

State Congress urges action against CM N. Biren Singh on corruption charges

IT News
Imphal, May 8:

Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) has demanded action against Chief Minister N. Biren Singh on corruption charges.

Talking to reporters at Congress Bhavan today afternoon, General Secretary of the MPCC, P Sharatchandra said that the Chief Minister had openly stated that crores of rupees were spent in the concluded 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election in a public function.

"Chief Minister N. Biren Singh was heard asking MLA Sushindro about how many crores of rupees were spent during his election", P Saratchandra told media persons.

He said as per the ECI election expenditure cannot cross Rs. 28 lakhs per can-



didate. And as the Chief Minister Himself had stated that crores of rupees were spent during the election, the DGP of Manipur should talk action against the CM on corruption charge. He

further said that if the DGP fails to take action the Congress party will move to the Supreme Court.

"The Congress party will move to Supreme Court as we have proof of large scale of

money being spent by the BJP after the Chief Minister himself had stated that in public function", Saratchandra said and added that the MPCC will take the matter to the Supreme Court.

Public meeting in connection with Thangjing Hill to be organized on May 14

IT News
Imphal, May 8:

Various Civil society organizations of the state has resolved to organize a public meeting on May 14 at 1 pm at Moirang in Bishnupur district in connection with the press statement by KuKi Student Organisation (KSO) Henglep press statement at which the student body warns to stop tree plantation at Thangjing Hill range.

The decision to organize the public meeting was taken in a meeting held today morning under the aegis of the Committee on Protection & Preservation of Koubru and Thangjing Hill range

(CPPKT).

Representatives of the Kabui Union Manipur, Kabui Student Union, Salai Kanba Lup, Keke Moirang Kangleiroi Kanba Lup, Keke Moirang Kendra Apunba Lup and Federation of Haomee attended the meeting which was presided by the convener of the Committee, Sapamcha Jadumani.

The meeting deliberated to the press statement of the KSO Henglep which warns the civil society or organization from planting trees at Thangjing Hill range without the permission of the Kuki Chiefs. Thangjing Hill is a secrete site Indigenous Manipuri

communities since time memorial.

In view of the mass deforestation taking place at the Thangjing Hill range, various organizations including the members of the State BJP led by its president A Sharda Devi had started plantation drives in the Hill areas. All of a sudden, that is on May 5, the KSO Henglep had released a press statement to stop the tree plantation drive at the Hill range.

Many civil bodies had denounced the KSO statement. The CPPKT had appealed to the people to attend the meeting to protect the Thangjing Hill range.

Entrepreneurs invest 8 lakhs to Documentary Projects



IT News
Imphal, May 8:

Curtains came down to the 4th edition of the Documenter Imphal series jointly organized by Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS), and Documentary Resource Initiative (DRI) yesterday with a simple cash award distribution where a total of Rs 8 lakhs were handed over to 8 documentary filmmakers.

Beyond the Trials a documentary film project on ex-

treme sport as an expression of freedom by Khaba Maimon was conferred the Best Project bagging the highest carry an award of Rs. 2.5 lakhs. On the Crossroad on the issues confronting the State regarding the transition from the Bengali script to Meitei Mayek by James Khangenbam and Battlefield Imphal were conferred the Promisingly Culturally engaged project and Promisingly Socially engaged project respectively with cash awards of Rs 1.5 lakhs each.

Five other documentary film projects – Andro Dreams (Meena Longjam), Anonymous Dance (Tushar Nongthombam), Eche Sharmila (Manoj Kshetrimayum), Bidyapati – The Lady Everest Summitter (Paonam Birjeet) and We are the Water (Grace Rephung L) were also conferred project development cash awards carrying Rs 50 thousand each.

The entrepreneurs who jointly supported the projects are Dr. Thangjam Dhabali, MD

of Babina Healthcare & Hospitality, Wahengbam Braja, an avid Art collector and the founder of Kid Foundation, a private kid day care school, Konica Khuraijam, an enterprising educationist and lover of Arts and Radheshyam Oinam, the proprietor of Network Services.

