansing lotion or face wash may be used. For oily skin problems, like spots, blackheads, pimples, and acne, use a medicated soap or cleanser, which helps to remove impurities without disturbing the acid-alkaline balance. It also creates a germicidal environment on the skin. An astringent lotion is also an integral part of the cleansing oily skin, as it helps to remove oiliness. After washing the face,

wipe it with an astringent lotion, using cotton wool. If it is too harsh, mix the astringent lotion with rose water in equal quantities and use it. Rosewater by itself is a powerful natural skin tonic. For oily skins, rose water can be mixed with cucumber juice in equal quantities and used to tone the skin and reduce oiliness.

Exfoliation is an important aspect of the cleansing of oily skins. This involves the use of cleansing grains or scrubs for deep pore cleansing. These should be rubbed gently on the skin and washed off with water. They help to remove dead skin cells, refining the pores and keeping them free of hardened oil. They also improve the skin texture. You can make a scrub at home by mixing rice powder with rose water and applying it to the face. Rub gently with circular movements and wash off with water. This not only helps to prevent blackheads but also to close the pores gradually. However, do not use scrubs and grains on pimples and acne.

Cleansing milk, containing sandalwood, or face wash, containing ingredients like tulsi and neem may be used for cleansing oily skin. Antiseptic soaps are also available.

Some natural ingredients can be used for cleansing oily skin.

You can try the following natural cleansers:

Mix half a teaspoon of lemon juice and rose water with one teaspoon of cucumber juice. Apply this on the face and wipe off with moist cotton wool after 10 minutes. Then rinse with plenty of plain water. This suits oily skin and can also be used on acne-prone skin.

To one-fourth teaspoon, of lemon juice, add one teaspoon each of cucumber juice and cool milk. Apply on the face and wash it off with plain water after 15 minutes.

Egg white is also a good cleanser. Egg white can be mixed with lemon juice and applied to the face for oily skin. Wash it off after 15 minutes.

Papaya is an excellent cleanser, as it contains enzymes. Ripe papaya pulp can be applied to the skin and washed off after half an hour. It softens dead skin cells and helps their removal.

Potato juice also has a cleansing effect on the skin. For oily skin, mix potato juice with Multani mitti into a paste. Apply on the face and wash off when it is dry. Helps to reduce spots and make the skin clean and clear.

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

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Discrimination of Existing Labour Laws, securing Shram Yogis

**By: Bhupendra Yadav,
Union Minister of Labour and
Employment**

The India of Amrit Kaal that PM Narendra Modi has envisioned and the work on which is underway honours its 'wealth creators' and works tirelessly for its 'Shram Yogis' because the welfare and prosperity of the two are intrinsically linked. And together their welfare lays the foundation of a New India.

The PM's 2021 Independence Day speech made lowering regulatory cholesterol a policy priority. He said, "We want such an India where the government doesn't interfere with the lives of citizens. Every rule, every process that has stood before the people of the country as a hindrance, as a burden, we have to remove it."

The new labour laws are thus designed in a way to ensure that interests of both businesses and people who work for the businesses are protected. The new laws are in tune with the changing labour market trends and at the same time accommodate the minimum wage requirement and welfare needs of the unorganised sector workers, including the self-employed and migrant workers.

Labour reforms have been completed by subsuming multiple laws into four Labour Codes which have addressed existing central labour laws, encompassing a plethora of authorities, burdensome compliances, registrations, inspections,

licenses and registers/forms. The reforms will strengthen workers' social security in both the organised and unorganised sectors. Transformative and game-changing aspects of the Labour Codes include freeing India's entrepreneurs from the burden of unnecessary and excessive compliances and imprisonment provisions under old labour laws.

