

House unanimously approves supplementary grants amounting to Rs. 44,554,030,000

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Imphal, 25th March, 2022 (DIPR): On the 2nd day of the ongoing 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly, the House unanimously approved several supplementary grants amounting to Rs 44,554,030,000.

The supplementary grants for State Legislature is Rs 17,82,42,000, Finance Department Rs 694,52,32,000, Transport Rs 25,83,000, Police Rs 13,42,63,000, Public Works Department Rs 245,41,25,000, Information and Publicity Rs 1,34,77,000, Education Rs 12,57,54,000, Medical, Health and Family Welfare Services

Rs 387,38,17,000, Municipal Administration Housing and Urban Development Rs 27,96,56,000, Labour and Employment Rs 43,47,000, Agriculture Rs 15,03,72,000, Animal Husbandry and Veterinary including dairy farming Rs 7,55,69,000, Environment and Forest Rs 7,52,95,000, Community and Rural Development Rs 2128,90,00,000, Textiles, Commerce and Industries Rs 11,94,05,000, Youth Affairs and Sports Rs 17,02,91,000, Administration of Justice Rs 4,37,07,000, Election Rs 32,54,16,000, Sales Tax, Other Taxes/Duties on Commodities and Services Rs 93,88,000, Planning Rs 512,86,86,000, Fire Protection and Control Rs

3,50,000, Jails Rs 54,92,000, Rehabilitation Rs 88,50,000, Panchayat Rs 6,12,02,000, Art & Culture Rs 3,27,02,000, Horticulture and Soil Conservation Rs 11,79,50,000, Social Welfare Department Rs 159,08,71,000, MOBC Rs 31,63,59,000, Relief and Disaster Management Rs 79,91,29,000, Economics and Statistics Rs 25,00,000 and Information Technology Rs 22,00,00,000.

Replying to the general observations and suggestions raised by the members of the House, Leader of the House, Shri N. Biren Singh informed the house that any person arrested with illegal drugs would face compulsory

jail term of 1 year which will be extendable upto 2 years under relevant act.

The Leader of the House, N. Biren Singh tabled the reports/papers on - (i) Report No. 2 of 2021- Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on "Social, Economic (Other than Public Sector Undertakings), Economic (Public Sector Undertakings), Revenue and General Sectors" for the year ended 31st March, 2019; (ii) Finance Accounts (Volume I) 2019-20, Government of Manipur; (iii) Finance Accounts (Volume II) 2019-20, Government of Manipur; (iv) Appropriation Accounts 2019-20, Government of Manipur; (v) State

Finances Audit Report (Report No. 3 of 2021) for the year 2019-20; (vi) The Manipur Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) (Amendment) Rules, 2020 and (vii) 49th Annual Administrative Report of the Manipur Public Service Commission.

Discussion and Voting on motion for Vote on account, 2022 presented in the House on the 1st Day of the ongoing session was unanimously passed in the House today.

The Manipur Appropriation (No.1) Bill, 2022 and The Manipur Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2022 was also introduced by the Leader of the House.

The Editorial

Dream of a corruption-free Manipur: Another botched implementation of anti-corruption strategies in the store?

Failing to deliver his promises is a bitter pill to swallow for Mr. N Biren Singh. But, what is even worse is admitting his incapability. In his last term, in March 2017, he started an initiative for a corruption-free Manipur, encouraging people to capture videos of government officials' wrongdoings and send them to the WhatsApp number 9402150000. What happened to it? In his second innings, Mr. Biren is performing an encore with the re-constitution of the 'Anti-Corruption Cell.' But, unfortunately, the new order regarding it has nothing new. The order by the Chief Secretary said that the primary responsibility of the 'Anti-Corruption Cell' would be to receive complaints of corruption against public servants from the general public through phone calls, messages, written complaints, and the new inclusion being the 'CM da Haisi' platform.

However, the public see the new platform 'CM da Haisi' as a campaign orchestrated by N Biren Singh to woo voters given the timing of the launch and its responses. The team of this platform didn't do the basic things a grievance cell ought to do. They never provided a complaint number, a tentative duration for resolving the grievances, or even a fixed date for escalating the complaint to the concerned departments. The complainants are simply told to wait 'some days' till the concerned department calls them regarding their problem. Some received the calls after a few weeks, while many didn't. The team, however, takes all the details of the caller, even his profession. How would the complainant believe that his identity would not be compromised?

Transparency International, in its Corruption Perception Index report, released in January 2022, ranked India at 85 among 180 countries. The statement underlined concerns over the risk to journalists and activists who have been "victims of attacks by the police, political militants, criminal gangs and corrupt local officials." "Civil society organizations that speak up against the government have been targeted with security, defamation, sedition, hate speech and contempt-of-court charges, and with regulations on foreign funding," the report said. This statement particularly connects very much to the state of Manipur, where the NSA is kept handy by the government to target individuals who write against the government, even on social media sites. In an interview with a TV channel based in Delhi, Mr. Biren couldn't justify journalists' arrest under the act mentioned above. Thus, the situation compelled people to raise the question: Where to find the courage to speak against the government officials and lawmakers?

It is 2022, and politicians are still begging for votes contending to have improved the road infrastructure, not overall, but better than the previous governments. And a few other claims of providing tap waters and oxygen cylinders. The development of all sectors is hindered directly and indirectly by various corruption tactics; bribery is not the sole cause. It is necessary to analyze the root cause of the increasing rate of black money to counter corruption. Demonetization couldn't help. In India, 99% of the population doesn't pay income tax. The reason is simple: people don't trust the government. They believed that the tax amount goes to waste, and the government doesn't use it for any developmental works for public welfare. Proper implementation of all schemes and initiatives is the foundation of stemming the corruption issue. Moreover, anti-corruption strategies must be put in place. The requisites include a fitting drafting process, situation analysis, formulation of measures, monitoring, evaluating, and reporting to gain people's trust in the government.

Though Rome wasn't built in a day, five years was a long time to do what was indispensable for the welfare of the people. People don't buy the reprimands mounted on 15 years of Congress rule, which Biren himself was a part of. If the government genuinely wants a corruption-free Manipur, now is the right time to focus on what people say and encourage them to speak up instead of mulling and misusing Acts of the Constitution. And, flinging accusations at each other won't be a panacea either.

CM warns drug peddlers to either surrender or face consequences

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh warned drug peddlers and dealers operating in the State to either surrender or face consequences of the stringent action which will be taken against them. He was addressing the media at the Chief Minister's Secretariat today regarding drugs menace in the State.