This is for the very first time in the history of documentary film finance in the country where local entrepreneurs who have no technical film background have come forward in support of the local documentary filmmakers, to help realize their dream documentary projects by committing Rs 8 lakhs to realize the documentary films developed during the 5-day Incubation & Mentorship Lab called Documentor Imphal, jointly organized by MSFDS and DRI Kolkata. Four acclaimed documentary film mentors from India were behind shaping of the documentary projects where eight documentary film projects and 8 observers took part.

MLA Chinlunthang inspects site for construction of Water Supply source for Singhat AC



IT News
CCpur, May 8:

MLA of Singhat Assembly constituency, Chinlunthang along with a team of PHED Churachandpur had inspected site for construction of a permanent and reliable water supply sources from the Tuitha (Khuga) river near Teikot village for the people of Singhat in general and its surrounding areas in particular on Friday afternoon.

Singhat has since time immemorial been plagued by acute and intermexine water problems and successive attempts made by peoples representative from the Assembly constituency has been falsified due apparently to either its geographical location or for lack of viable and practicable policy for the purpose.

Accompanying the MLA comprises CSO leaders from Singhat besides Public Health Engineering Department, Churachandpur PHE-Division John Thanglienmang EE, L

Paulungmuan AE; Haukhansiam SO and Lalingdik SO.

Sources from CSO leaders informed the main sources of obtaining drinking water and for other purposes by the residents of Singhat are few of the borewells constructed during his preceding days and as it has not been enough to meet requirements Singhat people bought water from suppliers by paying Rs 100 per 300 litres. This has to be fetched by suppliers covering long distances.

The MLA on his part expressed his grief and concern about the plight of Singhat residents with respect to procuring water enough to be used and appraised the people stating all possible efforts are taken in collaboration with the PHED and depending on the availability of funds construction shall be taken up soon.

John Thanglienmang EE/ PHED Churachandpur informed close on the heels of survey conducted Friday ,in-depth

study shall be taken up further in consultation with experts and determine as to whether it would be possible to materialise expressing hope the result would turn out to be positive

The Tuitha (Khuga river) near Teikot is about 5 kms from Singhat proper areas and if the plan would succeed, direct benefits would be received by residents of Singhat and its surrounding areas like Muvanlai, Tangpjoj, Lhancha, Belpuan, Sumchin, Muallum and others .

Thereafter the MLA further surveyed the conditions of the Singhat residential school construction which is underway and give strong instructions to concerned officials present at the occasion to speed up works and ensure its early completion.

It may be mentioned, the residential school construction was taken up from February 2019 and as of now hardly 30 percent was completed. The School has as many as 18 components added the sources.

PPFA expresses concern over ULFA(I)'s claim of execution, demands government to take serious note

IT Correspondent
Guwahati, May 8:

Patriotic People's Front Assam (PPFA) has expressed grave concern over the news relating to the execution of two Assamese youths by the separatist militant outfit with the conviction of spying for Assam police and demanded the government to take a serious note out of its serious implication. The forum of nationalist citizens also urged the media outlets, precisely the news channels, not to glorify the United Liberation Front of Assam (Independent) for its illogical actions.

Mentionable is that the banned outfit has claimed on

Saturday morning that it has punished two of its young cadres with capital punishment. In a statement sent to media houses, the ULFA(I) claimed that their judicial organ found Sanjiv Sarma and Dhanjit Das guilty of spying for the police and hence both of them were executed in their hideouts. Both Sanjiv (hailing from Baihata Chairail) and Dhanjit from Barpeta in western Assam were new recruits of the outfit. The ULFA(I) asserted that both the victims confessed their crimes (of spying) and so they were pronounced as guilty in the trial held in May first week.

ULFA (I) military chief Paresh Barua, while speaking

to some city-based satellite news channels, stated that the crime of Sanjiv and Dhanjit was unpardonable under the outfit's constitution. So they were punished by the judicial council and accordingly executed on Saturday morning. The outfit also released two video clippings where Sanjiv and Dhanjit confessed their crime of secretly working for the police and asserted that ULFA (I) is a revolutionary organization (not a terror outfit).

