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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT



GARIB KALYAN SAMMELAN

Interaction of
PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI JI
with the beneficiaries
of public welfare schemes
and

Devolution of 11th installment
of more than ₹ 21 thousand crore
to more than 10 crore farmers under
Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)

31st May, 2022

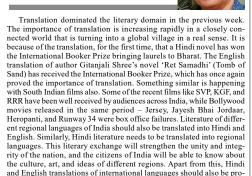


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Fake Reviews on Amazon a threat to e-commerce

Talking Points 🖇

Narvijay Yadav



The trend of shopping from e-commerce websites has increased. In the Corona era, it became a necessity and then a habit. People often decide to buy goods or services on these websites after reading the reviews of others. But it has also been seen that many reviews are fake or are misleading. When such complaints reached the government, the central government called all the stakeholders and held discussions with them. Several e-commerce companies participated in the meeting, including Flipkart, Amazon, Tata Sons, and Reliance Retail. Apart from this, lawyers, FICCI, CII, representatives of universities, and consumer rights activists also participated in this. The government has prepared a strategy based on the inputs received from them so that fake or misleading reviews can be stopped. It was informed in the meeting that fake reviews and misleading information are a violation of the Consumer Protection Act 2019.

As Uttar Pradesh is the largest state in the country in terms of population, then obviously it will be a big challenge to handle the law and order of the state. In order to reduce crimes against women, the state government has made a new rule for women employees. The Yogi government of Uttar Pradesh has issued instructions not to assign duties to women from 7 pm to 6 am. This rule will be applicable to both government and private sector companies. While issuing its order, the Yogi government has also said that if a woman employee has to be engaged in night duty under any circumstances, then it is mandatory to get her permission in advance. If her duty is assigned without prior permission, stern action will be taken. Feminists can level this ruling as a violation of the equal rights of women, but some measures have to be taken to

It is a common experience to get stuck in a road jam on any given day, but now it is also known that such jams have started happening in space too. So many satellites have been sent into space that there has been a situation of traffic jams. Its disadvantage is that if the astronomers try to see the remote celestial bodies at night, they are not visible properly, because the artificial satellites shine so brightly that they reduce the visibility. This makes it difficult for astronomers to collect

With the advancement of technology, there is a shortage of employment. India's problem is slightly different from other countries. A former World Bank official says that 24% of youth in India are sitting idle and this rate is the highest in the world. A major reason for the reduction in this rate is the highest in the world. A major reason for the reduction in employment is also the lack of necessary skills among youth pursuing traditional education or taking general degrees like BA or MA. They don't have the skills that the industry needs. Due to this reason industries are unable to provide employment to many youths even if they want. About 8 lakh posts are lying vacant under the central government itself, while there is a similar situation in the states too. Most of these posts are of teachers and Asha workers etc. Filling these posts will increase employment. Along with this, initiatives should be taken to provide job-oriented education and training to the youth so that they can directly join industries and serve the nation.

can directly join industries and serve the nation.

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) says that India is fully prepared to deal with Monkeypox. Young children are at greater risk from this. However, not a single such case has come to light in the country so far. Monkeypox infection has spread rapidly in many countries battling the Coronavirus. Monkeypox is a mild viral infection commonly found in African countries. About 200 cases have been reported in 20 countries including USA and Europe, about which the World Health Organization (WHO) has expressed concern. WHO has described Monkeypox as a new threat to has expressed concern. WHO has described Monkeypox as a new threat to the world. Meanwhile, a Chennai-based medical equipment manufacturer claims to have made an RT-PCR-based kit for detecting Monkeypox, which is capable of detecting the disease in an hour.

The latest report from the Ministry of Road & Transport is shocking.

Regarding road accidents in the year 2020, it has been said in this report that 65% of road accidents occurred on straight roads, while hardly 1% of accidents occurred on roads with potholes or curves. Similarly, the maximum control of the straight roads accidents occurred on roads with potholes or curves. mum number of accidents was caused by a maximum of 5-years-old vehicles. In addition, 17% of accidents during 2020 were caused by drivers who had valid driving licenses. Unlicensed and learning license holders had the fewest accidents. Not only this but it was also revealed in the report that in 2019 also, 72% of the accidents were caused by experienced drivers and such drivers had a valid driving license.

