

Center decides to lift AFSPA from some parts of Manipur, Assam and Nagaland

IT News
Imphal, March 31:

The central government of India, under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to reduce the disturb area status under the Armed Forces Special Power Act from some part of Manipur, Assam and Nagaland.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah in a tweet stated, In a significant step, GoI under the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided to reduce disturbed area under Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) in the states of Nagaland, Assam and Manipur after decades.

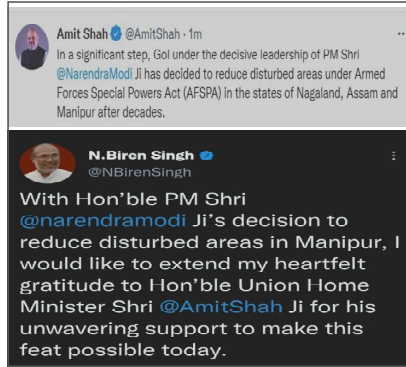
The disturbed area status for the state of Manipur has been lifted from the 7 assembly segments of greater Imphal area in August 2004. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh soon after he was re-elected in the recently concluded election has stated that he will urge the central leadership to lift the AFSPA from some more part of the where the law and order problem have been improved. Source said that in Manipur, 15 police station

areas of six districts will be excluded from the disturbed area notification from tomorrow.

Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh lauded the decision of the prime Minister and the Home Minister to the decision.

N. Biren Singh tweets, "With Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi Ji's decision to reduce disturbed area in Manipur I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah ji for his unwavering support to make this feat possible today. He further tweets that the historic decision is the result of the robust development and improved security situation under various initiatives taken up by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The CM added that, this decision will lead to a new era of peace, prosperity and development in Manipur Again.

AFSPA was extended in the state of Manipur on January 12, 2022 for period of one more year excluding the 7 seven Assembly segment of Greater Imphal area while the Assam government on March 1 had



extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in the entire state for six more months with effect from February 28.

Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), 1958 is an act of the Parliament of India that grants special powers to the Indian Armed Forces to maintain public order in "disturbed areas."

According to the Disturbed Areas (Special Courts) Act, 1976 once declared "disturbed", the area has to maintain status quo for a minimum of 6 months.

One such act passed on 11 September 1958 was applicable to the Naga Hills, then part of Assam.

In the following decades it spread, one by one, to the other Seven Sister States in India's northeast. At present, it is in force in the States of Assam, Nagaland, Manipur (excluding Imphal Municipal Council Area), Changlang, Longding and Tirap districts of Arunachal Pradesh, and areas falling within the jurisdiction of the eight police stations of districts in Arunachal Pradesh border-

ing the State of Assam.

The acts have received criticism from several sections for alleged concerns about human rights violations in the regions of its enforcement alleged to have happened. National Politicians like P. Chidambaram and Saifuddin Soz of Congress have advocated revocation of AFSPA, while some like Amarinder Singh are against its revocation. The then prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh had stated AFSPA as an inhuman act.

In November 2016, Government of India has extended AFSPA in three districts of Arunachal Pradesh- Tirap, Changlang and Longding. The period has further been extended by another 6 months in above three districts of Arunachal Pradesh in April, 2018.

These have been declared as "disturbed area" under Section 3 of the AFSPA. In these districts, Naga underground factions including National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak-Muivah) and NSCN (Khaplang) are involved in extortion, recruitment of locals, and rivalry.

The Editorial: Y Khemchand's educational qualification brews both aspiration and vexation

When Smriti Irani was appointed as Union human resource development minister in 2014, activist and long-time Narendra Modi supporter Madhu Kishwar wrote on her Twitter handle: "Just discovered HRD Smriti Irani failed in class 12 exam twice. Third time she got right royal 47%." However, the negative remark did not come just from her; criticisms had already begun to snowball from citizens across the country. The exact topic erupted in Manipur when former Manipur Legislative Assembly speaker Yumnam Khemchand was offered the Education portfolio. However, not many political opponents lobbed criticism at him despite thousands of netizens on social media platforms. Earlier, people overlooked his credentials when he was the speaker, but people have now dug out his qualification, which turned out to be a 10th-grade pass only.

Unfortunately, there is no minimum qualification required to be an MLA, and they are eligible to become a minister or even chief minister. The same applies to MPs who are eligible to become Union Ministers and Prime Ministers. We, the people, want well-educated representatives for a sound democracy. But the truth is that setting a minimum qualification would sabotage democracy because only 8.15% of Indians are graduates as per the 2011 census. Thus, criticizing a representative based on qualification will invite both positive and negative responses; the debate will continue.

The last BJP-led government's education minister Sorokhaibam Rajen Singh hit the headlines for his unexpected and daunting English-speaking skills coupled with some ludicrous remarks, which he displayed in many government and political events. Not long ago, he even announced that those who voted against him had lost their rights to the government's entitlements - a statement people didn't expect from a representative - at least from a former education minister. As a result, there were anticipations that the new government headed by Mr. Biren would choose a well-qualified lawmaker as the torchbearer of Manipur's education system. But, unfortunately, Biren did as oppose to people's expectations prompting Sorokhaibam Rajen to pass the baton to a less-qualified Khemchand.

The move stunned electorates compelling them to think about what the successor would do to reform the system. Though people are not much of a critique, political analysts and scholars would definitely dissect the outcomes of the new minister's works continually. However, given the work he had accomplished in his constituency, people now expect that he would do at least better than former education minister S Rajen. In addition, he must also recall that academics and students had welcomed PM Modi's decision to snatch away the HRD portfolio from Irani in 2016 during the reshuffle. Sooner or later, Khemchand might face the same treatment from Mr. Biren, regardless of his contribution to uplifting the sector. Th. Radheshyam was a concrete example.