He continued that any person arrested with illegal drugs, regardless of quantity, would face compulsory jail term of one year which will be extendable upto two years under relevant act. He added that the State Police would file a case to any person found with illegal drugs regardless of quantity possessed. However, uses of drugs for treatment of addicts at rehabilitation centres under the supervision of doctors would be exempted.

The Chief Minister mentioned that the situation of drug menace in the State is



still alarming although the police forces had seized many illegal drugs during the last five years under the War on Drugs-I Campaign. As such, the State Government will be putting much effort to totally root out drug menace from the State under War on Drugs-II. He informed that the State Government had recently re-constituted the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) led by IGP- zone-III Nishit Kumar Ujjwal which had started functioning. The

task force would not compromise to any pressure from any person or group and would work sincerely, according to law, with the objective to root out drug menace in the next two years.

Maintaining that any negligence on the part of police, thereby letting the drug peddlers to escape, will not be excused, N. Biren added that they should work dutifully to nab drug peddlers at any cost. He further stated that the State Police should make legal au-

thorities aware of the drugs related situation in the State and also provide protections to judges and lawyers from any undue influence. He informed that the Director General of Police had been to open outposts with 5 to 10 police personnel at every village, where illegal trafficking of drugs is frequently carried out. The Anti-Narcotics Task Force had also been empowered to procure necessary vehicles and other equipments, he added.

He also informed that drone surveys will be conducted to locate all the poppy plantation areas. Assam Rifles and Central Narcotics Force will also be deployed in addition to the State Police to root out poppy plantations. Home Minister Amit Shah had also expressed a positive note to provide the personnel for the same, N. Biren added.

Relating the issue faced in natural conceiving by young couples in the State, according to a report from Health Department, to mass uses of intoxicants, he stated youths nowadays had started using intoxicants as a fashion. Such behaviour had posed a question on our future generations, he added. He, therefore, warned that no person involved in drug trafficking would be excused even on grounds of earning their living by carrying out such illegal activities. There are many respectful ways to earn a living, he added.

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Suspicious violation of Fundamental Rule 56(D) in the Power Department

Ng. Subhachandra still serving as MD, MSPDCL after his service tenure expiry



IT News
Imphal, March 25:

As rumour circulates concerning MSPDCL MD Ng. Subhachandra's service extension, an activist files an RTI with the power department to learn the truth about the tenure of the MD. It has come to the fore that Ng. Subhachandra, MD MSPDCL even after his service tenure expired on February 28, 2022, is still serving as the Managing Director of MSPDCL.

Speaking to the Imphal

Times, RTI Activist Dhanachandra told that it is a well-established legal principle that service extension of a retired employee on a substantive post is prohibited under Fundamental Rule 56(d), except for those persons engaged in budget-related work, full-time members of the committee, or specialists in the fields of Medicine and Science. Ng. Subhachandra is a State Power Department employee who was promoted to MD, MSPDCL nearly a year and a half ago. He is not permitted to extend his tenure because his position as Managing Director of MSPDCL does not fall into this category.

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Imphal Campaign Foundation AGM held

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

The Annual General Body Meeting of The Second World War Imphal Campaign Foundation was held yesterday at Hotel Yaiphaba. The executive members present in the Annual General Body Meeting unanimously agreed to appoint Arambam Angamba and Nivaran Nongmaithem as President and General Secretary respectively. Various activities taken up by the Foundation in the last few years and the publication of Yening Hunba, a research journal of peace and reconciliation were highlighted. The meeting also discussed thoroughly the various initiatives and excavation to be taken up by ICF in the near future.

PREPAK to observe 42nd Red Army Uprising Day

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

The 42nd Red Army Uprising Day of the Red Army, the armed army unit of People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) falls on March 26, Saturday.

As the Uprising Day arrives, Chairman of Interim Council, PREPAK, offers revolutionary salute and extends revolutionary greetings to the fellow countrymen who are bearing the brunt of the colonial rule under the colonial master, India.

The press release sent out by the proscribed group Chairman, Aheiba Angom is reproduced below:

Revolutionary greetings to fellow revolutionary organizations and their army units of Kangleipak and WESEA region too. In connection with the significant day in the history of the revolutionary movement of Kangleipak, the

following statement is laid before the people.

The national liberation movement of the people of Kangleipak has been continuing till today ever since India forcibly annexed Kangleipak in total contravention of the international laws. The two-day National Convention on the annexation of Kangleipak held in Imphal on October 28-29 in 1993 had dismissed the agreement signed between the then King of Kangleipak and the representative of Dominion of India on September 21, 1949 as illegal and having no constitutional validity. As a follow up stand, a two-day National Seminar on Human Rights held on December 8 to 9, 1994 resolved to disapprove the merger of Manipur to India in 1949. The 5th resolution of the National Seminar insisted the Government of India on providing the people of Kangleipak the right to self determination.

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India creates a history in the world of Exports

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



Brand India is shining brightly all over the world. India has created a new history by achieving the target of \$400 billion nine days before the scheduled date of March 31. This has never happened before! After battling the Covid pandemic for two years, the hard work of the Indian exporters is now paying off rich dividends. The Indian exports which stood at \$292 billion in the last financial year (2020-21) crossed the \$400 billion mark on March 22, 2022 with a jump of 37 percent. India's average exports this year stood at \$33 billion per month and \$1 billion per day, ie, an average of \$46 million Indian goods were exported every hour. Indian exports had performed brilliantly in the month of December, 2021 itself, raising hopes that the target of \$400 billion exports wasn't far away. The country exported \$100 billion in the third quarter (Oct-Dec) of the current fiscal (2021-22), which was very encouraging. The second wave of the pandemic shook the global economy, but it did not have a significant impact on the Indian exports industry. Global demand for Indian goods started showing improvement in the month of December, when exports hit a monthly high of \$37.29 billion.

Responding to this historic feat, Vikas Singh Chouhan, Director, Home Textile Exporters Welfare Association (HEWA), says that it's a great achievement for which the credit goes to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Self-reliant India (Aatmanirbhar Bharat). Made in India and Vocal for Local. Also, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal played a vital role in this achievement, because he followed everything aggressively and also remained in constant touch with the exporters. The success story in exports will continue. However, efforts will have to be intensified to achieve the target of \$1 trillion in 2022-23. Undoubtedly, the Indian economy is improving rapidly. The increase in exports is also due to some decisions of the government like extension of Rebate of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP), facility of Refund of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP), export promotion schemes like Production Linked Incentives (PLI) and payment of pending dues of Rs 56,000 crore in the second wave of Covid during the lockdown etc.