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Fragile Family Atmosphere and the School **Shootings in America**



Gruesome, horrific and bonechilling- I know the vocabulary to describe the massacres in schools across America cannot be limited to these three words. But the level of animosity that the young generation in this country is growing with is harrowing and I really believe that this gut-wrenching killing spree can-not be addressed with gun control alone. Much more needs to be done with respect to bring the young minds to sensitize the gravity of chaos their brains are enmeshed in It should be unbelievable to know that America has more guns than the actual population of the state. The U.S, the richest and the most developed country in the world, has more than 400 million guns circulating among a population of nearly 332 million. Despite making economic affluence, America is largely a society stooping towards a complete moral decline. This appears to be a crude observation but on ground the situation is worsening with ev-ery passing day. The children who walked into the Robb Elementary School in Uvalde in Texas on 24 May 2022 would not have thought that the morning leisure time in their school would witness a bloodbath killing at least 19 of them and two adults in their lovely campus. Before taking his assault rifle to the school campus, the young killer Salvador Ramos checked the efficacy of the weapon that he procured a few days before his 18th birthday on his grandmother shooting in her face. The reason behind this barbarity is yet to be uncovered but this is not the first of

shooting in a school. There have been such horrific massacres across the country and the one that happened in Stockton, California in 1989 was the first which killed five children. On December 14, 2012 in the Sandy Hook School of Newtown Connecticut, the young shooter Adam Lanza was 20 years old and fearless when he pointed his assault rifle taking the lives of 20 children and 6 adults 17 children were mercilessly gunned down by the young shooter at Marjory Stoneman Dou-glas High School in Parkland, Florida and the list continues. Imagine the trauma of the parents who, on the fateful day, sent their kids off to school by the school bus and waited for their homecoming with a jubilant face. Shockingly, statistics reveal the fact that hundreds of children were killed in mass shootings in the state of America in between 1989 to 2022.

As per the studies carried out by different agencies, most of the cases of mass murder by the youngsters in the schools had a common feature which is staggering. Almost everywhere, before the mass killing. the shooters attempted to either kill someone at their homes or attempted at least an assault. It is indeed distressing to notice that most of the school shooters were either current or former students of those schools where they tested the precision of their weapons. There may be various reasons that provoked these voung minds to carry out such terrible atrocities. A child, from his for-mative days would be influenced by various factors. The depth of influence that his parents are capable of having on him matters the most at this stage. As a society, America has been witnessing a rise of nonmarital cohabitation and frequent divorce and the family life that a child is forced to grow through would find him totally distressing and wobbly. What we experience in India is totally different. In India we have been focussing on strengthening family relationships

from all possible dimensions. The values that we cherish as a family surely reinforce the bond among its members. We value the atmosphere in a family, respecting and recognising its effect on the children as they grow. From two par-ents to one parent to no parent, the life of many children in America is actually inconsolable. Reasons to this level of mishmash in childhood must be enough for the young minds to become muddleheaded and satisfy the silent rebellion that the circumstances they have been growing in has forced. Children, with a childhood lost of its tenderness, love and care in broken fami lies are bound to develop a rebellious itch against all who enjoy such faculties.

The Pew Research Center in its study reports share some interesting facts which probably can substantiate focusing on the rea-sons that push the young Americans to become atrocious at a young age. It reveals the speed with which the American families are breaking from two-parent house holds to single parent households or children growing without par-ents. The country is witnessing a rapid rise in divorce, remarriage and cohabitation and forcing the families to shrink. In a tumultuous family atmosphere, parenting is chal-lenging and the children trapped in this volatility live in fear, horror and uncertainty and mostly with hatred for their parents. According to the Pew Research Report, 16% of children are living in "blended families" with a stepparent, step siblings or half sibling. A new estimate states that about one in five children born within a marriage will experience the breakup of the parents by age 9 and half of the children born within a cohabiting union will experience the breakup of their parents at the same age. These data are evident enough to unearth the reason, which is mainly the lack of moral values that the families are sailing with. A family without siblings, cousins, aunts, uncles, grandparents at the family table and the whole family organ trimmed to an atom size, devoid of the beauty and the lovely mischief that a family, a replica of a society would have; would mostly be a volcano inside. The loneliness and the squabbles that the child finds as part of the family's parental discourse and the absence of mutual respect amid affluence and a morality in decline contribute to his volatile behaviour. Broken families are mushrooming in India too; of course the trend is yet to gain mo-