No matter the ability of a legislator to govern and execute the required tasks, our intuition will always want Manipur's education minister to be well-qualified. But, that's not in our hands now. Some forty days ago, Election Commission had already asked us this question by making the educational qualification of each candidate public ahead of the election, but our answers seem to not have a deal with our wishes.

Combined Force destroys poppy plantation



IT News
Imphal, March 31:

Following the announcement of the War on Drugs campaign, for a drug free society, by the N Biren Singh led government, the anti-drug movement in the State has been taken up on a war footing.

As part of the government's initiative, a combined force of Narcotics and Affairs of Border, Kangpokpi District Police, Forest Department, 22 Assam Rifles Motbung Post conducted a poppy plantation destruction drive along the Charkot Hill Range at Lamlan, Kangpokpi

District on March 30, 2022.

A huge number of personnel of the combined team are engaged in destruction of poppy plantation in the area, said DSP, Saparmeina L. Sheimang Khongsai adding that the drive is a continued effort as part of the War on Drugs initiative.

He said for the day, the team is destroying poppy at three locations along the said range and by the end of the day, the team would have destroyed around 20 acres of poppy plantation. It may be mentioned that an FIR has also been lodged in connection with the plantation of poppy.

Bomb Blast

IT News
Imphal March 31:

A mild bomb suspected to be IED blasted today at around 3:10 am at the gate of a Gala Mal Gowdown and workshop owned by Ramnath Sahu, age 55 s/o Late Bishwanth Sahu in Imphal East district under

Porompat Police Station.

The impact of the blast damaged some portion of the gate, however, there was no human casualty.

It may be mentioned that some months back too a similar bomb was blasted by unknown miscreants at the same place.

SAPO suspends indefinite Bandh

IT News
Imphal, March 31:

Southern Angami Public Organisation (SAPO) has suspended its indefinite blockade against Manipur state from Thursday afternoon. Report said that the SAPO suspended the bandh on 10th days after the request of the Tenyimi Peoples' Organisation and the Angami Public Organization.

SAPO had launched the indefinite bandh from March 21, 2022 restricting all movement to and fro Manipur on the Southern region of Kohima district.

A statement by the southern

Angami Public Organization (SAPO) said that on deliberation on the ongoing "Indefinite Bandh" in its jurisdiction with its Governing Body and Frontal Organizations on 31st March, 2022 have unanimously decided to temporarily suspend the Indefinite Bandh on 31.03.2022, 12:00 PM on the following grounds.

1. Basing on the Tenyimi Peoples' Organization (TPO) "Ultimatum on Manipur to withdraw police forces from Kezolsa and request to SAPO to lift the blockade thereof" published on 31st March, 2022, the Nagaland Post.

2. Fervent request of

Angami Public Organization (APO) to lift the Indefinite Bandh for upcoming 50 years Celebration of Angami Public Organization Golden Jubilee to be held on 8th April, 2022.

The SAPO further notifies that the relaxation and lifting of Indefinite Bandh is only temporary measures. And that, if the Government of Manipur fails to adhere the Ultimatum served by Tenyimi Peoples' Organization (TPO) to Manipur Government dated 29.03.2022 then, the SAPO in constraint will initiate its own course of action, whereby the Government of Manipur will be held responsible.

ASUK announces curfew in the surroundings of examination centers for HSLC and Higher Secondary exam

IT News
Imphal, March 31:

Alliance for Socialist Unity, Kangleipak (ASUK), the Joint body of proscribed group KYKL and KCP has imposed curfew in the surroundings of class X and XII examination centers during examination days which is starting from April 5 and April 7 respectively.

A statement said that the measures are being taken up to ensure that the examinations are conducted without using unfair means by the students. It is taken up as a part of the Campaign for National Regeneration (CNR) which is being taken up by a Special

Task Force (STF).

In a statement signed by K. Deepak, Commander of the STF, CNR of ASUK, it is stated that gathering of people inside 200 meter distance from the examination center has been prohibited as the STF has imposed curfew in the surrounding of the examination center.

The STF also stated that examination invigilators and the students appearing the exam should not be allowed to carry notebooks, prepared answers, I-pad, mobile phones, cameras and any other electronic devices in the campus of the examination center. The STF also said that any kind

of helps by the invigilators to the students appearing the exam and also copying among the students or use of any unfair means should be strictly prohibited. If the restriction put by the STF is not followed then OC/AOC/SO should be held responsible.

The STF also said that no obstruction should be given to any decision taken by the flying squad of the Board and Council while expelling students for using unfair means. The flying squad of the Board and Council should also perform their duty to ensure that the examination is conducted without using unfair means.

The STF also warns of serious consequences to those who uploaded original question papers or hoax question papers through social media. It also said that student bodies that will not inspect schools should not reserve schools.

If anybody is found violating the strictures imposed by the STF of the ASUK, then the task force will take appropriate action. Earlier, as the CNR was in its early stage the STF simply gave a warning, however, this time the STF will not spare anybody who fails to comply with the strictures, the statement added.

State Govt released 1016 crore since its formation

IT News
Imphal, March 31:

The State Government has released a total amount of Rs. 1016 crore through Finance Department since the formation of new Government till date. The amount consists largely of Central and State Share of Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The State Finances are stable as on date.

The sanctions and releases have been made considering the State's resource position, anticipated receipts and revenue, etc., beside the nature of work executed and urgency for payment, amongst others.