Anant Srivastava, Founder, HEWA, states that after the pandemic, major importers such as the US and Europe became more conscious of sustainable and eco-friendly products and services rather than market prices. Almost all the major brands are following the 'China Plus One' policy, with India being a major beneficiary. High freight charges, raw material costs, lack of major FTAs, fully functional alternative routes like the International North South Transport Corridor (INSTC) are some of the challenges on the way to achieving \$1 trillion exports and \$5 trillion GDP in the next few years. India needs to put in place a mechanism to control the rising cost of raw materials in cotton in order to achieve the textile export target of \$100 billion in the next few years. According to Dr. A. Sakthivel, President, Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO), achieving the highest export level is nothing short of a miracle. It is clear from this that Indian goods and brands are pleasing to the world.

Reading books makes human beings mentally strong



By: Vijay Garg

read it again and remembered it again.

There are many benefits to reading books. The biggest benefit of reading books is that it makes us mentally stronger. When the brain is in motion, it strengthens the nerves of the brain. By reading books, the brain stays in proper motion and also the memory remains. Every book gives us something to learn. When we read a book, it reveals many new things to us, which increases our store of knowledge. With this you can achieve something that is not in the hands of many. Someone may rob you of your possessions but not knowledge from books. The more books we read, the more our knowledge of the words in the language of that book will increase, with which we will be able to master that language. Knowledge of this language will give you skills and encouragement in your profession.

When you read a book, you are in another world. If your life is full of troubles, sorrows, etc., you should make a firm friendship with books. When you read a book and imagine a scene in your mind, it develops your memory. When you read a mysterious novel or story and are able to solve that mysterious event, you are developing your comparative and critical perspective in the right words. This developed approach helps you a lot in getting rid of your problems. By reading a book, you also learn to focus your mind on a subject. Social sites like WhatsApp, Facebook etc. have divided the thinking power of man, due to which he cannot form a correct view on any one subject in the right way. If you read a book, you focus your mind on the story that is written in that book. The habit of reading a book for 15 to 20 minutes in the morning can help you to concentrate on your office work. So you can try this experiment on yourself, you will definitely succeed.

The habit of reading a book can also make you a good writer. By reading a book you can write your new ideas in the form of a book and the work done in this way can make you a good writer. Reading books also improves your writing skills. We are ambivalent about many things. We do not have accurate knowledge of any subject. By reading a book on that subject we get mental satisfaction and peace. Spiritual peace is a basic human need. Books are a great way to relieve stress. In this age of internet, even though we have modern means of knowledge, the importance of books cannot be denied. This great treasure needs to be preserved.

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Ups & downs of Power Politics in Bihar



By: Er. Prabhat Kishore

After the independence of India, Bihar has witnessed ups and downs of various political parties as well as leaders. In the pre-Mandal era, i.e. before 1990, power politics was dominated by the Congress Party as a political institution and the upper castes in terms of leadership. In the post-Mandal era, the scenario completely reversed and it is being dominated by two powerful regional socialist background parties RJD and JDU under the leadership of Laloo Prasad and Nitish Kumar respectively, both belonging to backward classes.

Before the first general election in 1952, Sri Krishna Singh, a Bhumihar leader, led the provincial governments in Bihar since 20th July 1937 to 31st October 1939 and 2nd April 1946 to 1952. His leadership continued after 1952 and 1957 Vidhan Sabha elections till his demise on 31st January 1961; although, dissident activities have been unsuccessfully launched by his deputy and Finance Minister Anugrah Narayan Sinha, a Rajput leader. After the demise of Sri Babu, Deep Narayan Singh, a Rajput, served as acting CM since 1st February 1961 to 18th February 1961. Blessed with the central leadership, Binodanandh, a Brahmin, was elected as leader of Congress Legislature Party and sworn in as the CM on 18th February 1961. In 1962, third general election was fought under the leadership of Pandit Jha and he continued as CM even after the election.

The dissident activities were intensified by Satyendra Narayan Sinha, son of Late Anugrah Narayan Sinha, and consequently B.N. Jha had to step down under the 'Kamraj Yojana' of the Congress Party. Following his resignation, for the first time in the history of Congress, election for the leader of the legislature party was held between two social group candidates Birchand Patel, a Kumi (supported by B.N. Jha) and Krishna Balabh Sahay, a Kayasth (supported by S.N. Sinha). Birchand Patel lost due to betrayal of some of his close associates. K.B. Sahay led the government since 2nd October 1963 to 5th March 1967.

After a long span of 20-years after independence, about 85% backward & dalit population were bereft of not only in the government services & institutions, but in every walk of life. Intensive campaign for their awakening as well as reservation in government jobs & institutions was being carried out by Congress leader DeoSharan Singh, a Kumi (Ex-chairman of Bihar Vidhan Parishad) under the banner of "Backward Foundation". In the meantime, experiment of "backwardism" for political control was being done by the socialists like Ram Manohar Lohia and Bhola Prasad Singh with the slogan "Sansodh Ne Bandhi Ganth, Pichhrai Pawe Sam Mein Santh". Under such circumstances, the third general election of 1967 proved to be a "political Waterloo". The Congress fell short of the majority figure and lost power in several states including Bihar.

The first non-Congress government was sworn in on 5th March 1967 under the leadership of Mahamaya Pd. Sinha, a Kayasth, of Jan Kranti Dal. The alliance was a mix up of conflicting ideology parties like Jansangh, Samyukt Socialist Party (SSP), Praja Socialist Party (PSP), Communist Party and Kamakhya Narayan Sinha, ex-King of Ramgarh. It was very tedious for Mahamaya Babu to keep these opposite ideology parties united for long time and ultimately, the government fell by 13 votes in the Vidhan Sabha on 25th January 1968. Bindeshwari Prasad Mandal (the chairman of Mandal Commission) was an SSP MP and joined in Mahamaya Pd. Ministry, but was not

elected as MLA or MLC. To become a member of Vidhan Mandal his 6-month deadline was only 10 days left. On the initiative of Congress, B.P. Mandal, a Yadav, formed "Shoshit Samaj Dal" to become the CM. So, first Satish Pd. Singh, a Koiri, of his Party was sworn in as the CM, whose tenure was for just 5 days (28th Jan 1968 to 1st Feb 1968) and Sri Mandal was nominated to the Vidhan Parishad through a Governor Quota. Mandal formed the government with the support of the Congress. The Congress was not convenient in supporting a backward Chief Minister. To topple Mandal Government, a break up in Congress took place and "Loktantrik Congress" under the leadership of Bhola Paswan Shastri, a Dusadh, was formed. Mandal remained in power for just 47 days (1st Jan 1968 to 22nd March 1968). Government of Samyukt Morcha under the leadership of Shastri took charge, but this Schedule Caste CM also had to resign only after 95 days (22nd March 1968 to 29th June 1968) and for the first time in the history of Bihar, President Rule came into force on 29th June 1968.