"Both the victims read out the lines (in Assamese) definitely under the gun point. Looking at their eyes, anyone can realize it. But shockingly the news channels continue

telecasting the videos as if the ULFA(I) did nothing wrong with punishing both the Assamese youths," said the PPFA statement, adding that the government (precisely the police department) should make a statement over the matter. For any reason, no one should be allowed (not to speak of glorifying the act by a section of local media) to take someone's life under the verdict of a kangaroo court. PPFA also appeals to the conscious people of Assam to raise their voices for justice to the victims and stand against the murder of any individual in pursuit of a so-called movement for a separate homeland for Assamese out of India.

Around 13 AANLA cadres lay down arms in Karbi Anglong

Agency
Guwahati, May 8:

At least cadres of a militant group surrendered at Bokajan police station in Assam's Karbi Anglong district on Sunday.

These cadres belong to a militant group named All Adivasi National Liberation Army

(AANLA).

Taking to micro-blogging site Twitter, Assam Special DGP, GP Singh informed the same and tweeted, "Moved by call of peace by @himanabiswa ji, 13 cadres of militant group AANLA left path of violence today in presence of @assampolice @official_dgar

@crpfndia officials at Bokajan PS @karbianglongpol."

Notably, in January too, as many as 246 militants who belonged to United Gorkha Peoples' Organization (UGPO) and Tiwa Liberation Army (TLA) had surrendered before Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Motherhood: A symbol of Love



By: Fr Paul Lelen Haokip

Motherhood is another 'term' for 'love without measure'. At least a day is set aside globally to acknowledge the sacrifice of mothers for their children and husbands. Mothers' Day is just a minuscule gratitude gesture. Good mothers are the epitome of love and sacrifice, while unfaithful mothers may counter represent God's love for humanity. Finding a good mother almost equals finding God.

Advice from Sirach

The book of Sirach was written in about 180 BC in Jerusalem. This book contains pragmatic ways to live righteous and civic life. Sirach vividly exposes children's duty towards their parents - Children, listen to me; I am your father. Do what I tell you and you will be safe, for the Lord has given fathers authority over their children and given chil-

dren the obligation to obey their mothers. If you respect your father, you can make up for your sins, and if you honour your mother, you are earning great wealth. If you respect your father, your own children will make you happy; the Lord will hear your prayers. If you obey the Lord by honouring your father and making your mother happy, you will live a long life. Obey your parents as if you were their slave. Honour your father in everything you do and say so that you may receive his blessing. When parents give their blessing, they give strength to their children's homes, but when they curse their children, they destroy the very foundations. Never seek honour for yourself at your father's expense; it is not to your credit if he is dishonoured. Your own honour comes from the respect that you show to your father. If children do not honour their mothers, it is their own disgrace. My child, take care of your father when he grows old; give him no cause for worry as long as he lives. Be sympathetic even if his mind fails him; don't look down on him just because you are strong and healthy. The Lord will not forget the kindness you show to your father; it will help you make up for your sins. When you are in trouble, the Lord will remember your kindness and will help you; your sins will melt away like frost in warm sunshine. Those who abandon their

parents or give them cause for anger may as well be cursing the Lord; they are already under the Lord's curse (Sirach 3:1-16).

Mother's Love

Mothers may rarely say, 'I love you, my child,' but their actions of sacrifice and dedication are outward symbols of their eternal love. Mothers speak less but express more in their actions. "We should remember that saying 'I love you' is only a beginning. We need to say it, we need to mean it, and most importantly, we need to consistently show it. We need to both express and demonstrate love" (David A. Bednar).

More than once, more than one person has explained and narrated the four-letter word "LOVE". Each perception is, of course, diverse. This word has a deep meaning, and its scope for the interpretation seems to widen the more we try to define it. Despite the already existent thousand explanations not entirely accepted definitions of love, I would like to add another description. For me, love would mean sharing myself with another person - my mental, spiritual and physical resources. This sharing of spiritual and material resources is best seen in a mother's love for her children. The feelings and emotions evoked by the presence or absence of someone whom we love are still in the realm beyond verbal expression. But that is part of love.