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Every adversity carries a seed of opportunity

Talking Points

Narvijay Yadav



The cost of medicines is going to increase in India from April 1. The prices of more than 800 essential medicines are likely to increase by more than 10%. These include painkillers, antiviral drugs as well as antibiotics. The raw material which is most needed in the production of medicines is called Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API). Earlier 90% of the API was procured from China and other nations. In this way we were heavily dependent on the Dragon for the manufacture of medicines. But after the tussle with the Chinese army in the Galvan Valley of eastern Ladakh, India feared that the supply of essential raw materials from China could be disrupted in the event of escalating tension, so the country started taking steps towards becoming self-reliant. Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya says that out of 53 types of raw materials needed for the production of medicines, 35 APIs are being developed now in India, so that the country does not have to depend on China. It is rightly said that behind every adversity there is a seed of opportunity.

When the whole world was suffering from pandemic, China had adopted a zero Covid policy, under which a lockdown was imposed in the entire country if a single person was found infected. At that time, China thought that it had won the war, but now it is getting the punishment. In fact, due to the initial restrictions, sufficient immunity could not be developed among the Chinese. That is the reason China is finding it difficult to handle the situation now. However, 88% of the population has gotten double doses of the vaccine. China has to impose lockdown in all its 31 provinces. The situation in cities like Shanghai is such that no one is allowed to move out from the houses. Those who break this rule are being fined 15 thousand rupees or more. In such a situation, to ensure the supply of household items, necessary items are being delivered door to door by the government.

More than 20,000 bank employees in Shanghai are sleeping in their offices. They are given food but are not allowed to go home. This has been done so that the banking system of the country remains intact. Coronavirus is spreading more rapidly in China than in the last two years, where along with Omicron, some cases of Delta variant are also being found. However, the number of patients infected with Omicron is high. In China, an average of 42% increase was recorded in Covid cases last week. The top 10 countries in the world that have recently seen a surge in cases of Covid include the UK, Netherlands, Germany, Switzerland and Italy. However, Covid is not expected to increase in the next few months in India. The reason for this is that in our country, 95% of the population above the age of 15 years has received at least one dose of the vaccine, while 80% of the people have received both doses. Therefore, there has been a decline in new cases of Covid in India, where the vaccine is administered to children in the age group of 12 to 15 years. A Hyderabad-based company, Biological E is producing this Corbevax vaccine.

Success in life on the basis of test result



By: Vijay Garg

The vision of the new National Education Policy is that education should be value based, so that today's student becomes a good citizen of tomorrow. To do this we have to provide stress free education to the students. Instead of running in the race for marks, they should be motivated to acquire knowledge. Students should be made familiar with the nature of education that how by being educated they can serve the society, nation and the world.

There are many exams in life. If you say that the name of life is examination and we are all students, then it will not be wrong. But one of the most important examinations in life is the school examination. Whenever we remember school exams, many memories start waking up in our mind. Get up early in the morning to read, pray before the exam, go to school after eating curd and sugar, write the answers to the questions with a new pen and follow the advice of an elder like, write the answer clearly, do not leave any question etc. do.

Just as the stem of a small plant is not strong, it has flexibility, in the same way Balman is also soft. Just as a small plant needs sunlight, water, air, fertilizer etc. to grow, children also need support and cooperation. If we talk about the fear of children, then as soon as the exam time comes, a sense of fear and apprehension starts building in the mind of the students.

So they need guidance. To remove this fear, the Prime Minister started guiding the students through direct discussion with the students through 'Pariksha Pe Charcha'. The Department of Schools and Literacy, Ministry of Education is organizing this innovative program for the last four years.

During this event, students, parents, guardians and teachers from across the country and abroad interact with the Prime Minister and discuss the stress of examination. The intention of the Prime Minister behind this program is to reduce the fear of examination from the minds of the students and make them understand the format of examinations in a stress-free manner. This program is part of a larger movement called 'Exam Warriors'. The name 'Exam Warriors' is taken from the best selling and pioneering book of the Prime Minister. In this book, the Prime Minister has outlined an innovative approach to education, giving priority to knowledge and holistic development of students.

During the last 'Pariksha Pe Charcha 2021', the Prime Minister had emphasized that examination is not a life or death situation; We should see it as a challenge and face it with greater potential instead of running away from it. Truly, running away from exams is no solution. How will we be successful unless we participate in it. The Prime Minister says, 'What you read cannot be the only measure of success or failure in your life. What you do in life determines your success and failure.'

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New things in March-April 2022



By: Fr Paul Lelen Haokip

While the spring season is at its threshold, Manipur has many new happenings. Cheiraoba – the Meitei traditional lunar new year is knocking at the door. The members of the Sanamahism religion celebrate the new year as Sajibu Nongma Panba (Meitei Cheiraoba or Sajibu Cheiraoba). The lunar new year signals moments of joy and hope for a better year ahead. It is a day for cleaning the house, preparing dishes, offering of choicest cuisines to local deities, and climbing the nearest hill with an aspiration to ascend in various walks of life. After all, what is life without hope, growth and novelty?

Government's new plans

The recently concluded twelfth Manipur Legislative Assembly election saw the prominent rise of the BJP with an absolute majority (32 seats). This signals a robust government for the next five years. The Chief Minister's top three priorities for the new BJP's government, namely – the eradication of corruption, drugs and insurgency, are a welcome note and new resolve. Expansion of roads in many parts of Manipur is indeed steering transformation and a sign of development. The new government's initiative to begin educational institutions at 8:00 am and leave the afternoon hours for leisure and familytime is a recent move. Hope-

fully, the government will create ecologically oriented parks and recreational avenues for the people with a minimum entry fee (or without payment). The government's initiative for office goers to work from Monday to Friday will be a welcome message. Saturdays and Sundays will see fewer vehicular movements, thereby reducing carbon emissions. We wish the government the best to bring about social transformation and equal development in every nook and corner of 22,327 sq km Sanaleipak.