A satisfactory assessment is that India has the lowest divorce rate in the world. It is almost lower than 1% in India. This may not be an awesome achievement as many families are silent volcanoes even though the atmosphere inside them is terribly obnoxious with many of the upsetting issues never break open the walls or are concealed tight. In comparison to America's 50% marriage breakups, India's 1% is really praiseworthy. With Sweden ranking the highest in divorce rates followed by America, India is still in a better position. It is quite unlikely for India to face the situation that America does. But fami-lies should become more resourceful and canters of magnanimity and care where children can grow with self-respect and generosity. Vio-lent family atmosphere ignites selfhate and despair among children as it did in the case of most of the school shooters in America. The solution to what we call an epidemic of gun violence in America is basically a course correction that every family needs to get ready to go for. Aban on assault rifles will be an initial administrative step that the country can take but it is for the people of the country to set their houses alright. To a large extent, In-dia is a good example for value based

families and happy parenting.
(The writer is a Freelance Journalist/Social Worker)

Eight Years in North East – A model for governance

By: G. Kishan Reddy

Across cultures the Number 8 is held as a symbol of victory, pros-perity and overcoming. It also repnts infinite perfection, balance and harmony. Ashta, in Sanskrit, is the number of wealth and abundance and one can draw a fascinating correlation between the 8 years of governance led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the magical transformation of the eight north eastern states. It is an inspiring lesson in governance, of a region neglected over a protracted period of time, shooting to prominence as the Ashtalakshmi of the nation. After the huge mandate in 2014, Prime Minister Narendra Modi ex-

pressed his conviction to usher in a new dawn of progress in the region. He called the Northeast region 'India's Natural Economic Zone' and made it a priority to tap into it. To-day, firmly on the agenda, he calls it the 'New Growth engine of India

In spite of being endowed with extraordinary natural wealth, strategic advantage as the gateway to Southeast Asia and unrivalled economic potential, the eight states of the North East never got the attention that they deserved. Unwilling to expend serious political capital, successive governments harped on insurgency, difficult terrain, cultural distinctiveness, as excuses for their political apathy. However, winning the public mandate in 2014, the Prime Minister started articulating solutions ingrained in the governance philosophy of Sewa, Sushasan and Gareeb Kalvaan

Eight years hence, we are see-ing visible differences in every aspect and the numbers speak for them-selves. Since 2014, militancy incidents have reduced by 74%, deaths of civilians has come down by 84% and with more than an 800% increase in surrenders by extremists, AFSPA has been lifted from some districts for the first time in decades. With sheer political will and leadership, decades old standoffs are nearing resolution – the Naga Framework Agreement and the tripartite agreement on the rehabilitation of the Bru-Reangs, to name a few. The intent of this government to resolve such long standing issues is clearly visible the case of the resettlement of Bru-Reangs. In May 2012, the Government at that time planned for the repatriation of about 669 Reang famies but was able to repatriate only 7 Bru families. The UPA Government blamed resistance and misinformation campaign by a section of Bru leaders for this. On the other hand, in the recently finalised agreement, the Government will provide an assistance of close to Rs.600 crores for the rehabilitation of Reangs, and ensure all-round development of Reangs including providing a plot of land, assisting in the construction of a house, provide rations and access to public welfare schemes of the state and central governments. It is this 360-degree thinking that has allowed the Government to provide compelling solutions.

While ushering in peace, foundations for prosperity were simulta-neously laid with massive financial outlays: The North East has seen a huge jump from Rs 36,108 crores in 2014 to Rs. 76.040 crores in 2022 (110%) in the budgetary support by Government of India, Cumulatively since 2014, over 3 lakh crores have been spent in the region.

The pinnacle of Sewa to the people of North East has been to impart them the power of mobility and connectivity. In 2014, Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya were put up Pradesh and Megnataya were put up on the railway map for the first time. Before 2014, only Assam's capital Guwahati was connected. Today, Arunachal's Itanagar, Tripura's Agartala and Manipur have already been connected and remaining 5 capi-tal connectivity projects worth Rs 45,016 crores are nearing completion. Government of India has also spent over Rs 41,000 crores on road connectivity with over 38,000 kms of rural roads have been completed since 2014 while projects worth 75,000 crores are currently ongoing in the North East. Today there are 15 new airports in North East, from just 6 in 2014. Making sure that, like the rest of India, aam naagrik of North East also receives help from improved air connectivity, the region is a priority area under the UDAN scheme with 46 operational routes.

The tele-density (number of phones per 100 people), especially rural tele-density, in the Northeast has significantly improved. In April

2014, rural tele-density at 42,68% was below the national average (43.96%). Today, at 61.36%, rural tele-density is above the national average (58.50%). The recent commissioning of 20 Gbps international bandwidth for Northeast through Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh by BSNL, is quantum leap in internet connectivity. This would not only address the issues of would not only address the issues of latency and network congestion but will open doors to North East's potential in becoming leaders in BPO and IT industry with the establishment of the property of the pro ment of software parks and high speed Data centers for business pur-poses in North Eastern States.