Love involves Sacrifice

To say "I Love You" to any breathing being would entail costs beyond description. It demands sacrifice, patience and adjustment with the other individual. To say I love someone is like saying I am ready to be stretched, sacrificed and wounded. It is an expression of willingness to go the extra mile to be informed more about them. It is an awareness that life is too short not to make the best use of it for another person. To share oneself entirely with at least another person before the last whistle for exit (death) would be one of the most meaning-

ful ventures of life on earth. It would be an actual achievement in life. This sort of love, most mothers impart to their children.

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hope, always perseveres. Love never fails (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). If you have already experienced love from your parents, well-wishers, teachers and friends, it is time you

extend those blessings to others as well.

If we want good mothers, we need to train up our children in the proper way. We need to educate our daughters, empower them and make them self-sufficient. We need to encourage and protect all women so that we have healthy and enlightened mothers. We pray for good daughters who would become good mothers for a decent society.

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Home Schooling in India



By: Vijay GarG

Home Schooling in India is a form of alternative education in which education is provided to children at home by parents or by tutors rather than in public or private schools. This conforms to the prevalence of similar homeschooling option for parents in many countries. But it does not conform to the same approaches, attitude, practices, and trends found elsewhere in the world. The highlight of this article is as such directed towards home education or home-based learning in India. Home education in India is offered by various agencies enabling an increase in the resources for imparting and promoting education. Some of these are in the form of associations, education providers, support groups forums etc.

Most of these are active on the internet and that is why they remain largely unknown to the common people. Moreover, homeschooling is more prominent in major urban Indian cities, like Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, New Delhi and Pune. In other parts of India, homeschooling has only a minimal presence. The estimated number of homeschoolers has been put to 500-1000 children as per the Home School Legal Defense Association (HSLDA), a non-profit advocacy organization working for the education of children.

To begin, homeschooling is initiated when a family decides to teach their child at home and a parent assumes responsibility for the formal instruction of his or her child. Whether they resort to private tutors, later on, is a different matter. Next step is securing funds, choosing curriculum content, and determining the gradation and progress of the child. This practice makes this type of schooling associated with the term 'privatization of education' as parents or guardians provide their children with a learning environment as an alternative to public or private schools

outside the home. Before the introduction of compulsory school attendance laws, most childhood education occurred within the family or community. Homeschooling isn't a recent or a sudden development in India. Indian History itself reveals various such examples wherein Shishyas (students) were taught by Gurus (teachers) conforming to the tradition of Guru-Shishya. Shishyas were taught a wide range of subjects like administration, combat, politics, sports etc. While some of this education was provided by experts, some were also provided by Sages within the premises of the house. Homeschooling in India, in the modern sense, is different.

Home School Education in India: How it works?

There are fixed rules for home education in India if a candidate appears for examinations. Parents use a curriculum prescribed by NIOS or ICSE and then appear for the examinations. Children can even take examinations as private candidates at a regular school.

Second way follows a liberal approach; parents may design their own curriculum by referring to syllabi of different boards. It is up to the parents or their children to decide whether they want to register with a board and appear for examinations.

Main Bodies that are involved in the Academic Study of Homeschoolers in India

NIOS
National Institute of Open Schooling is a board of an open school in India. It provides relevant continuing education at school stage, up to pre-degree level through open learning system. Homeschoolers can directly use NIOS to take the exams for class X and XII. They are only required to register with the body a year before they want to take the exam. Certificates issued by NIOS carry the same recognition as other Boards and are valid for taking competitive exams.

ICSE: International General Certificate of Secondary Education is an internationally recognized qualification for school students, typically in the 15-16 age group.

The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) is a globally recognized qualification, conducted at the Class 10 level, similar to the Class 10 examinations of

the CBSE and ICSE.
IGCSE Courses
Cambridge Primary (CIPP): 5 - 11 years

Cambridge Secondary 1 (Lower Secondary/Checkpoint): 11 - 14 years
Cambridge Secondary 2 (IGCSE/O level): 14 - 16 years
Cambridge Advanced (AS/A level): 16 - 19 years

A candidate can appear for the IGCSE exams as a private candidate. IGCSE is conducted by two boards: Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) and Edexcel.