New things in Manipur Legislative Assembly

The rising number of highly educated people joining electoral politics is new. The fall of many veteran legislators is a sign that this generation needs something fresh and new. The rising number of first-time legislators in the Manipur Legislative Assembly is also new. The increasing number of young people joining as legislators of Manipur is something novel. The drastic decrease of Congress MLAs to just five is also a new development. The rise of JD (U) in Manipur is a new in-

crease. The increase of NPP seats is recent good news. The newly formed Kuki People's Alliance (KPA) winning two seats is also a new undertaking. Four women legislators, namely Smt. Soraisam Kebi Devi (BJP), Kimneo Haokip Hangshing (KPA), Smt. S.S.Olish (BJP), Smt. Nemcha Kippen (BJP) is a good sign of women's empowerment and a new lease of gender inclusiveness. Two Kuki women MLAs in one Manipur Legislative Assembly tenure is also a new thing in history. Smt. S.S.Olish (BJP) from the Lamkang community getting elected in 41-Chandel (ST) Assembly Constituency is a new opening that even lesser community members can (and should) be elected as legislators.

Areas of concern

A government with an absolute majority in the Legislative Assembly appears steady. But 'majoritarianism' politics could hurt the sentiments of small communities residing in the state. The rising unemployment rate is an old thing needing new treatment. The rising bribe for government jobs,

thereby denying deserving candidates (poor who don't have money to bribe), is a cancerous trend needing complete transformation. The rising and costly trend of private tuition (coaching centres) is a concern and an impediment for poor parents. The gradual daily hike in petrol and diesel prices is a new thing – now taken for granted as a regular thing. While Manipur boasts of a favourable climate for various fruit-bearing trees, the exorbitant fruitprices in the market are disturbing. The causes may be – less fruit plantation, no proper storage facilities, unavailability of a minimum price tag for farmers, road transportation costs, etc. In many parts of Manipur, excessive deforestation is an existential concern endangering health and water supply.

While seeing new developments, new treatments to old issues are the hope and aspiration of the people of Manipur. When existential needs are met for the common good, peace, tranquillity, and social progress are but surely accompaniments. People are hoping to see new things in the days to come.

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

Pakistan, Iran can't provide weapons to the Myanmar Junta

By: John Rozario

defense cooperation in the future.

On the other hand, Iran is providing weapons and technology to Myanmar's military. The flight of an authorized Iranian airline with the Revolutionary Guards in Myanmar has sparked speculation of secret military-to-military cooperation. The recent landings of planes owned by Iranian cargo airline Kesham Fars Air could be aimed at supplying weapons, including guided missiles.

An Iranian delegation that landed in Myanmar on January 13 was on its second or third visit since seizing power through a military coup on February 1, 2021.

Myanmar, devastated by sanctions, is looking for new ways to buy arms. And so the country's junta government is sending a delegation of top officials to Pakistan ahead of a possible arms deal.

On February 1, 2021, a military coup led by Army Chief Min Aung Hlaing took place in Myanmar. In response, the West imposed strict sanctions on the country's top officials and their affiliates. The current junta government in Myanmar has overthrown a democratically elected government and established military rule.

Myanmar military wants to buy 60mm and 81mm mortars as well as M-79 grenade launchers and heavy machine guns from Pakistan. According to the report, Myanmar has also expressed interest in purchasing air-to-surface missiles from Pakistan for JF-17 fighter jets. Due to sanctions, Naypyidaw is unable to buy these missiles directly from China, so the weapons will come through Pakistan. In 2015, Myanmar bought the JF-17 Thunder, a joint venture between Pakistan Aeronautical Complex and Chengdu Aircraft Industries Corporation of China.

The 2017 violence against Rohingya Muslims sparked tensions between Myanmar and Pakistan. Myanmar accused Pakistan of aiding and abetting radical Rohingya groups. There are also allegations that Pakistan is

sponsoring some militant groups in Rakhine with weapons and training. Even after such a hostile relationship, their meeting without any announcement raised many questions. Needless to say, in recent times, defense ties are growing continuously between Pakistan and Myanmar. Myanmar and Pakistan are strengthening their strategic ties covertly.

However, after the military coup by the junta government last year, the West imposed sanctions on Myanmar, which further improved relations with Pakistan. When the United States and other countries announced a halt to military equipment exports to Myanmar, China-backed Pakistan took the opportunity to cooperate with the country in the defense sector.

Bangladesh's state minister for foreign affairs Shahriar Alam visited Tehran in August 2021 to inaugurate the radical new President of Iran, Ibrahim Raisi. Palestine and the Rohingya were the main topics of discussion during his talks with Iranian leaders. Even, Iran assured Bangladesh that Iran will always stand with Bangladesh in the case of the Rohingya issues. Iran always claimed that Iran is always vocal about the persecuted Muslim communities in the world. The Tehran government appears to be abandoning its policy position on the Rohingya by supplying arms to the Myanmar junta. Has Iran moral right to provide the weapons to the Myanmar Junta for paving the way of committing genocide? The international community including Bangladesh should seek clarification from Tehran on this issue.

The international community and regional countries should be concerned that Myanmar's junta is taking up arms from China, Russia, India, Pakistan, and Iran. Russia, China, Pakistan are helping the junta to expand its air force. It has expanded its navy with the help of India and China.

Now let's talk about Pakistan.