In the Mid-Term Election of 1969, the Congress got only 118 seats and remained far from the magic figure of 160. On 26th Feb. 1969, the government was formed under the leadership of Sardar Harihar Singh, a Rajput (26th Feb 1969 to 22nd June 1969) of United Forum, but he was also unable to provide stable government. Due to large-scale defection of ministers & legislatures, the Harihar Singh government was defeated in the Vidhan Sabha by securing only 143 votes against 164.

Bhola Paswan Shastri took charge for the second time through double-cross of legislatures from different parties. The Jansangh wanted to keep the Congress out of the government. Congress also did not want the leaders of Jansangh, PSP & SSP to be inducted in the government. The Congress brought a no-confidence motion in the Vidhan Sabha which was passed with the support of Jansangh, and within 9 days Shastri Govt. (22nd June 1969 to 4th July 1969) collapsed. On 6th July 1969 President Rule was imposed, which was revoked on 16th Feb. 1970, when Daroga Prasad Roy, a Yadav, of the Congress was sworn in as CM. But again the upper caste lobby of the Congress could not accept Mr. Roy for long time.

In the opposition, there was internal fight in the SSP between the upper and backward caste lobbies for leadership in which Karpoori Thakur, a Nai, succeeded. Daroga Roy govt. (16th Feb. 1970 to 22nd Dec. 1970) fell down and Karpoori Thakur became CM on 22nd Dec. 1970 with the support of the Jansangh. He too became a victim of defections and had to resign on 2nd June 1971. A forum of like minded legislatures named "Pragatishil Vidhayak Dal" was formed and its leader Bhola Paswan Shastri took over as CM for the third time. He again fell to keep legislature united and resigned on 27th December 1972; followed by President Rule on 9th Jan. 1972.

In a span of just 5 years since 1967 to 1972, the People of Bihar have faced 9 chief ministers. In a bid to eradicate the unstable political scenario, Congress was voted to power in 1972 election with 167 seats. The Congress continued its traditional game and in place of Ram Lakhman Yadav, the leader of the legislature party in the dissolved assembly, Kedar Pandey, a Brahmin, was made the CM (19.3.1972 to 02.07.1973).

Pandey Government step down within one year and for the first time in the history of Bihar a Muslim leader Abdul Gafoor (02.07.1973 to 11.04.1975) was made the CM to counter the heavyweights Mishra brothers. Gafoor had to resign following the JP movement.

Taking emotional sympathy of the assassination of the then railway minister Lalit Narayan Mishra in a Bomb explosion in Samastipur in 1974, his younger brother Dr. Jagannath Mishra, a Brahmin, became the CM (11.04.1975 to 30.04.1977) and during his tenure emergency was imposed on 25th June 1975. On 30 April 1977, Vidhan Sabha was dissolved and Bihar came under President's Rule.

In general election of June 1977, the Janata Party came to power with a landslide victory in the state. Despite strong opposition from State Janata Party President Satyendra Narayan Sinha, Karpoori Thakur was elected the leader of the legislature party and took oath as the CM (24.06.1977 to 21.04.1979). Thakur gained name & fame, when he implemented long-awaited Backward Class reservation in State Government services as well as institutions and distribute appointment letters to all unemployed engineers in the state. Under the patronage of Satyendra Narayan Sinha and even the blessings of JP, there were aggressive protests against the reservation. Ultimately, Karpoori Thakur had to resign and Ram Sundar Das, a Chamar, took charge of the CM (21.04.1979 to 17.02.1980). The key of power was with S.N. Sinha and Dasji had no control over the administration. President's Rule was imposed on 17th February 1980, and the Vidhan Sabha was dissolved.

Congress return to power in the Mid-term election in 1980 and Dr. Jagannath Mishra (08.06.1980 to 14.08.1983), became the CM for the second time. Mishra's worst functioning angered the Congress high command and Chandrashekhar Singh, a Rajput (14.08.1983 to 12.03.1985) was made the CM. The general election in 1985 was fought under Singh's leadership and the Congress returned to power, but surprisingly he was stepped down and State Congress President Bindeshwari Dube, a Brahmin, was blessed as the CM (12.03.1985 to 13.02.1988) by the Party high command. Dubeji has full support of the MLAs, but Congress High Command pressurized him to resign and a new face Bhagwat Jha Azad, a Brahmin, (14.02.1988 to 10.03.1989), was made the CM.

In the meantime, V.P. Singh started his activities against Bofors Scam & corruption and later on Socialists also joined him. To counter V.P. Singh in the coming the Vidhan Sabha election, the Rajput leader Satyendra Narayan Sinha (11.03.1989 to 06.12.1989) was made the CM, his long awaited dream. He tried his best to implement the popular welfare schemes and to sort out unemployment issues. But in V.P. Singh wave, the Congress loose in Lok Sabha election and Satyendra Sinha was stepped down. Dr. Jagannath Mishra (06.12.1989 to 10.13.1990), who had the image of a corrupt politician in the public, was again made the CM. Dr. Mishra hampered all those popular ongoing works, which were of no personal benefit. Corruption has reached the highest level ever since independence. In the 1990 general election of Vidhan Sabha, Janata Dal came to power and the Congress was ousted forever.

In 1990, there was direct fight for leadership in Janata Dal between Devil supported Laloo Prasad and V.P. Singh supported Ram Sunder Das. Das had an edge over Laloo, but at

the last moment Chandrashekhar supported Raghunath Jha jumped into fray spurring some upper caste MLAs, who were loyal to Dasji. Nitish Kumar and Sharad Yadav were instrumental in favour of Laloo Prasad, a Yadav, who was elected leader and sworn in as the CM (10.03.1990 to 25.07.1997). Due to technical reason President's Rule was in force since 28.03.1995 to 4.5.1995. For his involvement in Fodder Scam, Laloo Prasad had no way other than to step down. Laloo surprised everyone, when he put forward his house-wife Rabri Devi for the post of CM. Rabri Devi was elected the leader of the legislature party and in its history, Bihar saw its first women CM (27.7.1997 to 2.3.2002). Although, for short time President's Rule have been imposed since 11.02.1999 to 9.3.1999.