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needs of the unorganised sector workers, including the self-employed and migrant workers. Labour reforms have been completed by subsuming multiple laws into four Labour Codes which have addressed existing central labour laws, encompassing a plethora of authorities, burdensome compliances, registrations, inspections,

licenses and registers/forms. The reforms will strengthen workers' social security in both the organised and unorganised sectors. Transformative and game-changing aspects of the Labour Codes include freeing India's entrepreneurs from the burden of unnecessary and excessive compliances and imprisonment provisions under old labour laws. Consider some of the clauses in the old regulatory laws:

—Imprisonment between 3 months and 1 year for not maintaining records of colour washing, varnishing/ painting of canteens under Factories Act and related rules

—Imprisonment between 1 and 3 years for not furnishing annual return of holidays to Inspector, under Factories Act and related Rules

—Imprisonment between 3 months and 1 year for not displaying Notice showing date of payment of wages under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and similarly for several other minor omissions which emanate from various laws framed in the past 100 years.

Considering the old laws to be a hindrance in India's growth story, Parliament passed the four Codes in 2020 viz, the Code on Wages, 2019; the Industrial Relations Code, 2020; the Code on Social Security, 2020; the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. In doing so, the government addressed the issue of excessive criminal provisions in labour laws. The root cause of such excessive regulatory cholesterol of criminalising minor offences stems from a particular section in almost all Acts and referred to as 'General Penalty for Offences'. For instance, the Factories Act provides in section 92, under General Penalty for Offences: "if in, or in respect of, any factory there is any contravention of any of the provision of this Act or any rules made thereunder or of any order in writing giving thereunder, the occupier and the manager of the factory shall each be guilty of an offence and punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to 2 years or with fine which may extend to 1 lakh rupee or with both..." Similar 'General Penalty' clauses exist in most Acts in the country including Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act.

Imprisonment provisions under such General Penalty Clauses have been removed under the new the new Labour Codes. At the same time, to ensure that an employer has a functioning and well-oiled internal organisational and operational mechanism to

check non-compliance, monetary fines have been increased manifold. The reason why this has been done is that imprisonment is too severe a consequence for economic offences that do not involve mala fide intent. These reforms will significantly contribute to India's ease of doing business index.

On the other hand, there were concerns that the Labour Codes would not adequately provide for the prosecution of employers, and it may be lenient towards employers committing offences.

However, appropriate safeguards have been incorporated in all the Labour Codes to ensure that there is no leniency in dealing with the malafide intent of employers where ever it exists. It is relevant to note that prosecution for certain offences such as insurance and provident fund contributions which have been deducted by the employer but not paid are construed as intentional and willful default and have been strictly dealt with under the law. The Codes do not allow employers' grave and intentional contraventions to go unpunished. The grounds for prosecutions have however been restructured to ensure that an unintentionally errant employer or a one-time offence committed by an employer does not lead to unnecessary and undue harsh consequences.

A statutory provision has also been introduced in the Labour Codes which states that an inspector may give an "Improvement Notice" to a delinquent employer to amend mistakes and make good the losses suffered by the worker or improve the situation/default which the inspector/assessing officer has noticed. Such an approach not only promotes principles of natural justice but also strengthens the relationship between an employer and the worker as the aim and objective of the improvement notice is to redress the grievance of the workers, be it non-payment of wages or not providing certain information to the Government, rather than invoking the prosecution procedure. It also unburdens courts from the pressure of handling minor issues.

For the first time, compounding of offences, except for offences grievous in nature, has also been introduced in all Labour Codes. If punishable with imprisonment of up to one year, crimes committed for the first time can be compounded by an authorised officer. Compounding of repeat offences is also possible after a 3-5 years gap. Procedures for compounding the crimes have been made simple. Money collected from the composition of violations shall be credited to the social security fund maintained by State Governments and Central Governments. Such funds can be utilised for the welfare of the unorganised workers.

Labour being on the Concurrent List,

decriminalisation of offences in Central labour laws will automatically apply to the areas falling within the jurisdiction of the State Governments and Central Governments.

The four Labour Codes have reduced the number of sections from 1,228 to 480, a 61% cut. On the initial assessment of imprisonment, there will be only 22 Sections in Labour Codes which will contain imprisonment as a penalty for a first-time offence. The Government has demonstrated its seriousness in reducing criminalisation for non-serious offences and allowed it to focus on universalising various benefits such as minimum wages and social security for all the country's workers.

Criminal penalties, especially the risk of imprisonment for minor and often unintentional offences, are a significant deterrent for today's young entrepreneurs.