To ensure that Sewa of the North continues unrelentingly, Sushasan has been adopted as the key enabler: Working hand-in-hand with the dynamic and committed State Governments of the North Fast, we are moving ahead with a concrete plan of action working to leverage the inherent strengths of the region in sectors like agriculture, tourism, textiles, handicrafts. Recent cabinet initiatives such as the revival of the Northeast Agricultural Marketing Corporation (NERAMAC) and the National Mission for Edible Oil for palm oils aim to leverage the North st region's potential. The Edible Oil Mission aims to increase cultivation from 40 thousand hectares to 3.4 lakh hectares (700%) in the Northeast and more than 50% of the Mission's 9.000 crore outlay will accrue to the North east region.

contd. on page 3

Imphal Times

PM releases benefits under PM Cares for Children Scheme



Imphal, May 30:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi released benefits under PM CARES for Children Scheme today via video conference. Union Minister Smriti Irani, many other members of the Council of Ministers, and Chief Ministers were among those connected to the event

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh along with Min-isters Th. Biswajit, L. Sushindro Meitei; MLAs L. Rameshwor Meitei, Sheikh Noorul Hassan, Th. Arunkumar; Secretary to Chief Minister Ningthoujam Geoffrey; Chairman Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Ph. Manibabu; Imphal East,. Khumanthem Diana; Director (Social Welfare). Ng. Uttam and other officials also at-tended the video conference from the Chief Minister's Secretariat, Imphal. Beneficiaries below 18 years of age watched the webcast from a separate

Later, the Chief Minister handed over the benefits to selected children of the Imphal East district. Altogether 20 children of the State- 5 children from Imphal East, 3 from Imphal West, 3 from Bishnupur, 6 from Ukhrul, 1 from Senapati, 1 from Kangpokpi, and 1 from Churachandpur district received the benefits under PM Cares Children.

Benefits to be given to the

beneficiaries include:

I. Financial Support: PM CARES for Children Scheme Passbook (Maturity Amount is 10 Lacs at the age of attaining 18 years of age)
II. Health Insurance: PM-

JAY Health Card

III. Assistance for School Education: Admission to any Central Govt School;

Expenses on uniforms, textbooks and notebooks will be paid by PM-CARES; a Scholarship of Rs. 20,000/- per annum for children of Class 1-

IV. Assistance for Higher Education: Swanath Scholarship of Rs. 50,000/- per annum for technical education;

KARMA Scholarship for skill. V. Support for Boarding and Lodging: Under Child Protection Services, Rs. 4000/- per month w.e.f 1st April, 2022 for children staying with rela-

tives.

VI. State specific benefits

Ministergi under Chief Ministergi Angangi Tenbang (Chief Minister's Bal Seva):

A. Rs. 1500/- per month per child (Rs. 13,500/- released per child for nine months).

B. Laptop to school/college-going child who has passed Xth Board.

VII. COVID Ex-gratia Assistance of Rs. 50,000/- to next of

The benefits under the scheme will ensure that the welfare and best interests of the COVID-affected children are protected till they attain the age of 23 years.

Three children to benefit PM Cares for Children Scheme

IT News Bishnupur, May 30:

The District Administration of Bishnupur today participated in the release of ben-efits and services under PM Cares for Children Scheme by Prime Minister through Video

Conferencing.
Thanga MLA, Robindro
Tongbram; Adhyaksha of
Bishnupur Zila Parishad Romabai Lairenjam, Bishnupur DC Lourembam Bikram, officials concerned and beneficiaries attended the release of benefits under Scheme from the Video Conferencing Studio, NIC, of Mini Secretariat DC Office Bishnupur.

Three children from Bishnupur district were selected for the PM Cares for Chil-dren Scheme. The PM CARES for Children Scheme was launched by the Prime Minister of India on 29th May 2021. The Scheme is to support children, who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 pandemic during the period starting from 11th March 2020 and ending on

28th February, 2022. Under the scheme, beneficiaries will receive financial sup-port, assistance for school edu-

cation, health insurance, support for boarding and lodging and assistance for higher education. Out of 9042 applications received from all over India 4345 children have been approved under the scheme

In today's release function of benefits under PM Cares for Children Scheme, a beneficiary of the scheme from the district who has completed Class X and has attained the age of 18 vears was provided with a laptop under CMAT- Chief Ministergi Anganggi Tengbang.
The overall objective of the

Scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of Children in a sustained manner, and enable their well being power them through education nd equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support on reaching 23 years

The Ministry of Women and Child Development is the nodal Ministry for execution of the scheme at the central level. The Department of the State government dealing with the Juvenile Justice set up in the states are the nodal agency at the State level while the District Magistrates are the nodal authority at district levels.