Pakistan is also vocal regarding the rights of Kashmiri and Palestinian Muslims. On the one hand, Pakistan calls for resolution of the Rohingya crisis and defame the military coup, on the other hand, it gives weapons to the Junta. What's a mockery of history? So, the question is how this Pakistan can provide weapons to the Myanmar Junta? IS only business interest pushing Pakistan and Iran to provide the weapons? As being Muslim majority countries, they always talk in favor of persecuted Muslim groups in the world, on the other hand, they provide weapons to the Junta to kill another Muslim group (Rohingyas). Myanmar's military is oppressing the people. Rohingya carried out genocide. These weapons are not only being used to suppress the Rohingya but also other groups such as Chin, demonstrators, protestors who are protesting peacefully against the 2021 military coup, journalists, detainee medical workers, and NLD politicians, dissents. At least 1,500 people have been killed by the military. It is a clear mockery against the world human rights issue. Iran and Pakistan are doing wrong to provide the weapons on the hands of the Myanmar Junta. They are also the partners of human rights violators in Myanmar. There is no moral ground to support the Junta. Other businesses are all going on there. All this is not preventing. Why aren't the western countries watching these? Why international community is so silent in this regard? The international community must address the issue. Delaying the issue can cause more devastation in Myanmar. In response to the military coup in Myanmar and to prevent the junta government from resorting to renewed repression, the international community including Pakistan and Iran should implement the imposition of the hardcore global arms embargo on the country.

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Maiden IONS Maritime Exercise 2022 held in Goa

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, March 31:

The maiden edition of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22) conducted in the Goa and Arabian Sea was concluded on Wednesday.

The exercise was aimed to enhance interoperability in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations among member navies. The exercise witnessed the participation of 16 out of the 25 member nations of IONS.

The IONS established in 2007, is a premier forum for co-operation and collaboration among navies of littoral states of the IOR. The forum has enabled discussions on regional maritime issues, promoted friendly relationships, and significantly improved maritime security cooperation in the IOR.

IMEX - 22 comprised a harbour phase at Mormugao Port, Goa from March 26 to March 27, followed by a Sea Phase in the Arabian Sea from March 28 to March 30. The participation included warships, Maritime Reconnaissance aircraft, and helicopters from the Navies of Bangladesh, France, India, and Iran.

22 Observers from 15 IONS member navies, namely Australia, Bangladesh, France, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Oman, Qatar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, UAE, and the UK also participated in the exercise. The participants val-



The officers participating in the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS) Maritime Exercise 2022 (IMEX-22).

dated the IONS HADR guidelines and developed response mechanisms for providing HADR from sea to shore as well as for helping ships and crafts in distress at sea.

The Chiefs of Indian and French Navies witnessed exercises during the sea phase of IMEX - 22 and also attended the post-exercise debrief. The exercise is a significant stepping stone for regional navies to collaborate and respond collectively to natural disasters in the region and paves way for further strengthening regional cooperation.

Indian Navy's Second P-81 Aircraft Squadron Commissioned

In another development, the Indian naval air squadron (INAS-316), the Indian Navy's second P-81 aircraft squadron, was commissioned into the Indian Navy in an impressive ceremony held at INS Hansa

in Goa on Tuesday.

Chief of Naval Staff R Hari Kumar who was the chief guest on the occasion, while addressing the gathering, said that India is the preferred security partner in the Indian Ocean region (IOR) which reflects our country's ability to play an effective strategic role in the region and the need to expand its operational reach. The Indian Navy is integral to this commitment and in pursuance of this objective, the commissioning of INAS-316 marks yet another mile towards enhancing maritime security and surveillance in the IOR.

INAS-316 has been named "condors" which are one of the largest flying birds with a massive wingspan. The insignia of the squadron depicts a condor searching over the vast blue expanse of the sea. Condors are known for excellent sensory capabilities, powerful and sharp talons, and

large massive wings symbolizing the capabilities of the aircraft and envisaged roles of the squadron.

INAS-316 will operate the Boeing P 81 aircraft, a multi-role long-range maritime reconnaissance anti-submarine warfare LRMASW aircraft, that can be equipped with a range of air-to-ship missiles and torpedoes. The game-changer aircraft is a potent platform for maritime surveillance and strike, electronic warfare missions, search and rescue, providing targeting data to weapon platforms, providing time-critical surveillance information for IN and IAF, and is also the platform of choice for detecting and neutralizing enemy ships and submarines to IOR.

The squadron has been specifically commissioned to be the home for the four new P-81 aircraft procured under the option clause contract and to detect, detect and destroy any threat in the IOR. These aircraft have been operating from INS Hansa since December 30, 2021, and the squadron is integrated with full-spectrum surface and sub-surface naval operations.

INAS is commanded by Commander Amit Mohapatra, an accomplished Boeing P-81 pilot with extensive operational experience. He has also flown maritime air platforms such as IL-38 and Dornier-228 and also commanded INS Baratang as well as served as the executive officer of INS Tarkash.

AR apprehends PLA affiliate

IT News

Imphal, March 31:

Mantripukhri Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) in a joint operation with Manipur Police apprehended an Over Ground Worker (OGW) of proscribed group PLA from Lamlong, Imphal-East on 29 March 2022.

Based on a specific input Assam Rifles troops along with Manipur Police launched a search operation jointly and apprehended a sympathiser of insurgent group PLA.

The apprehended suspect was handed over to Porompat Police Station for further investigation.



AR provides medical Aid to Snake Bite victim

IT News

Imphal, March 31:

Loktak Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (S) extended life saving medical assistance to a snake bite victim of Saitonvill,

Churachandpur district, Manipur yesterday.

A 42 year old person was bitten by a venomous snake and developed symptoms of mild fever, vomiting and headache since the time of bite. The

villagers rushed the individual to medical hospital of Assam Rifles located at Kangvai, where life saving medical assistance was extended to him. The individual left with gratitude on his condition becoming stable.

IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE (ND&PS)(FTC), MANIPUR AT CHEIRAP COURT COMPLEX

ANNEXURE - I

Schedule I VIII, Form No. 100
High Court Criminal Process No. 4

CASE NO.- SPECIAL TRIAL NO. 61 OF 2020
FIR No. 485(12) 1986 Lamphel-PS
U/S 27(a) ND & PS Act.

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF THE ACCUSED (Section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure)

1) Name, Description and address of the accused:

Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh (29 years) now aged about 65 years S/o (L) M. Yaima Singh of Thangmeiband Polem Leikai

2) Name of the accused:

Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh

3) Place: Imphal

Whereas complaint has been made before me **Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh** has committed the offence punishable Under Section 27(a) ND & PS Act (FIR. No. 485(12)1986 Lamphel-PS) and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon stating that **Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said **Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh** has absconded to avoid the execution of the said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said **Shri Moirangthem Suresh Singh** is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on the **4th day of April, 2022.**

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2022.

Sd/-
(**Kh. Ajit Singh**)
Special Judge (ND&PS)(FTC)
Manipur

IT(B)-30c2 days

Contd. from Page 2

Success in life on the basis of....

Success and failure cannot be decided on the basis of test result in life. We should remember that the work and the kind of behavior we do, that decides the path of our success. If we do any work with a positive attitude, then its result also gets positive. Negative behavior hinders the success of work and leads us to despair.

The program also records the responses and concerns shared by students, parents and teachers. The Prime Minister says, 'You are not talking to the Prime Minister of India, you are talking to a friend.' This liberal attitude of his creates a conducive environment to discuss the importance of stress-free examinations. We should also try ourselves that when our child shares his thoughts with us, he feels that he is talking to his friend.

When the time for state and national board examinations approaches, Pariksha Pe Charcha program aims to take this interaction forward and hold discussions with students of classes IX to XII as well as their parents and teachers. The Prime Minister says, 'Connect with your children, know their likes and dislikes. When you involve yourself in your children's world, it will bridge the generation gap, and they will understand your point of view too.' Indeed, opening up to children requires a positive initiative, which is what every parent wants. should do.

The Corona pandemic has created an opportunity for students to study using digital mediums, but staying at home is affecting their mental and physical development as well. In such a situation, we should ensure that the parents and

other family members take care of the students if they are studying 'online' and using different devices.

This year's program for students covers a wide range of topics. These include exam stress management strategies during Covid-19, Amrit Mahotsav of freedom, self-reliant schools for self-reliant India, Swachh Bharat, Green India, digital education, women empowerment, environment protection and climate change etc. Collectively, they aim to encourage discussion related to education, 'self-reliance' in teaching and learning, and with equal emphasis on climate change. These themes make it highly relevant at the time of the programme.

The Prime Minister says that, 'Teacher's words have a greater impact on children.' This is also because teachers are the role models of the students. The role of teachers is paramount in the life building of the students. Teachers should keep in mind that every student has a different level of understanding. In such a situation, they should teach in a positive environment, understanding all the students.

For teachers and parents, this discussion is related to the new provisions of the National Education Policy, which will empower the lives of the students in particular and the society in general and pave the way for a 'New India'. It is noteworthy that the way the country is celebrating the successful implementation of the Prime Minister's 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' program and it encourages the parents as to how this scheme can contribute to the national development. The previous editions

of 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' saw wide participation from students, parents and teachers alike.

The use of interactive and pictorial activities not only encourages participation, but also aids in the use of thought-provoking and enjoyable activities. It helps to understand the concepts through practical means. Along with understanding the examination, students should also understand the statement of Rabindranath Tagore that 'You cannot cross the ocean just by standing and watching the water'. Work

hard, the result will come by itself.

The vision of the new National Education Policy is that education should be value based, so that today's student becomes a good citizen of tomorrow. To do this we have to provide stress free education to the students. Instead of running in the race for points, they should be motivated to acquire knowledge. Students should be made familiar with the nature of education that how by being educated they can serve the society, nation and the world.

PEACE Crafts Bazar

Venue : Khoyol Keithel Moirang Lamkhai
Bishnupur District, Manipur

Date : 26th March to 4th April 2022
Time : 10:30 a.m.

Item Display of Sales

*Cane & Bamboo *Kouna Crafts * Hand Embroidery * Artistic Textile
* Woolen Shoe * Doll & Toys * Other Decorative Items



Organised by:-

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



Sponsored by:-

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



India sees 1,225 new Covid cases, marginally lower than yesterday; 28 deaths

Agency
New Delhi, March 29:

India continued to see a downward trend in its Covid tally on Thursday as 1,225 fresh cases were reported, the health ministry data showed. Twenty-eight patients died and 1,594 recuperated from the viral disease in the last 24 hours.

With this, the overall cases in the country - since the start of the pandemic - has climbed to 4,30,24,440 including 5,21,129 deaths and 4,24,89,004 recoveries. The active cases have declined to

14,307 and constitute 0.03% of the caseload, the ministry data showed.

On Wednesday, the active cases went below the 15,000-mark at 14,704, for the first time in 23 months. On the other hand, the country reported 1,233 cases, 31 deaths and 1,876 recoveries on the same day. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) said on Thursday that over six lakh samples were tested for Covid-19 in the last 24 hours and the cumulative figure is nearing 79 crore.

The overall vaccination

coverage in the country has exceeded 184 crore with over 22 lakh doses administered to eligible beneficiaries in the last 24 hours, the health ministry also said.