In the general election of 2000, no single party secured majority. Governor Vinod Narayan Pandey invited Nitish Kumar, a Kumi, (3.3.2000 to 10.3.2000) to form the government, but he could not succeed to gather majority mark and resigned within 7 days. Rabri Devi was once again sworn in as the CM with the support of the Congress, whose all legislatures got ministerial berth and its leader Sadanand Singh was chaired as Vidhan Sabha speaker.

In the general election held in February 2005, no party got a clear majority. Ram Vilas Paswan's Party, LJP was in position of king maker, but he takes "Na Lenge, Na Denge" policy on the question to support any of the two alliances. Rabri Devi had to resign and President's Rule was imposed on 7th March 2005. At last, Ram Vilas's Party broke up and a large chunk of its legislatures joined Nitish's Party JD(U). In the November 2005 election, JD(U)-BJP alliance got an absolute majority and Nitish Kumar (24.11.2005 to 22.05.2014 and 22.02.2015 uptill now) was elected leader of the alliance and sworn in as the CM. In the November 2010 election, JDU-BJP alliance again got landslide majority winning 203 of the total 243 seats and Nitish Kumar continued.

In 2013, during the Goa session of the BJP working committee meeting, the then Gujarat CM Narendra Modi was made the chairman of the Party Campaign committee, with an indication that he would lead the Party (and also NDA I) after the Lok Sabha election. This angered Nitish Kumar and he broke his ties with the BJP and all the ally ministers were dropped. Nitish continued as CM with 118 JDU and 4 independent MLAs; but in the 2014 Lok Sabha general election, his Party lost badly and got just two seats. Taking moral responsibility, he resigned on 17th May 2014 and his surprising choice Jitan Ram Manjhi, a Mushar, was elected as the leader. Manjhi was sworn in as CM on 22nd May 2014. Manjhi had no control over the administration; progress works, initiated by Nitish, slowed down and image of the Party began to deteriorate.

There was a strong demand from the aggrieved legislatures for Nitish to lead the government. Seeing himself in the midststream Manjhi revolted; but with no support in the party, he had to resign on 20 February 2015. On 22 February 2015, Nitish Kumar was sworn in as CM. He had to seek the support of Laloo's Party RJD, having 22 MLAs, as a dozen MLAs of his party stood behind Manjhi. In the November 2015 general election, faced with the four parties NDA, Nitish Kumar joined hands with his close friend-turned-arch rival Laloo Prasad and the Congress to form Maha-Gathbandhan (MG). In the midst of a tight battle between Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar, the Maha-Gathbandhan secured 178 seats, while the NDA was shranked at just 58 seats. As leader of MG, Nitish was sworn in as CM, which was his 5th term in the office.

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India records 1,685 new Covid cases, 83 deaths in 24 hours

Agency
New Delhi, March 25:

India on Friday reported 1,685 new Covid cases, 253 fewer than Thursday, with 4,30,16,372 overall cases registered so far. Eighty-three deaths have been reported in a span of 24-hours, according to the official data, taking the total number of deaths to 51,67,55. The active cases further declined to 21,530, which is .05 per cent of total cases

so far. According to the health ministry, the daily positivity rate stands at 0.24 percent. The weekly positivity rate in the country has been recorded at 0.33 percent. Meanwhile, the national Covid recovery rate was recorded at 98.75 percent.

The latest figures show India has given 182.51 crore doses of vaccines since it began the world's largest Covid vaccination drive. A total of

1,82,55,75,126 vaccines have been administered in the country so far. In the vaccination drive for children aged 12-14, which began last week, over 88 lakh doses of Corbevax - the only vaccine available for this age group now - have been administered. Meanwhile, Novovax on Tuesday announced that it has received the first emergency use authorization nod for its Covid-19 vaccine for adolescents in the age bracket of 12-18 years in

India.

On the global front, a large part of Europe, the UK, the United States, China, and Hong Kong have been witnessing a sharp rise in new cases of Covid-19 infections. China, currently, is the worst-hit country due to the BA.2 covid variant, which has announced travel bans and lockdowns in more than 20 provinces and cities, including Jilin, Hebei, Guangdong, and Shanghai.

Security Forces recovers assault Rifle near Noney

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Khoum Battalion of IGAR (South) under Spear Corps recovered one 5.56mm HK G3 Rifle from Charai Chakailong in Noney on 23 March.

Based on specific input,



security forces launched a search operation in forested area of CharaiChakailong in Noney District and recovered one 5.56mm HK G3 rifle buried in a shallow trench.

The recovered weapon was handed over to Noney PS for further legal proceedings.

AR extended humanitarian aid to "Mission Blind School"

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Phundrei Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR(S) extended humanitarian aid to "Mission Blind School" in Chandel District yesterday on the occasion on Assam Rifles Raising Day.

The Mission Blind School is a boarding school for the specially abled children. The

school is completely dependent on voluntary donations and faces shortage of basic amenities. Assam Rifles standing true to its motto "SENTINELS OF THE NORTHEAST" took up the social welfare step of providing basic essential commodities to the school. These small initiatives will bring positivity in the minds of villagers and happiness in the hearts of the children.

Assam Rifles honours Veterans on 187th AR Raising Day

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Somsai Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted Ex-servicemen meet at Somsai Garrison to celebrate 187th Raising Day yesterday.

The event witnessed an enthusiastic attendance of approximately 25 Veterans from Ukhrul

District, who displayed an overwhelming response and expressed their heartfelt gratitude towards the Assam Rifles battalion.

During the event, informal interaction with ESM was carried out and addressed their needs. As part of Entertainment Band display was org and tea and Refreshment were catered for the participants.

Contd. from Page 2

Ups & downs of Power Politics....

In 2017, when name of the Deputy CM Tejaswi Yadav, son of Laloo Prasad, figured in corruption case, Nitish advised him to come out of the government until he got a clean cheat; but Tejaswi did not do so and Laloo Prasad started criticizing the CM. To save the image of the government, Nitish Kumar and his Party came out from MG on 26 July 2017. High voltage drama was witnessed throughout the night and BJP supported Nitish, who was sworn in as CM for the 6th time on 27th July 2017 along with BJP and LJP. In the Ministry, Pashupati Kumar Param, younger brother of Ram Vilas Paswan, was also inducted.