Name Correction

My name Potshangbam Biswhachand Singh is my certificate name. However, my name was type by the Reliance Nippon Life Insurance as P. Biswhaschand Singh. So this advertisement is to clarified that my real and certified name is

Potshangbam Bishwachand Singh

Bank Pass Book Lost

I, the undersigned, have lost my Bank Pass Book Account No. 30634171950 of State Bank of India (SBI), High Court Complex Branch on the way from Khonghampat Mayai Leikai to High Court Manipur on May 25.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned Sd/-

Adhikarimayum Priyokumar Sharma S/o. (L)A. Premchandra Sharma

Name Change

I, the undersigned, Blessy Angom do hereby declare that I have renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of my old name Angom Blessy Devi as I have assumed my nev name Blessy Angom.

I therefore declare that I shall be known as Blessy Angom in all my official documents.

Sd/-Blessy Angom Lalambug Makhong, Takhellambam Leikei Imphal West, Manipur

An FIR Filed Against the Driver of the Bus Which Fell in River Claiming Lives of Seven Armymen

IT Correspondent Mumbai, May 30:

An First Investigation Report (FIR) has been registered against the driver Ahmed Shah on charges of negligent driving in a case in which 7 soldiers died and 19 others were injured when a bus in which they were travel-ling fell into a gorge (Shyok river) in the Turtuk sector in Ladakh on Friday.

The FIR has been registered under sections 279 (rash or negligent driving), 337 (causing hurt by an act that endangers human life), and 304-A (causing death by negligence) of the Indian Penal Code at Nubra police station

The soldiers were travelling in a privately hired bus from the transit camp at Partapur to a forward location that comes under Sub Sector Hanif. During transit, the bus skidded off the road and fell into the Shyok river. The bus driver jumped out of the bus seconds before the vehicle fell to a depth of around 50-60 feet. All the occupants sustained injuries, and seven of them were declared dead.

According to police Inspec-tor Stanzin Dorje of Nubra police station prima facie, it appeared to be a case of driver's negligence. The rescue operation was carried out by the Indian Army with the help of Leh Police and locals. Initially, the soldiers were taken to the 403 Field Hospital at Partapur. Surgical teams were brought from Leh to Partapur. Later, the 19 soldiers who had sustained injuries were flown to Western Command Hospital in Chandi Mandir Chandigarh). The condition of the injured soldiers was stable, official sources said.

The Soldiers who lost their lives in the accident were: Subedar Shinde Vijayrao (Satara, Maharashtra), Naib

Subedar Gurudayal Sahu(Betul, Madhya Pradesh), Naik Sandeep Pal (Hazaribagh, Jharkhand), Naik Ramanui Kumar(Patna, Bihar), Naik Jadhav Prashant Shivaji (Kolhapur, Maharashtra) and (Kolhapur, Maharashtra) and Lance Naik Bappaditya Khutia (West Medinipur, West Bengal). In the meanwhile a solemn wreath-laying ceremony was

held at the Maratha Light Infantry Regimental Centre (MLIRC) at Belgaum (Karnataka) on Sunday, to pay tribute to its brave heart Naik Jadhav Prashant Shivaji of 22 Maratha Light Infantry, whose mortal remains were flown in from New Delhi for last rituals at his native place, Basarge, Gadhinglaj in Kolhapur on Sunday.

Wreaths were placed at

MLIRC, by Brigadier Joydeep Mukharji, on behalf of Major General K Narayanan, Col. of the Regiment and General Manoj

Hon'ble Prime Minister's interaction with beneficiaries of schemes/ programmes on 31st May, 2022

The nation is celebrating the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to commemorate the Indian Independence. As a part of this momentous occasion, Hon'ble Prime Minister will interact with the beneficiaries of about sixteen schemes/Progammes spanning nine Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. The list of schemes with whose beneficiaries Hon'ble Prime Minister will interact is attached. The number of beneficiaries of many of the schemes runs in crores and in several cases in tens of crores.

All these schemes address the poorest segments of population; therefore, the event is aptly named as "Garib Kalyan Sammelan". The principal objective of the interaction is not only to understand how these schemes have brought about ease of living for the citizens, but also to explore possibility of convergence and saturation. This will also give an opportunity to assess the citizens' aspiration for India as it completes 100 years of independence in the year 2047.