Daily cases have been going down in India since the third wave of the pandemic peaked in January this year. But there has been a massive surge in cases in Asia and the rest of the world due to the BA.2 sub-variant of Omicron.

According to a report by Reuters on Wednesday, cases in Asia have passed 10 crore and the continent was

reporting over 10 lakh new cases about every two days.

Meanwhile, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Wednesday that the pandemic might follow in 2022 - with a new, more virulent variant in the worst-case scenario.

The WHO added that a more dangerous variant of concern than Omicron could be lurking around the corner. Maria Van Kerkhove, who is the UN health agency's technical lead on Covid-19, had said that the virus has "a lot of energy left", going into the third year of the pandemic.

State Government signs MoU to set up Sports Digital Experience Centre

IT News
Imphal, March 30:

The Manipur government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Samsung Data System India Pvt. Ltd. and Abhitech IT Solutions Pvt. Ltd. today, for setting up a world class "Sports Digital Experience Centre" as a part of Manipur Olympian Park and at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex.

The state government was represented by Special Secretary, Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of Manipur Namojam Kheda Varta Singh while the Samsung Data System India Pvt. Ltd. was represented by Director of Business Development, India & SAARC Tae Heun Kim and Abhitech IT Solutions Pvt. Ltd. by CEO and Director Amit Mohan Srivastava. The MoU was exchanged in the presence of Chief

Minister N Biren Singh at the cabinet hall of Chief Minister's Secretariat.

Speaking on the occasion, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh stated that the Government was giving much emphasis on construction of Manipur Olympian Park so that younger generations and players could get motivated with the activities and achievements of the Olympians. He was also hopeful that the construction of Manipur Olympian Park would be completed within 100 days.

With the setting up of the Digital Experience Centre, various achievements of Olympians from Manipur will be digitally displayed making the public aware about their achievements. Achievements of other players will also be displayed at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex. Such initiatives will help in improving and enhancing the performance of sporting talents

through latest technologies like sports analytics, virtual reality and mixed reality among others. It will also motivate younger generations to opt sports as a career.

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Govindas Konhoujam, Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary V. Vumlungmang, Director, Youth Affairs and Sports T. Phulen, representatives of

Samsung Data System India Pvt. Ltd. and Abhitech IT Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Members of Editor's Guild Manipur and other officials were present during the MoU signing.

It may be mentioned that Manipur Olympians' Park is being constructed at Sangaitel, where statues of the 19 Olympians will be installed as a mark of honour for their dedication in the field of Games and Sports.

Contd. from Page 1 State Govt released 1016...

All sanctions have been made through e-office without physical interface between sanctioning authorities in Finance Department and Work Agencies/Suppliers/ Contractors.

Work Agencies/Suppliers/ Contractors may follow up with administrative department

concerned regarding status of sanctions and releases.

The State Government is committed to ensuring cleanliness, transparency & efficiency in public administration. All Heads of Department/ Officials are advised not to promote any type of malpractice in clearing of files.

Sports Corner

IPL 2022: Bangalore win low-scoring thriller by 3 wickets against Kolkata

Agency
Mumbai, March 31:

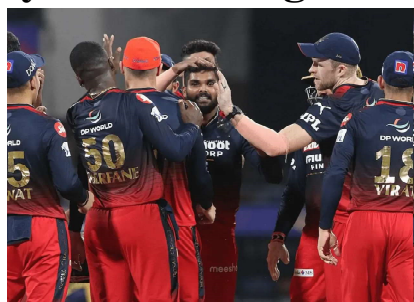
In a see-saw, low-scoring thriller in IPL 2022, where bowlers called the shots, Royal Challengers Bangalore defeated Kolkata Knight Riders by three wickets at DY Patil Stadium on Wednesday.

After bowling out Kolkata for just 128, Bangalore lost their first three batters in power-play. But critical knocks from Sherfane Rutherford (28), David Willey (18), Shahbaz Ahmed (27), Dinesh Karthik (14 not out) and Harshal Patel (10 not out) took Bangalore home with four balls remaining.

Kolkata drew first blood on just the third ball as Umesh Yadav cramped Anuj Rawat for room, leaving the youngster to poke at it and the edge was snapped by the keeper flying to his left. Virat Kohli hit Yadav for sweetly-timed boundaries through cover point and mid-wicket to get going.

Faf du Plessis slammed Tim Southee over cover. But on the very next ball, du Plessis closed the bat face too early and the leading edge flew to point. Kolkata's roaring start continued as Kohli flirted with a ball outside the off-stump off Yadav and nicked behind to keeper.

Rutherford and Willey revived Bangalore's chase after



the early strikes. The duo absorbed the pressure and got boundaries when the ball was there to be hit. The 45-run partnership off 53 balls ended when Willey chipped straight to mid-wicket off Narine.

Rutherford got a boundary off Chakravarthy while Ahmed smashed Andre Russell with sixes over deep mid-wicket and deep square leg. Ahmed danced down the pitch to hit Chakravarthy over deep mid-wicket. But on the very next ball, Chakravarthy had the last laugh as Ahmed was beaten by flight and turn to be stumped by the keeper.

Rutherford's innings ended when Sheldon Jackson grabbed the inside edge by diving to his right and grabbing it with his right hand off Southee's bowling. Wanindu Hasaranga hit a

boundary but miscued loft on the next ball to mid-off.

Patel scooped a boundary off Venkatesh Iyer and whipped past long-on while Karthik, who survived a run-out chance, pulled Russell over deep square leg and finished off the chase with a gorgeous straight drive to open Bangalore's account in the points table.

Earlier, Kolkata's batting order were the masters of their own downfall. In a quest to hit hard against anything coming their way, they fell while attempting to play extravagant strokes instead of adjusting to the match situation.