In the 2020 Vidhan Sabha election, there was a close fight between the two alliances NDA (JDU-BJP-HAM-VIP) and MG (RJD-Congress-Communist groups), in which national parties BJP & Congress has grabbed more seats in comparison to the previous elections. In reality, the fight was not "NDA vs MG", but was "Nitish vs All". Nitish Kumar was the solo target of not only opposition and Liquor Mafia, but BJP's core voters and TRP thirsty electronic media channels. The LJP parted ways with the NDA with a solo motto of "Finish Nitish" and fought on seats of JDU only with BJP background candidates. In JDU's constituencies the BJP's upper caste voters aggressively rallied behind the LJP and on some seats MG too to weaken Nitish. Although NDA crossed majority marks of

122, with the BJP securing 74 as against earlier 59 seats; but the JDU was reduced from 71 to only 43 seats due to betrayal of its own ally's core voters. As per the pre-pol strategy, Nitish Kumar, being the leader of the NDA became the 34th CM of Bihar; whose 7th times oath for the highest post is a record in Bihar. Nitish Kumar had set record of serving the Bihar state as its CM for the longest period of over 15 successful years.

There have been numerous ups and downs in the history of power politics in Bihar since independence. But resultant change was the downfall of national parties dominated by

upper castes and the upsurge of regional parties dominated by backward classes. People experimented various Parties, alliances, personalities in the laboratory of election for want of overhauling of the rusty system. Rise and fall of numerous

stalwarts and political heavyweights took place. But, time and again, the dream of the People has been shattered, and journey of the democracy is still going on.
(Author is a technocrat & educationist.)

Vehicle Lost

I have lost my two wheeler NTORQ 125 cc vehicle black and red in colour bearing No. MN06 SE 9995 from Churachandpur bazar in the evening on 23rd March 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Mangoulal Haokip

Koite Village, Churachandpur
Mobile no. 6909510831

শ্রীশ্রী গৌরচন্দ্রায় নমঃ



পূৰ্বব্ৰহ্মাণ্ডৰ এৰোৱা স্বাই ইলভা তিথীৰা শাৰদপুৰাম "খোৱা শিংহনা মণ্ডী নংজিৰাবা ইমুং মনুং শাণৈ নাটৈ অমদি মৰপ মপাং ঐখোৱা স্বাই পুন্মকপু ৰাদেক্ৰনগা হোঁবাবা তাং ১৬/০৩/২০২২ ইং, লমতাসী ১৩ নি পানবা হুমশ্কাপা নুমিত্তা শ্রীশ্রীকালী কুপাদগী বেৰ ওপুনা শ্রীকৃত্ত চেননা দাশ হায়াৰ নাম কং জুনা বৃদ্ধাবন্দ প্ৰাপ্তি ওইস্তে, লাক্সিৰা তাং ২১/০৩/২০২২ ইং, লমতাসী ১৮ নি পানবা নিংখোঁকাৰা নুমিত্তা অগ্ৰি সঞ্চয় লৌখৎচেন্গা, লাক্সিৰা তাং ২৬/০৩/২০২২ ইং, লমতাসী ২৭ নি পানবা লৈবাকপোৰুপা নুমিত্তা চিৰা উৎসব দিন খোক্তে। নুমিং অসিন্দা লৈখিত্ৰবাগী আৰা শান্তিদীমক ওমজবা বহু থৰদং হৰি সন্ততিৰনাগা লোৱননাশ্রীশ্রী গৌৰচন্দ্রা মহাপ্ৰভুৰী চেনবা কচগদৌৱা।

উপলক অসিন্দা ব্ৰাহ্মণ বৈদ্যব, অহল লমন মৰপ মপাং স্বাই খিৰিক্তা মন চ্যনা লেউবিরজুনা হৰি নাম শ্ৰবন তৌবিরনবা পত্ৰনা নিমন্ত্ৰণ কচৰি। পত্ৰনা নিমন্ত্ৰণ কচৰগী অপৰাধ খিৰিক ওকপিগনি।

বিনিতগণঃ

শাম্ভালদুৱাম ওংবী সলাখ্খী দেবী (লোউলবি)

খোংমন জোন ৪।।

Assam Rifles apprehends UGs

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

In two separate operations the Loktak Battalion and Khoum Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) jointly with Manipur Police apprehended two terrorists of

KYKL and NSCN (K) in Koireng, Bishnupur and Thangal, Noney district respectively on 23 March.

Based on specific inputs, troops of Assam Rifles along with Manipur Police launched two search

operations resulting in apprehension of a terrorist each of KYKL and NSCN (K)

The apprehended insurgents were handed over to Moirang PS and Lamphal PS respectively for further legal action.

GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR DIRECTORATE OF HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES

NOTICE

Imphal, the 24th March, 2022

No.HL-37/H&T/2017(IV): The Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, Government of Manipur is under active preparation for registration of Kouna Pothok under Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration & Protection) Act, 1999.

2.0: Brief outline of the Kouna Pothok is given hereunder:

- 2.1: Name of applicant : Director of Handlooms & Textiles, Manipur
- 2.2: Type of goods & Class: Goods of Reed under Class-20
- 2.3: Name of proposed GI : Kouna Pothok (products of water reed)
- 2.4: Type of raw material : Kouna (Water/Club Rush, family Cyperaceae)

3.0: DESCRIPTION OF THE GOODS:

Kouna Pothok are products of Kouna, which is known as Club rush or, Water rush (Schoenoplectus lacustris (Linn.) Palla) having numerous dark green, cylindrical, soft spangly, glabrous stems arising from an underground stalk with tough fibrous roots. The Kouna Pothok is of great cultural, health and economic importance and closely connected with customary and ritualistic traditions of Manipur. Kouna Pothok has various crafts and types, like, Kouna Phak, Aron Phak, Laikhurum Phak, Phaksang, Phaktup, Kouna Khao, Kouna Khongup and Phenat, Kouna Leiphu, Kouna Plates and saucers, Kouna Morah.

4.0: UNIQUENESS:

The Kouna is a unique eco-friendly plant of Manipur. The Kouna Pothok especially the Kouna Phak is believed to be beneficial to health since the Kouna itself is a medicinal plant. It is also believed that sitting on the Kouna Phak and Morah help curing piles. The Kouna Pothok are spongy and light. Among Kouna, the Kalen Kouna(Summer Rush) is the best and retains its texture and colour for a longer period of time.