The Sammelan is one of the largest ever single-event nationwide interaction spanning all districts, wherein Hon'ble Prime Minster will interact with beneficiaries about the impact that the wide-ranging schemes/programmes covering housing, availability of potable water, food, health and nutrition, livelihood and financial inclusion etc.. have had on their lives. These schemes/programmes are

(i) Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (both Grameen & Urban)

(ii) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi

(iii) Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (iv) POSHAN Abhiyan

(v) Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana

(vi) Swachh Bharat Mission (both Grameen & Urban) (vii) Jal Jeevan Mission & AMRUT

(viii) Pradhan Mantri SVANidhi Scheme

(ix) One Nation One Ration Card

(x) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

(xi) Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana (xii) Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre

Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana Noney District is proud to be a part of this August event and has made all the

essary arrangements for the programme to be held at Multipurpose Hall, Longmai Public Ground from 9:30 A.M. onwards (time for commencement). The event will be presided over by Shri Dinganglung Gangmei Hon'ble Chairman, Hill Areas Committee and various public leaders. The District level event will be linked with the National event at 11.00 A.M. when Hon'ble Prime Minister will be live from Shimla interacting with the beneficiaries with the country.

The national level Sammelan is being held at Shimla on 31.05.2022 wherein Hon'ble Prime Minister will directly interact with the beneficiaries. Hon'ble Prime Minister will also release the 11th installment of the Kisan Samman Nidhi. Hon'ble Prime Minister will also interact with some of the beneficiaries spread across the country through videoconferencing.

The national Sammelan will be telecast live through Doordarshan in its national and regional channels. Provisions have also been made to webcast the national programme through MyGov for which people need to register themselves. It can also be viewed through other social media channels viz., YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.

It is expected that this interaction will not only highlight people-centric approach of these schemes leading to ease of living of citizens but will also enlighten the Government on the aspirations of the people and ensure that no one is left behind in the nation's march to progress.

Contd. from Page 2 Eight Years in North.....

Agri-Task force to provide straegic direction to these initiatives will ensure speedy resolution and implementation of the various agri and agri sector allied schemes. Today, we are working closely than ever and building consensus on development of the North East like opment of the North East like never before. An upcoming workshop of Chief Ministers and Chief Secretaries of North Eastern States along with Union Ministers and Secretaries on developmental issues of the North East, is likely to break the ground for a tradition of coop-erative federalism and collective responsibility for development of North East.

The ultimate object of Sushasan with the spirit of Sewa is the welfare of our citizens across economic backgrounds, which makes *Gareeb* Kalyan the fountainhead of it

The government is determined to ensure that welfare schemes reach every corner of the region. Towards this goal, in the past 8 years, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan

Anna Yojana (PM-GKAY) amount more than Rs 10,000 crores and more than Rs 64,000 crores under National Food Security Act (NFSA) have been spent. More than 4 crore ac counts are opened under Jandhan, and over Rs. 39,000 crores were spent under MGNREGA and the coverage of these central flagship schemes for Gareeb Kalvan is being improved every passing day.

This comprehensive approach of good governance is instilling hope and aspirations in the people of the region like never before. Today there is an ambition of making North East the hub of sports in the world. a leading exporter of exotic horticultural products and a hot-bed of Startups while fast be-coming the most attractive tourist destination in India.

Wrapping up the eight vears of transformation, it is now time to brace for the Amrit Kaal and herald a glorious chap-ter of growth for the North East

gon. (The author is a Minister for Culture, Tourism and DoNER, Government of India) Imphal Times

One labourer killed in IED blast, four injured

A labourer was killed and 4 other seriously injured in suspected IED blast today at around 1.14 am, inside a Community Hall at Sapam Mayai Leikai of Khongjom in Thoubal district.

The Labourers were engaged by a water tank construction companies called Koya and GCKC and were

staying at the place.
Initial report said that five persons, all labourers, who were staying at the Commu-nity Hall sustained injury due to the impact of the blast. All the five were immediately evacuated to Thoubal Hospital where one individual succumbed to his injury. Vehicles parked inside the Community Hall were also damage by the impact of the blast.

The deceased has been identified as Pankaj Mahato (21) s/o Nirmal Mahato from Khariatabad of West Bengal.

Those injured are identified as Aroop Mandal (30) s/



o Balram Mandal, South 24 Pargana District, West Bengal, Souvik Patra (18) s/o Babloo Patra from North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, Parganas, west Bengal, Aporva Mandal (25) s/o Samapado Mandal from South 24 Parganas and Rajesh Ramanik (19) s/o Krishno Ramanik.