For appearing in the examinations, one has to register his kid as a private candidate in an IGCSE school. One can also take the examinations at the specified CIE exam centre, which could be British Council in Kolkata as it is the only CIE exam centre. For more information visit - <http://www.cie.org.uk/countries/india/>

Homeschooling in India: Methods

Homeschooling system in India uses a variety of methods and materials which may follow the prescribed regulations or a mixture of any as per the intelligence and preference of children and/or parents. Most of the common methods used in India are the Montessori Method, Un-schooling, Radical Un-schooling, Waldorf education and School.

Apart from the Major Methods, Parents/Children use some Techniques Mentioned below:

Self Study: If a student is intelligent and independent self-study is encouraged. Children are encouraged to figure out things by themselves and find pleasure in learning new things.

Practical Study: Parents/tutors use a practical approach or use routine based activities to educate the child. Morals, manners, speaking, reading etc. are taught with practical examples.

Personalised Study: Parents/teachers opt for not following a structured timetable or a prescribed course. Textbooks maybe partially followed or rejected altogether. Some parents will allow more attention to those subjects which are favourites or which are easy based on their kids choice. The tough ones and boring ones are given less attention to allow specialisation.

Various types of course material and educational tools are used to

wards this effect. Some of these are Educational CDs, Games, Magazines, Television Programmes, Websites or any other preferred or suitable material.

Home Schooling Education in India: International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE), Pune Homeschoolers Group.

These resources work in favour of homeschooling education in India in any possible and legal manner which includes communicating, consultations, holding events and other beneficial and supportive activities.

Legality of Home schooling in India

Education comes under the Right to Education (RTE) Act which came into effect on April 1, 2010. The act makes it mandatory for every child, from 6 to 14 years, to be enrolled in a formal school. However, there is controversy regarding the legal status of homeschooling in India. This controversy started when Shreya Sahai, a 14-year-old girl filed a petition in 2011 through her mother, contending that - "Section 18 of RTE Act does not recognise any other mode of imparting education except the one through formal schooling". The petition further sought a direction to include home-schooling and alternative education schools under the 'specified category' under Section 2(P) of the RTE Act.

In response, the Centre filed an affidavit in the Delhi High Court in July 2012. As per the affidavit "Parents who voluntarily opt for systems of home-schooling and such alternative forms of schooling may continue to do so. The RTE Act does not come in the way of such schooling methodologies or declare such form of education illegal." The affidavit, also said, "National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) for children in the age group of 6-14 years will only be allowed to run up to 2015".

But in October 2012, the Union government stated before a division bench of the Delhi High Court, that "Its earlier stand towards home education was incorrect and contrary to Section 10 of the Act". The court has given time to the Centre to file a new affidavit towards this statement. Technically speaking, until a final decision is made towards this issue, "Homeschooling in India is not allowed as per the RTE Act as of December 2012. But taking a close look

at the RTE Act reveals another facet. RTE document does not refer to homeschooling or neither does it make clear on it being illegal. The act is more focused on the duty of the state in regulating education. With reference to a Homeschooling website - <http://homeschoolers.in/is-homeschooling-illegal>, the assumption of the illegality of homeschooling is quite in contradiction with Article 26 of Universal Declaration of Human Rights which clearly states that - "Parents have a prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children." So how can homeschooling be illegal?

Home Schooling in India: Promoting Factors

Different parents and/or children have different reasons for choosing to homeschool as an option for educating their siblings. These reasons are also the contributing factors towards this type of education.

Dissatisfaction with Conventional System of Education: The conventional system of Indian Education is flawed in a major way as opined by the majority of citizens. The Indian Education system prepares students for appearing in examinations rather than preparing them for the real world. Parents are not happy with the education they themselves have got from the education system. They have lost faith in the education system and feel that they can provide a better education at home.

Flexibility: Flexibility is another major promoting factor for homeschooling. Parents or kids can decide what they want to study and when they want to study. Flexible schedule of the study also allows more socialisation within or outside the house. One can decide independently how much study is enough or deficient. This way the child learns at his own pace and can avoid stress related to the pace of covering syllabus.