The decriminalisation of certain unintentional corporate crimes is desirable as far as possible because they deter both domestic and international investors. It is expected that decriminalisation of labour laws will remove the fear of criminal prosecution from the minds of entrepreneurs, which would unleash the entrepreneurial spirits of our youth and will encourage them to set up more businesses; paving the way for a generation of employment which is the top-most priority of the Government. A trust-based approach towards employers will encourage them to align their business practices with Labour Codes and incentivise companies to ensure better compliance with our laws while promoting better human resource practices.

Once in force, the Labour Codes will ensure that India moves confidently towards Atmanirbhara as envisioned by PM Modi, by removing all obstacles from its way.

Imprisonment between 3 months and 1 year for not maintaining records of colour washing, varnishing/ painting of canteens under Factories Act and related rules

—Imprisonment between 1 and 3 years for not furnishing annual return of holidays to Inspector, under Factories Act and related Rules

—Imprisonment between 3 months and 1 year for not displaying Notice showing date of payment of wages under the Payment of Wages Act, 1936 and similarly for several other minor omissions which emanate from various laws framed in the past 100 years.

Considering the old laws to be a hindrance in India's growth story, Parliament passed the four Codes in 2020 viz, the Code on Wages, 2019; the Industrial Relations Code, 2020; the Code on Social Security, 2020; the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020. In doing so, the government addressed the issue of excessive criminal provisions in labour laws. The root cause of such

excessive regulatory cholesterol of criminalising minor offences stems from a particular section in almost all Acts and referred to as 'General Penalty for Offences'. For instance, the Factories Act provides in section 92, under General Penalty for Offences: "if in, or in respect of, any factory there is any contravention of any of the provision of this Act or any rules made thereunder or of any order in writing giving thereunder, the occupier and the manager of the factory shall each be guilty of an offence and punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend up to 2 years or with fine which may extend to 1 lakh rupee or with both..." Similar 'General Penalty' clauses exist in most Acts in the country including Environment Protection Act, 1986 and Inter-State Migrant Workmen Act.

Imprisonment provisions under such General Penalty Clauses have been removed under the new the new Labour Codes. At the same time, to ensure that an employer has a functioning and well-oiled internal organisational and operational mechanism to check non-compliance, monetary fines have been increased manifold. The reason why this has been done is that imprisonment is too severe a consequence for economic offences that do not involve mala fide intent. These reforms will significantly contribute to India's ease of doing business index.

On the other hand, there were concerns that the Labour Codes would not adequately provide for the prosecution of employers, and it may be lenient towards employers committing offences.

However, appropriate safeguards have been incorporated in all the Labour Codes to ensure that there is no leniency in dealing with the malafide intent of employers where ever it exists. It is relevant to note that prosecution for certain offences such as insurance and provident fund contributions which have been deducted by the employer but not paid are construed as intentional and willful default and have been strictly dealt with under the law. The Codes do not allow employers' grave and intentional contraventions to go unpunished. The grounds for prosecutions have however been restructured to ensure that an unintentionally errant employer or a one-time offence committed by an employer does not lead to unnecessary and undue harsh consequences.

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Contd. from Page 2

.....Agenda for education in 2022

Free digitalised teaching and learning materials, to be referred to as open educational resources, would be essential for increasing learning access to global learners. This is in alignment with supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goal 4, as Blockchain will play a significant role in ensuring inclusiveness and equitable quality education across the globe, for promoting life-long learning opportunities across all age groups.

Technology is being recognised as part of strategic development goals for inclusive education. Blockchain, makes it possible to provide cost-effective information, and makes it available for standardisation of quality educational content internationally. It is evident that adopting innovative technologies such as the blockchain can help in the effective planning of operations and resource utilization in education.

4. Safe guarding innovations with IPR

The Covid-19 pandemic exposed the limitations of countries in handling education. Institutions globally which switched to digitalisation of education with online learning began to examine their long-term strategies.

Hence, innovative technologies such as deep learning, machine learning, artificial intelligence (AI), and virtual reality and blockchain are part

of the hybrid blended learning to support learners during this crisis. In particular, all the innovations as blockchain technology have the potential to revolutionise education.