Kova and Construction Limited Hyderabad has been taking up various develop-

mental project like construction of water tank under water supply scheme of the Public Health Engineering Department (PHED). All machineries are kept at the Community Hall where the blast took

Report added that ten labourers have been staying

at the community Hall.

A team of police led by SP

Jogeshchandra Haobijam rushed the blast site and inspected the situation.A team of Mobile Forensic Unit of Forensic Science Laboratory Manipur along with Bomb Disposal Squad also rushed the site.

The police team cordoned the blast site for forensic inspection and a case has been registered at Khongjom PS for further necessary action

Naga political issue: NSCN (IM) to hold key meeting on May 31 on peace talks

Courtesy: NE Now

The NSCN (I-M) will hold a crucial emergency national assembly meeting in Hebron, the headquarters of the outfit, where the Naga political issue will be discussed.

As per reports, NSCN (IM) general secretary Thuingaleng Muivah will deliver a "politi-

His address would be like

a "report on the Indo-Naga political talks", the sources added.
According to reports,

Muivah's address on May 31 at the NSCN-IM's camp headquarters, there will be a general discussion on the 'Indo Naga Political talks' and the declaration of yow.

to attend the May 31 meeting and the Centre also expects "more clarity" will come on contentious issues such as a Flag

and a separate Naga Consti-

tution.
On Saturday, an important four-hour-long meeting was held between the Nagaland Core Committee of state legislators and an NSCN-IM delegation.

At the meeting on Satur-day near Dimapur, V.S. Atem led the NSCN-IM delegation, while the Core Committee was headed by Minister Neiphiu Rio. Chief

Barish Sharma of BJYM honoured



IT News Imphal, May 30:

The League of Callow Patriots has honoured President of BJYM Manipur Manipur Barish of BJYM Manipur Manoharmayum Barish Sharma by giving him the title

"Manipur Mapari Athouba" (Brave Son of Manipur) in recognition to his essence of Patriotism.

The League of Callow Patriots also condemn the con-version of Thangjing to Thangjing and encroachers to the Reserve Forest and protected forest by vested inter-ested individuals .

The League of Callow Patriots also urged the authority to implement NRC and to es-tablished Population Commis-

Active COVID-19 cases in India rise to 17,698; 2,706 new coronavirus cases recorded

Agency New Delhi, May 30:

The Union Health Ministry on Monday said that the active COVID-19 cases has increased to 17,698. With 2,706 new coronavirus infections being recorded in a day. India's total tally of COVID-19 cases rose to 4,31,55,749.

Active cases now constitute 0.04 per cent of the country's total positive cases. The death toll climbed to 5,24,611 as 25 more people succumbed due to the contagious virus.

2,070 recoveries were reported in the last 24 hours, taking the total recoveries to 4,26,13,440, the 8 am data leased by the health ministry

The Union health ministry stated that the daily the weekly positivity rate in the country currently stands at 0.58 per cent and the daily positivity rate is reported to be 0.97 per

The Centre informed that a total of 85 crore COVID rests have bene conducted so far, out of which 2,78,267 tests

were done in the last 24 hours. India's COVID-19 vaccination coverage exceeded 193.31 crore (1,93,31,57,352) as per provisional reports till 7 am to-

day.

COVID-19 vaccination for the age group 12-14 years was started on March 16, 2022. So far, more than 3.38 crore (3.38.07.441) adolescents have been administered with the first

dose of COVID-19 vaccine. Similarly, the COVID-19 pre-caution dose administration for age group 18-59 years also started from April 10, 2022 onwards, the Union health ministry reported.

More than 193.53 crore (1,93,53,58,865) vaccine doses have been provided to states/ UTs so far through central government and through di-rect state procurement category. More than 15.56 crore (15,56,02,270) balance and unutilised COVID vaccine doses are still available with the states/UTs to be adminis-tered, the MoHFW stated in

As per the latest update, a total of 5.24.611 deaths have been reported across the country so far. Of the total fatalities, Maharashtra accounted for 1,47,859 deaths, Kerala 69,723, Karnataka 40,106, Tamil Nadu, Delhi 26,208, Uttar Pradesh 23,519 and West Bengal 21,204.

India's vaccine coverage has reached 193.31 crore doses. Over 3.38 crore first doses and over 1.60 crore second doses have been administered for the age group of 12 to 14. Over 5.94 crore first doses and more than 4.96 crore second doses have been given to the 15 to 18 age group. Meanwhile, over 3.25 crore precaution doses (booster shots) have been given to people above 60 years of age, healthcare workers, and frontline workers.