Disabilities: For children with learning disorders homeschooling is a better option. Such kids will not face any sort of discriminatory or derogatory act. Parents have a better knowledge of their own as compared to teachers who could be partially or totally unaware of what matters the most. Certain mental or physical disabilities also encourage homeschooling.

contd. on page 3

Sunday Poetry

Life goes on...

By: Irom Calvin

Learn to say please, sorry and thank you,
Life goes on, and the days we live are very few.
Focus on the dreams you wish to pursue
Ultimately friends and family are your crew.

The dew drops of rain,
Washes away all the pain.
There exists a new life,
Where all worries are cut with a knife.

The shining rainbow in the sky,
Gives us courage to aim high.
The bright colours of the rainbow,
Makes us smile with a glow.

The step you take may or may not be wrong.
In life, pains are worries that come along.
So, stay awake, alert and strong
Because sadness will not prolong.

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India reports 3,451 new Covid-19 cases; Maha sees marginal rise in cases

Agency
New Delhi, May 8:

India logged 3,451 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,31,02,194, while the active cases rose to 20,635, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Sunday. The death toll climbed to 5,24,064 with 40 fresh fatalities, the data updated at 8 am stated. The active cases comprise 0.05 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate was recorded at 98.74 per cent, the ministry said.

An increase of 332 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours. The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.96 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 0.83 per cent, according to the ministry.

Here are the latest updates on Covid-19:

- India records its deaths due to Covid through a transparent and legal process and does not agree to the WHO's estimate of Covid mortality for the country, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Saturday. He also said the 14th Conference of Central Council of Health & Family Welfare (CCHFV) passed a resolution in this regard.

- Delhi recorded 1,407 new Covid cases and two more fatalities, while the positivity rate dropped to 4.72 percent. A total of 29,821 tests to detect coronavirus were conducted in Delhi a day before. Delhi recorded 1,656 Covid-19 cases and zero fatality due to the infection on Friday, highest since February 4.

- Telangana on Saturday recorded 42 new COVID-19 cases taking the tally to 7,92,295. Hyderabad reported the highest number of cases with 29.

- Mumbai on Saturday added 172 COVID-19 cases to its tally, which reached 10,60,606, while the death toll remained unchanged at 19,563, a civic official said. So far, 10,40,259 persons have been discharged post recovery, including 94 during the day, leaving the metropolis with an active caseload of 784, he said.

- Maharashtra on Saturday reported 253 new COVID-19 cases, highest since the last week of March, and one death, the state health department said. It took the infection tally in the state to 78,79,054 and death toll to 1,47,846. On March 25, 2022, the state had reported 275 new cases.

- Karnataka on Saturday reported 171 fresh Covid-19 cases taking the total infections to 39,48,635 while there were zero fatalities, the health department said.

China box office a jackpot for Indian Cinema

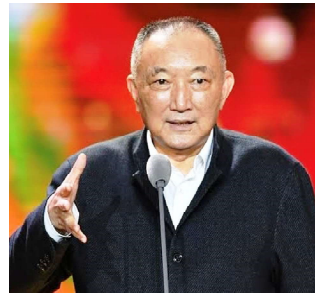
IT Correspondent
Chennai, May 8:

With the huge rise in the ticket collections of the Chinese box office it has been lately observed and seen that the Chinese people have special love for the Indian movies specially the South Indian films. Be it any budget, the Chinese love South Indian films. Just dub it in Chinese language and release it and it goes to a jackpot all the time.

South Indian cinema has been phenomenal all the time even better than Bollywood as far as the theatre and box office collections are concerned. But now as you add the total collections of China the film producer is highly secured and feels like winning a lottery ticket.

Apart from the South Indian film industry many Bollywood films have earned a jackpot in China.

Releasing the film in China is also not an easy task for every film distributor sitting in India looking at the present scenario. So the film distribution houses choose their releasing gateway from Dubai, Kuwait, Malaysia and Japan. Well known film distributors like Peter Mendonca, Nagarjuna, Jay Mehta and Mohalal have always released their films in China in a big way earning millions. They have offices either in Dubai, Malaysia, Kuwait or London. Even the British Film Industry releases their films in China ei-



Han Sanping



Peter Mendonca

ther through London or through Dubai. Says Mohanlal, "Chinese market is the future".