Inputs and objections are invited from interested, well wishers, research scholar on the above information on the proposed products for registration under GI Act, 1999.

Sd/-

Director of Handlooms & Textiles,
Manipur

PEACE Crafts Bazar

Venue: Khoyol Keithel, Moirang Lamkhui
Bishnupur District, Manipur

Date: 26th March, 2022 4th April 2022

Time: 10:30 a.m.



Item Display of Sales

*Cane & Bamboo *Hand Embroidery *Artistic Textile
*Woolen Shoe *Other Decorative Items.



Sponsored by:-

Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft)
Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India, New Delhi
R.K. Puram - 66



Organised by:-

People's Education for Awareness & Community
Empowerment Organisation (PEACE)
Thangmeiband Meisnam Leikai, Imphal - 795001
Manipur, India

IT(B)-24x10 days)

CM appeals to support Earth Hour Campaign by switching off lights



IT News
Imphal, March 25:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has appealed to the people of Manipur to support

the Earth Hour Campaign of World Wide Fund for Nature India (WWF-India) on 26th March, 2022 by switching off all non-essential lights of offices and residences between 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

N. Biren stated that Earth Hour Movement was started in 2007 by World Wide Fund and is being observed on the last Saturday of March every year to raise awareness among people about the importance of nature and to add our voice for our fragile planet. On this day,

people from all over the world switch off their lights for one hour to create awareness about climate change and save energy. He stated that the theme of Earth Hour 2022 is 'Shape Our Future'. It symbolizes that we can shape our future by bringing attention to the critical issues our planet is facing today.

The Chief Minister further appealed to all citizens to participate in the campaign, play their parts in conserving the nature and to create a better world for future generations.

Outreach Programme on India's Freedom Struggle held

IT News
Imphal, March 25:

An Integrated Communication and Outreach Programme with 2-day Photo Exhibition on Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav on India's Freedom Struggle with special focus on Manipuri Freedom Fighters and COVID-19 was organised by the Regional Outreach Bureau, Imphal, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, in association with Imphal college at the jubilee hall Imphal college yesterday.

Dr. Moirangthem Priyobrata

Singh, Principal, Imphal college, B. Narayanan, Additional DG(Region), Imphal, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India, Dr. Yumkhaibam Shyam Singh, Associate Professor, Department of History, Imphal college and Dr. Salam Noren Singh Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, Imphal College were the presidium members.

Dr. Yumkhaibam Shyam Singh, Associate Professor, Department of History Imphal college elaborately explained the life history and involve-

ment of Manipuri Prince Sana Chahi Ahum @Narendrajit Singh to fight against the British imperialism at Chittagong during the First War of India's Independence, 1857. Unsung heroes namely Pukhrabam Tanko who martyred in hand to hand combat with British officer Lt. Brackenbury, Meinnya Menjor who was the commander and injured with three bullets from British firing during the battle of Khongjom, 1891, martyrdom of father-son duo Yaikul Lakpa and Sengoisana during the battle of Khomjom, 1891 amongst others were discussed.

B. Narayanan, Additional DG(Region), Imphal, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India informed the audience that the British conquered India because India was not united. People of India need to be united in order to overcome any threat to this country.

Speaking as resource person, Dr. Vivekson, Public Health Specialist, Medical Directorate, elaborately explained on COVID-19. He also urged the members of public to get vaccinated.

Contd. from Page 1

PREPAK to observe 42nd Red Army.....

A huge public rally held at Pologround in Imphal on December 10 of 1994 resolved to strive for achieving the right of the people of Kangleipak to self determination. In order to free the black Indians, A O Hume from amongst the white Sahebs set up the Indian National Congress (INC) in 1885. A white woman, Annie Besant laid the foundation for the Indians to determine for themselves.

Afterward, the Labour Party of Britain took the political decision for freedom of India in 1947, thus India became an independent country. So if India respects human rights, it is still not that late for them to adopt a political decision on their own to free Kangleipak so as to bring about peace and tranquility in the region for ever. Only then, people of the world will still more praise India. However, our people are still eagerly waiting for such an idea to come into the heads of the land greedy Indian leaders. According to the Resolution No. 1514(XV) adopted in the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) of December 14, 1960, all peoples will have equal rights and Right to Self-Determination (RSD), and there should be no military oppression or torture against

them. Moreover, freedom of the people of a country cannot be deprived and the territorial integrity cannot be disturbed.

Article 1 of both International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) of 1966 recognizes the rights of all peoples to self-determination, including the right to freely determine their political status, pursue their economic, social and cultural goals, and manage and dispose of their own resources. Though the International law provides this right, it is not easy to try to achieve this right as it invariably involves political hurdles.

Considering all peoples of the world, the first right of a distinct people is the right to self determination. The right being pursued by the people of Kangleipak is this right. Not only provided by the UN Charter, but also Article 1 of both ICCPR-1966 and ICESCR-1966 provides this fundamental human right. India had also ratified the ICCPR-1966 on April 10, 1979 and it came into force on July 10, 1979. As per Article 40 of ICCPR-1966, the Government of India had to submit the third report on human rights

on March 3, 1992. However, despite the Human Rights Committee, Geneva sending reminders on December 10, 1993 and on June 15, 1994, the Government of India still failed to do its mandatory duty.

Even though India had ratified the UN Charter agreeing that it will not interfere with the territorial integrity and political independence of free and sovereign nations, it continues to obliterate Kangleipak. The UN has not been apprised that there is no self rule in Kangleipak. What's happening in the region is armed conflict. Consequently, those who are presently imprisoned in the jails of Kangleipak and India are political prisoners and the International Committee of Red Cross ought to be allowed to meet them.

Books written since 1934 have distorted the history of Kangleipak wrongly introducing the people as the descendants of Babrubahan, Mukherjees and Pandeys thus creating a misconception that the national liberation movement of Kangleipak is a separatist movement. However, Kangleipak had never become a part of India under proper international laws. Kangleipak never wishes to break an inch of India's land. At the same

time, Kangleipak's land that was annexed forcibly by India should be given back without breaking an inch.