Bangalore's seamers found the perfect length on a tacky pitch: just short of a good length with extra bounce coming to the fore. Kolkata lost openers

Venkatesh Iyer and Ajinkya Rahane in power-play. While Iyer tried to nudge a short of length delivery from Akash Deep to the leg-side, only for the top-edge to be pounced by the bowler running to his left, Rahane mistimed the pull on a short ball from Mohammed Siraj straight to deep square leg.

Deep's pacy short ball, with some away nip, claimed Nitish Rana as a miscued heave over leg-side was snapped by Willey running back from backward square leg and making a slide to complete the catch in the final over of power-play. Kolkata's troubles increased as Shreyas Iyer holed out to long-on off Hasaranga. Sunil Narine produced some fireworks by snacking Deep for a four over mid-off and six over keeper's head.

But an ugly hook to a straight ball saw Narine miscue to backward point off Hasaranga in the ninth over. On the very next ball, Hasaranga castled Sheldon Jackson with a beautiful googly. Russell, though, had other plans. He began by slog-sweeping Hasaranga over deep mid-wicket.

Patel struck on the fourth ball of his night, forcing Sam Billings to hit his slower short of length ball straight to long-on. Russell then punished Ahmed with sixes over deep mid-wicket and long-off.



MANIPUR STATE POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LIMITED

(Regd. Office : 3rd Floor, New Directorate Building, near 2nd MR Gate
Imphal - Dimapur Road, Imphal, Manipur)

CIN: U40101MN2013SGC008343

Summary of Tariff Schedule approved by Commission for FY 2022-23 for Manipur State Power Distribution Company Ltd (MSPDCL) and to be effective from 01.04.2022 :

A) Approved Subsidised Tariff for FY 2022-23

Table 8.2: Category wise Subsidised Tariffs approved by the Commission for FY 2022-23

Sl. No		Consumer Category (FY 2019-20)	Existing Tariff		Approved Subsidised Tariff	
			Fixed Charges (P.M)	Energy Charges (Rs./kWh)	Fixed Charges (P.M)	Energy Charges (Rs./kWh)
	IT SUPPLY					(Rs./kWh)
1	Kutir Jyoti			Rs./Connection		
	All Units (Upto 45 KWh/ 3 Month)		25 (Connection)	2.10	25.00	2.10
2	Domestic			Rs./KW		Rs./KWh
	First - 100 kwh/Month		65.00	5.10	65.00	5.10
	Next 100 kwh/Month		65.00	5.95	65.00	5.95
	Above 200 kwh/Month		65.00	6.75	65.00	6.75
3	Non-Domestic/Commercial			Rs./KW		Rs./KWh
	First - 100 kwh/Month		85.00	6.55	85.00	6.55
	Next 100 kwh/Month		85.00	7.25	85.00	7.25
	Above 200 kwh/Month		85.00	7.65	85.00	7.65
4	Public Lighting		70.00	9.55	70.00	9.60
5	Public Water Works		105.00	9.80	105.00	9.80
6	a) Agriculture (Individual)		65.00	4.55	65.00	4.55
	b) Irrigation (others)		65.00	4.55	65.00	4.55
7	Small Industry		70.00	4.85	70.00	5.60
	HT SUPPLY		Rs/kVA	Rs/kVAh	Rs/kVA/PM	Rs/kVAh
1	Commercial		105.00	8.75	105.00	8.90
2	Public Water Works		105.00	9.50	105.00	9.60
3	a) Agriculture (Individual)		105.00	4.75	105.00	5.15
	b) Irrigation (others)		105.00	4.75	105.00	5.15
4	Medium Industry		105.00	7.20	105.00	8.00
5	Large Industry		105.00	8.80	105.00	9.10
6	Bulk Supply		105.00	8.80	105.00	9.25

B) Approved Full Cost Tariff (FCT)

Table 8.3: Category wise Full Cost Tariff (without subsidy) for FY 2022-23 as approved by the Commission

Sl. No.	Category & Consumption Slab	Full Cost Tariff	
		Fixed Charges (Rs./pm)	Energy Charges (Rs./KWh or KVh)
1	Kutir Jyothi (FCT)	Rs./Connection	Rs.KWh
	All Units (upto 45 KWh/3 Months)	25 per Connection	9.01
2	Domestic	Rs./KW	Rs./KWh
i)	First 100 kWh	65	9.73
ii)	Next 100 kWh	65	9.57
iii)	Balance > 200 kWh	65	11.76
3	Non-Domestic/Commercial	Rs./KW	Rs./KWh
i)	First 100 kWh	85	11.04
ii)	Next 100 kWh	85	12.59
iii)	Balance > 200 kWh	85	13.47
4	Public Lighting	70	13.39
5	Public Water Works	105	13.16
6	a) Agriculture (individual)	65	0.00
	b) Irrigation (others)	65	0.00
7	Small Industry	70	11.28
	HT Supply (FCT)	Rs./KVA	Rs.KVAh
1	Commercial	105	10.78
2	Public Water Works	105	11.57
3	a) Agriculture (individual)	105	9.27
	b) Irrigation (others)	105	9.27
4	Medium Industry	105	10.48
5	Large Industry	105	11.00
6	Bulk Supply	105	11.65

Note: 1) "Fixed charge is per KW of contracted load for LT supply except KJ while in case of HT Supply, it is per KVA of Billing Demand. Energy charge is as per KWh for LT supply and per KVAh for HT supply and LT high value services provided with MDI meters. The above table depicts fixed and energy charge only. Tariff Charges description in detail are given under the Tariff Schedule chapter."

(Ng. Subhachandra Singh)
Managing Director
MSPDCL