The focus on research and innovation will be ongoing with IPR playing a crucial role in securing the product. Due to the sudden pandemic scenario, educational institutions have employed IT teams to come up with many innovative features. There is a higher degree of data leakage, as you approach IPR for the competitiveness that institutions can claim to have an edge over each other. Blockchain is a decentralised technology, which includes impenetrable information infrastructure, transparency, and cryptographic encryption tools.

The student engagement interface is higher along with the knowledge dissemination being far more student-friendly.

Conclusion:

However, technology takes over learning. What remains at heart is empathy, kindness and the virtue of giving back to society. The pandemic made children sit at home without a social life. Nevertheless, the year 2022 will open up children to the real world with more kindness as they will understand the value of a lot of many people whom they missed all through their home studies.

Indian Navy Simultaneously Decommissions Two Warships After 32 years



Left: INS Akshay. Right: INS Nishank. Inset: CNS Admiral R. Hari Kumar speaking at the decommissioning ceremony of both the warships on Friday.

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, June 04

The Indian Navy decommissioned two warships- INS Akshay and INS Nishank, which were in service for over 32 years, in an elegant and solemn ceremony at Naval Dock Yard in South Mumbai at the sunset on Friday.

The national flag, naval ensign, and the decommissioning pennants were lowered for the last time at the sunset at 7.13 pm even as the Naval band played the last post.

Admiral R. Hari Kumar, Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), was the Chief Guest for the function. Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command, and Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral Sandeep Mehta, Flag Officer Commanding Maharashtra Naval Area, Lt Gen HS Kahlon, General Officer Commanding (Indian

Army) Maharashtra, Gujarat & Goa Area were among the dignitaries present for the ceremony.

Vice Admiral RK Pattnaik (Retd) and Vice Admiral SPS Chema (Retd), the first Commanding Officers of INS Akshay and INS Nishank respectively, were Guests of Honour for the event.

In his speech the CNS Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar said that these ships were in active naval service for over 32 years and during their illustrious journeys played an active role in various operations including Operation Talwar (1999 Kargil war), Operation Parakram (attack on Indian Parliament in 2001) and operation after the 2017 Uri (Kashmir) attack, maintaining a vigil to give a befitting reply against any enemy misadventure.

These warships successfully faced many underwater challenges and their glorious innings have now come to an end. These ships proved to be a laboratory of man management and moulded many budding leaders.

As the commissioning is

important, the decommissioning is also more challenging. Any ship in the Navy is treated as a living entity. Decommissioning is a very formal, yet very emotional ceremony for a ship, her crew, and the Navy in general. Nishank will come in a new avatar as a new generation missile vessel, while Akshay will also come in a new form. Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar said and complimented Western Naval Command and Maharashtra Naval area on the occasion.

Later speaking to the media, Vice Admiral RK Pattnaik (Retd), the first Commanding Officer of INS Akshay said that these smaller ships are more powerful and dedicated and they face more challenges handling search and locate operations. It is very difficult to locate the submarines. The first Commanding Officer of INS Nishank said that the warship had been a potent platform that gave satisfaction to work and led to all-around progress.

Nishank (K 43) and Akshay (P 35) were part of the 22 Missile Vessel Squadron and

23 Patrol Vessel Squadron respectively under the operational control of Flag Officer Commanding, Maharashtra Naval Area. While INS Nishank was commissioned on September 12, 1989, INS Akshay was commissioned a year later on December 10, 1990. Both the vessels were constructed at Poti Shipyard in Georgia (erstwhile USSR).

Akshay was part of the 23rd patrol vessel squadron whose primary role was anti-submarine warfare and coastal patrol. The ship had been operating under the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Maharashtra. With its formidable armament of long-range torpedoes and anti-submarine rockets, the submarine hunter was perennially on patrol, keeping the enemy submarines at bay.

Nishank, the fourth of the Veeer-class missile corvette, had been an integral part of the "Killer Squadron" renowned for its heroics in the 1971 war. Nishank held the distinction of having operated on both the eastern as well as western seaboard.