685 qualify civil services exam 2021, Shruti Sharma topper: UPSC

Agency New Delhi, May 30:

Shruti Sharma has topped the civil services examination 2021, results of which were announced by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)

As many as 685 candidates

have qualified the prestigious test, it said, without sharing further details of candidates

While Shruti Sharma has topped the examination, Ankita Agarwal and Gamini Singla have secured the second and third rank, respectively, the Commission said.

nation is conducted annually by the UPSC in three stages preliminary, main and interview to select officers of the Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Foreign Service (IFS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) among

Sports

Gujarat Titans win IPL title in maiden season, beat Rajasthan Royals by seven wickets in final

Agency Chennai, May 30:

How good is his tactical nous? Is he fully fit? Can he bowl four overs regularly? Will this be the platform for his India comeback? Such were t questions around Gujarat Titans captain Hardik Pandya at the start of the IPL season. The concerns over his fitness only grew as he missed a game after the Titans' first four matches due to stiffness, with Rashid Khan stepping in for him.

But Hardik did not let any of it affect him. It's been a dominating ride for the Titans since as the all-rounder shattered all the questions that were posed over his performance and fit-ness, leading his side to the title in their first-ever season. How about this for trivia? Gujarat's first game at their home ground — Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad was the final of the fifteenth edition of the IPL. And on an evening where over 1 lakh assembled in the arena for the final against Rajasthan Royals, it was Pandya - a crowd



who ensured a fairytale finish for his side. It couldn't get any better than

On Sunday, as the extravaganza of Ranveer Singh followed by an electric performance of AR Rahman ensured an entertaining closing ceremony, it did not take long for cricket to take centre stage. Both teams got what they

wanted at the toss and right from ball one. Mohammed Shami kept the Royals opening duo in check.

Yashasyi Jaiswal (22 off 16) went rogue, trying to buy some time for Jos Buttler to settle in. and so did Sanju Samson. While the most anticipated battle of the match, the experienced Rajasthan duo versus Rashid Khan provided for some enthralling contest, after eight overs (59/1) both teams hadn't seized the initiative. But something was brewing.

Hardik - who had bowled bits and pieces throughout the season — brought himself on to tackle his counterpart Samson, who's been playing a brand of cricket very few Indian batters have dared. But the Titans' skipper had stuck

to his strengths, angling one into Samson, who miscued it and took the long walk back after an 11-ball 14.

His tight over against Devdutt Padikkal meant that the southpaw tried to take out Rashid and perished. Rajasthan were 79/3 after 12, with Buttler batting at 39 off 35. But all signs up until then indicated that it was going to be Hardik's day. A tentative poke from the Englishman outside off-stump that moved a tiny bit away meant that the contest was all but over for Rajasthan. Hardik would dismiss

Shimron Hetmyer too, finishing with 3/17 in his four overs. Rajasthan scrapped their way to 130/9, but it was all-out domination from Guiarat and their skipper Hardik on the day that mattered the most.

In reply, Rajasthan started off well with the ball, getting rid off Matthew Wade and rid off Matthew Wade and Wriddhiman Saha. Hardik built a partnership with Shubman Gill before getting out for 34. However, David Miller took Titans across the line.

State Handloom Expo 2022-2023 concluded



IT News Imphal, May 30:

The 14 days long State Handloom Expo 2022-2023's closing function is held on 30th May of 2022 at Urban Haat, Nilakhuthi, Imphal East, Manipur. It is orga-nized by Manipur Apex Handloom Weaver And Handicrafts Artisan C.S. Ltd. (AWAS) Imphal and sponsored by O/o Development Commissioner (Handloom), Ministry of Textile, Govt of India, New Delhi.

In the closing function Na-tional Awardee, Wahengbam Saya Devi and S. Bhubol Singh, the Vice- President of Manipur Apex Handloom Weaver And Handicrafts Artisan C.S. Ltd. (AWAS) attended as Chief Guest and President of this function. The Guest of Honour of closing function are M. Ibohal Singh,

Assistance Director,(Weaving) Weaving Service Centre, Ministry of Textile, Govt of India, Porompat, Imphal East, Manipur and Th. Ibemcha Devi, Project Manager District Handloom and Textile Churachandpur District, Govt of Manipur and also Ch. Mandakini Devi, Managing Director, AWAS.

Indira Devi , Board Member, Manipur Apex Handloom Weaver And Handicrafts Arti-san C.S. Ltd. (AWAS), Paona Bazar, Imphal gives welcome address and key notes of this closing function and she Stated that she wanted appealed to BJP government for being better Handloom and Handicrafts Level. So, she want to big deal from Government for Hospital bed sheets and