Even as many organizations have submitted representations to the UN regarding the human rights violations and other myriad issues prevailing in the region, the international body has noticed that there is a State called Kangleipak, of which freedom and human rights had been totally deprived. The so-called freedom provided by India to the people of Kangleipak is the freedom that the GoI allocates a few crores of rupees in the State budget and the occupation army can kill the people of the State at their whims. The world community has started asking what kind of peace, tranquility and freedom can be brought about by imposing AFSPA 1958 to suppress the liberation movement and killing the innocent people at gunpoint.

As per Charter 11 of UNGA, 74 countries which were not self-ruled could be identified. In due course, most of the countries have achieved independence under the guidance and supervision of UN but 15 are yet to gain freedom. Unfortunately, Kangleipak, that ought to be included at the level of such countries, has

not been able to do so as the UN has not been properly influenced of the ongoing freedom movement in Kangleipak. For this drawback, people don't have to blame the revolutionaries or vice versa or the history cannot be blamed. It's all our responsibility. During the struggle for self-determination, freedom, development and equality waged by PREPAK for the past 40 years, the role taken by Red Army for the people and the State is quite significant. We are proud of the role taken by the Red Army during many battles fought valiantly against the IOF in Kangleipak and WESEA region for the liberation of our land and sacrifices made to win many battles.

With the firm determination of liberating our colonized land, in order to build a strong and united revolutionary movement, Revolutionary Joint Committee (RJC) and Manipur People's Liberation Front (MPLF) were formed on various occasions, and Coordination Committee (CoCom) has been set up yet again to continue the flow of revolutionary movement toward the ocean called freedom. All these could be done because of the people's invaluable support and encouragement bestowed on the revolutionaries and the relentless and tireless courage and sacrifices of fraternal revolutionary organizations.

The Red Army men must firmly bear in mind that as long as the Red Army keep launching overt and covert offensives against the IOF, the

hour of regaining our lost freedom and achieving the goal of our revolutionary movement is getting closer. Only this will enable us to regain our lost independence. There has never been defeated of revolutionary movement of a people in the history of the mankind. What has been defeated is the only conceived colonialism. Colonial master India has unleashed overt and covert strategies using its might to suppress and uproot the decades-old struggle for freedom in Kangleipak. Knowing the changing scenario in the world, the Red Army men need to boldly sacrifice for the revolution.

On the other hand, it is not an easy task to escape from the colonial noose and reclaim the lost independence and sovereignty of a colonized land. It will be possible only when all the people join the freedom struggle and make it a people's struggle. When each of the Red Army men is committed and courageous, they will be able to lead our people. So, each of us must try to become dedicated, brave and genuine Red Army.

Lastly, revolutionary salute to all martyrs, who laid down their lives in battles fought against the enemy for freedom, development and an egalitarian society, and in torture and oppression, fellow revolutionaries who are bearing pains in imprisonment and to all those who are leading an incapacitated and maimed life due to severe torture by the IOF.

CM warns drug peddlers to either

Regarding the indefinite bandh called by the Southern Angami Public Organisation, N. Biren informed that the State Government had written a letter to the Nagaland Government and a copy of the same had also been sent to the Home Minister. The police outpost is purely within the territorial boundary of Manipur and as such, the Government will not compromise the State boundary under any pressure, he added. He further stated that the issue will be resolved soon through diplomatic ways.

It may be mentioned that a combined team of CDO, Imphal East and Anti-Narcotics Task Force of Manipur Police Department arrested a drug dealer namely Md. Mujibur Rahaman from Khergao Awang Leikai with a large quantity of narcotics substances which value will be approximately Rs. 1.2 crore in local market and around Rs. 9 crore in international market. The seized items were also displayed to the media persons during the press conference.

The press conference was also attended by Director General of Police, Manipur P. Doungel and other officials concerned among others

Suspicious violation of Fundamental Rule 56(D)....

Recently, N. Biren Singh after taking oath as the Chief Minister of Manipur for the second consecutive term announces that his

government's first step will be to make Manipur a corruption free state. Dhanachandra further told that, if the suspicious news

of NG. Subbachandra's service extension is confirmed, it means that ill practices i.e. corruption is taking place in the power department and is

a blot to what the People's CM had promised.

So, we'll have to wait and watch what action our peoples' Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh,

Sports

I-League 2022: Sudeva Delhi hold NEROCA to a cagey 1-1 draw at the Naihati Stadium

Agency
Kolkata, March 25:

Shubho Paul was on target as Sudeva Delhi FC managed to hold NEROCA FC to a 1-1 draw in the I-League match at the Naihati Stadium on Thursday.

While NEROCA opened the scoring with Sergio Mendigutxia (45+22) converting a penalty at the stroke of half-time, Paul converted a penalty of his own just a few minutes later to bring his team to a level pegging. Both the teams struggled with their finishing on open play and the cagey affair ended in a tie. The high-intensity clash started with a big blow to NEROCA as playmaker Juan Mera suffered an injury in the 2nd minute and was



taken off immediately, with Thokchom James Singh replacing him.

With a minute left on the clock in the first half, Nishal Chandra tripped a NEROCA player while defending a corner, and the referee signalled for a penalty straight away. Mendigutxia converted from the spot, giving his team a 1-0 lead just at the stroke of

half-time.

Two minutes later, Lallenang Sithou tripped Akbar Khan inside the box and the referee once again signalled for a penalty, this time on the other end. Shubho Paul converted from the spot calmly to bring his team back on level pegging.

Sudeva started the sec-

ond half with an attacking mindset, as they dominated the ball and remained deep inside NEROCA's half.

NEROCA held most of the possession in the final 10 minutes, but continued to struggle in the attacking third. In the 86th minute, Jonychand took a free kick and sent a good ball into the box. But Khaiminhang missed the header on the ball and Sudeva cleared away the danger once again.

At the 90th minute mark, Akbar Khan went down on the ground after a challenge from Jonychand and received medical attention. As the match resumed, NEROCA searched for some inspiration to get the winner, but could not create any dangerous move and the match ended in a stalemate.

OBITUARY



Late Shambanduram Khomba Singh
Khongman Zone - 4
(07-8-1949 to 16-3-2022)

It gives us a heart rendering shock by the news of sudden and untimely demise of well wisher and advisor of our club Social Workers Congress (SWC) owe you an unpayable debt for your dedication to the service for the welfare of the Social Workers congress Khongman. Our club Social Workers Congress (SWC) pray for the departed soul to rest in peace in heavenly abode and share the deepest condolence with the family.

Sd/-
Social Workers Congress (SWC)
Khongman Zone - 4 & 5