KSO appeals Kuki students to keep pursuing in the upcoming UPSC examination

IT News
Imphal, June 4:

Kuki Students Organisation (KSO), General Headquarters while showing serious concern to the recent results of the combined civil service examination 2021 conducted by the Union Public Service Commission the results of which were declared on the 30th May 2022 where there is a gap of successful within the Kuki community, has appealed the civil service aspirants across India to keep on pursuing with more caliber and enthusiasm in the mission.

The KSO urged each of the

aspirants to give their best efforts in the upcoming prelims exam which is to be held on 5th June 2022. The KSO once more convey its best wishes to all the appearing civil service exams and bring laurels to the community and the state at large.

The KSO General Headquarters under its Education Department had taken initiative for prelims mock test since last year where many aspirants benefit from the study materials provided eventually helping throughout their preparation. Providing study material bridge the gap of financial instability, especially to aspirants belonging to the weaker

section of society avoiding unnecessary expenditure. Besides, the Organization is in the process of negotiation with the reputed coaching institute Delhi for accommodating dynamic civil service aspirants to take up coaching at a minimum rate. Once finalized the organization will serve notice to the public domain for necessary action. The KSO appealed to various Kuki officials, entrepreneurs, businessmen, and politicians to support and finance our young and dynamic civil service aspirants who aspire to become administrator from the community when call upon to do so.

Prabhari officer Champhai holds meet in connection with SDDMM

DIPR
Kangpokpi, the June 4:

Prabhari Officer Champhai Sub-division, Heisnam Balkrisna Singh met with the village chief/chairmen and District Level Officers of the district in connection with the Sub-Divisional Development Monitoring Mission (SDDMM) at the Keithelmanbi Community Hall on Friday. The meeting was organised by the Prabhari Officer, Champhai Sub-division and SDO Office, Champhai Sub-division.

During the meeting the people of the locality of Sub-division highlighted their grievances which included provision for clean drinking water, facility for soil testing in order to grow crops suitable to the local area so that locals can earn more income, better road condition etc.

Addressing the gathering, H. Balkrisna Singh said that every problem faced by

people of every section of the society will be addressed through this mission to the State Government. He said the mission will cover health, distribution of civil supply items, pre-paid meter connection, rural electrification, widow pension, cooking gas connection, improving the internet and mobile connectivity, solving problems related to mobile towers among others. He said the concerned authorities and officials need to work on strengthening the implementation of various schemes.

Stating that the main objective of the State Government is to develop the State in order to provide a quality lifestyle to the citizens, he said the 'One Division, One Product' scheme will support the economic livelihood of the local people. He said under the scheme each sub-division in the State will identify one specific/common product

which will be produced for economic upliftment of locals. Further, he assured that every grievances faced by them will be addressed to the State Government so that all possible needs and improvements can be provided in Champhai sub-division.

It may be mentioned that the role of the Prabhari Officer is to monitor and streamline development works in the Sub-division. They have been advised by the Chief Minister to visit and identify the problems & grievances of the public and to report to the government, so that action may be taken up on priority basis.

The meeting was attended by SDO Champhai Reikimdaar Khaling, District Level Officers of Kangpokpi district, local representative for Champhai Sub-division, Chiefs/Chairmen under Champhai Sub-division, officials and staffs of SDO/ BDO Champhai Sub-division among others.

Sports

Esports Federation of India questions the inclusion of esports in the proposed draft of the Rajasthan Virtual Online Sports (Regulation) Bill 2022

ESFI's plea to regulate esports as per the Sports Code of India & the State

IT News
New Delhi, June 04:

In order to bring esports to the mainstream sports ecosystem, Esports Federation of India (ESFI) has raised questions on the inclusion of esports and clubbing it with fantasy sports in the recently announced Rajasthan Virtual Online Sports (Regulation) Bill 2022, released by the Revenue Department of the state. ESFI has termed this Bill as detrimental to the growth of esports in India.

While the Rajasthan Revenue Ministry asked for comments and suggestions from all the stakeholders on the proposed draft by Saturday (May 28), ESFI along with its affiliated association from Rajasthan have shared their concerns, requesting the Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Sports Minister Ashok Chandra to

remove esports from being part of Virtual Online Sports and the bill.