Peter Mendonca has earned more than 18,000 crores INR just by dubbing South Indian films and releasing them in Chinese. Says Peter, "The Chinese film industry is a jackpot".

Chinese people love to watch South Indian films and Bollywood. They have special linkings for the South Indian film industry. Chinese love horror, thrillers and also love stories made in South Indian languages and dubbed in Chinese. Earning 1000-2000 crore INR in China alone from a South Indian film is a very easy reality nowadays even for a small budget film.

The overseas trade consisted of the traditional market, which extended to mainly the African countries, where a

huge Indian diaspora had settled, UK, Middle East, South East Asia and smaller countries such as Fiji, Mauritius and such. Even South America was a sizable market. But CHINA is the JACKPOT.

China has more than 80,000 cinemas and, as things stand today, they are starved of content. Chinese cinema has the highest annual ticket sales with more than 1,650 million tickets sold with each ticket costing a minimum 80-120 Yuan (900-1400 INR). The deal is loaded in favour of China. When China acquires an Indian film, it is through the state agency, China Film Group Corporation owned by Han Sanping, which retains 50 per cent; 25 percent goes to the cinema screening the film and balance 25 percent comes to the Indian filmmaker. Han Sanping is a well known pro-

ducer and distributor of China. Whatever is the case, the conclusion is that the Indian film, especially the South Indian film, makes a minimum 1000-2000 crore INR per movie only in ticket sales in China.

Some of the well known film distributors who release their films in China are Sony Pictures, Sun Pictures, Miramax, Paramount Pictures, IFC Films, CBS Films, IMAX Films, Entertainment Studios Motion Pictures, Annapurna Pictures, Peter Mendonca Films, Music Box Films, National Geographic Entertainment, Great India Films, IDP Distribution, China Lion Film Distribution, Viva Entertainment, Reliance Big Pictures, Yashraj Films, Big Pictures, Chicago Releasing, Palm Pictures, Zee Studios, Manhattan Pictures International, Rainbow Releasing, Fun Academy Motion Pictures etc.

India doesn't agree to WHO's estimate of Covid deaths, Says Union Health Minister Mandaviya

Agency
New Delhi, May 8:

India records its deaths due to Covid through a transparent and legal process and does not agree to the WHO's estimate of Covid mortality for the country, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on Saturday. He also said the 14th Conference of the Central Council of Health & Family Welfare (CCHFV) passed a resolution in this regard.

The resolution was passed on the second day of the three-day CCHFV - 'Swasthya Chintab Shivir', which concluded here on Saturday. Mandaviya said the registration of births and deaths in the country is extremely robust and is governed by the decades-old statutory legal framework the Births and Deaths Registration Act, 1969. "On the 2nd day of the conference of the CCHFV yesterday we have passed a resolution that we do not agree to the

WHO's estimate of Covid mortality for India," he said, referring to the WHO estimate of 4.7 million Covid-related deaths in India.

"India records its deaths through a transparent and legal process. All the states and union territories provided correct and authentic data to the registry," he said. Appreciating the participation of around 25 health and medical education ministers in the 'Swasthya Chintan Shivir', Mandaviya said, "we have been enriched by the deep insight of knowledge due to presentation of best practices by states." He further stated that all states have shared one best practice, so now we have more than 25 best practices to learn from and implement across the country. The goals of the center and states are complementary. It is the goal of the state which would define policymaking at the central level.

Highlighting the importance of working in the spirit

of cooperative federalism, Mandaviya stated that "states goals provide us national goals". "They provide us roadmap for various policies. The Swasthya Shivir has laid the foundation of a 'Healthy Family' for the country. Let's resolve and take a pledge to ensure the best implementation of health policies for the well-being of our citizens to fulfill the aim of Antyodaya. The citizen in the last mile should be our priority for delivery of health services," he stated. The minister emphasized that "health is not commerce but a seva for us. We are committed to promoting medical tourism and 'Heal by India' and 'Heal in India' are the two vital pillars of our health ecosystem in the years to come which will position India as a global health leader."