ESFI has also requested Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur, MoS - Sports Nishith Pramanik and Secretary Sports Sujata Chaturvedi for their immediate intervention, as esports is an extension of sports and should be removed from the draft bill.

"It's important to understand that not all games played electronically are esports. The outcome of any esports match is solely and purely dependent based on the skills (physical & mental) and performances of the esports athletes are just like cricket, badminton etc. It's absolutely wrong to club esports (a sport) with fantasy gaming or anything other than sports," said Vinod Tiwari, President of ESFI, Director - International & NOC

Relations of Olympic Council of Asia and Convenor Esports Committee, Olympic Council of Asia

ESFI is a recognised member of the Asian Electronic Sports Federation (AESF), which is recognised by the Olympic Council of Asia as the sole governing body for esports in the Asian continent and is also in charge of the technical conduct of esports at the 2022 Asian Games.

ESFI has been sending Indian teams to Asian Indoor & Martial Arts Games since 2007 and in the last Asian Games in 2018, wherein esports was played as a demonstration event, India's Tirth Mehta had won bronze medal for the country in Hearthstone title in the last Asian in Jakarta.

"We are seeing technology evolution all across and esports is the tech evolution of sports. It is

a sport recognised by world sporting bodies like IOC, OCA and Commonwealth etc. and is being governed by the sports rules/laws of the various countries, just like any other sport. Esports is an all-inclusive sport, restricting and/or limiting and/or regulating it the way it's been proposed in the draft bill will only be detrimental to the growth of our sport and development of the grassroots in the state of Rajasthan or any other Indian state which is planning any such bill on the similar lines." - Mr Lokesh Sujji, Director, Esports Federation of India & Vice President of the Asian Esports Federation (AESF) added.

At the 2022 Asian Games, esports has been included as a medal sport and ESFI had shortlisted the 18-member Indian esports contingent after conducting a mega Nationals, talents were chosen to be part of

the Contingent based on the performances at the National Esports Championships 2022, to participate across five titles at the Asian Games.

Below are the key concerns raised by ESFI in their letter to the Rajasthan Government:

1. "Esports is a sport"; hence, it cannot be clubbed with Fantasy Sports. Esports is recognised as a sport by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), which is the apex body of sports along with the Olympic Council of Asia (hereinafter referred to as the "OCA"), Commonwealth Games etc. And they have included esports in their multiple events.

IOC organized Virtual Olympic Series (Esports Tournament), before the Tokyo Olympics 2020, Esports is a medal sport in Asian Games 2022 (Postponed) and in the Asian Indoor & Martial Arts

Games 2021 (Postponed) scheduled to be held in 2023; Esports has been a medal sport in South Asian Games in 2019, 2021 & 2022. Even the Commonwealth Games is organizing Commonwealth Esports Championships 2022 alongside Commonwealth Games 2022; French President Mr. Emmanuel Macron made a public statement that he wants esports to be included in the 2024 Paris Olympics.

2. Across the world, Esports is governed through recognised international and continental federations such as the International Esports Federation (IESF), Asian Esports Federation (AESF), and Pan American Esports Confederation (PAMESCO). Leading countries and sports governing bodies have acknowledged Esports as a sport and are regulating the same under their sports laws/acts. There are

more than 46 such countries e.g., South Korea, USA, Finland, Germany, Thailand, New Zealand, Italy, Brazil, Nepal, Indonesia, Turkmenistan, Macedonia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Serbia, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Vietnam, Georgia, Turkey etc. And thus, it shall be obliged under the Sports Act of the State of Rajasthan. It becomes vividly clear that Esports is and has been recognised as a sport and thus, it shall be obliged under the Sports Act of the State of Rajasthan. It is on account of the presence of the Act that the bill becomes not only moot but also wrong to apply the rules of fantasy onto Esports; whether free to play and/or pay-to-play.

3. The name of the Bill "Virtual Sports" is not appropriate as this will lead to people misunderstanding "Fantasy Sports" as a Sport.