Mandaviya appealed to everyone to "join the soon to be launched 'TB Patient/Village Adoption' scheme where everyone can adopt TB pa-

tients and ensure their well-being, people nourishment, timely diagnosis and prompt treatment". "This will contribute immensely to our goal of TB-Free India by 2025", he stated.

Mandaviya also invited collaboration for the national initiative for clearing the backlog of cataract surgery. He urged state ministers to popularise teleconsultation through e-Sanjeevani. The Union minister requested state ministers to popularise and expedite the implementation of ABHA - Ayushman Bharat Health Account in the states. Mandaviya informed that this conference has provided sector-based targets for Union and State governments including those for TB-Free India and clearing backlogs of cataract surgeries, noting that "we need Jan Bhagidari for accomplishing health goals". He also stated that a dedicated campaign would be started to undertake cataract operations from June 1.

A Pakistani Drone Fired at International Border in Jammu

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, May 08

The Border Security Force (BSF) fired several rounds at a Pakistani drone in the Arnia sector in Jammu and made it to beat a retreat on late Saturday evening, a BSF spokesman said.

"A drone from the Pakistan side was observed coming towards the Indian side in the Arnia area at 7.25 pm with blinking light. The alert BSF troops fired around eight rounds to shoot down the drone immediately after it crossed into the Indian side, but it managed to fly back.

Deputy Inspector General of BSF, Jammu Frontier, S P Sandhu said adding that the whole area was cordoned off and a search operation is underway to ensure that there is no airdropping of the payload by the drone.

On Saturday, the drone activity was noticed three days after the BSF detected an underground cross-border tunnel

in the Chak Faquia area of the Samba district. On May 04, the BSF detected a cross-border tunnel originating inside Chak Faquia, Samba, thereby foiling nefarious designs of Pak-based terrorists to disrupt the upcoming Amarnath Yatra.

Pakistani intrusion continues

The Pakistani drones have continued to intrude the Indian territory and there have been many incidents of drone intrusion in the last two years. Nov 28, 2020: A Pakistani drone was spotted by the BSF in the Arnia sector along the 198 km-long international borders.

June 27, 2021: Two explosives-laden drones crashed into the Indian Air Force station at Jammu airport in the early hours leading to two low-intensity explosions in the technical area of Jammu Air Force Station. One caused minor damage to the roof of a building while the other exploded in an open area.

June 28, 2021: Army per-

sonnel spotted and fired at two drones found hovering over the Kaluchak military station along the Jammu Pathankot National Highway on the intervening night of June 27-June 28, 2021.

July 02, 2021: The BSF personnel fired at a small hexacopter when it was trying to cross International Border in the Arnia sector. July 24, 2021: J & K police shot down one drone, carrying a five kg improvised explosive device in the Kanachak area.

On February 24: The Special Operations Group (SOG) and Jammu police recovered arms and ammunition dropped by the Pakistani drone in the Arnia area. March 05: The BSF fired at a suspected Pakistani drone in Jammu's Arnia area of RS Pura sector in Jammu district, in the wee hours.

Drones can have significant economic implications, including the ability to deliver supplies, provide reconnaissance and serve as elements of attack and defence.

Contd. from Page 2 Home Schooling in...

Less Stress: The prevalent education system in India puts a lot of performance pressure on kids. Those who do not perform well are condemned and those who are naughty are punished. Various competitive examinations in India and their accompanying pre and pro processes have an overbearing effect on those involved. Stress, aggression, abuse, violence and other negative behaviour is the outcome of the race to excel.

Mindset: Some kids do not like to attend school due to various reasons or simply a preference. Some parents also do not prefer that their kids should go to any school. Some kids are able to do well while studying in the home as compared to going to school. They are better at studying at home than going regularly to school. Some parents especially those living in rural areas feel that conventional education is biased against their moral values and

social requirements.

Teacher-Student Ratio: The major factor affecting the Indian Education System has been the skewed ratio of student-teacher in a school or college environment. 1 Teacher teaching 30 or so students cannot give the quality of education to each individual, nor is it possible for the teachers to provide undivided attention.

Online Forums: Online forums address various issues related to homeschooling. Parents can interact with each other and get solutions for their problems. Parents, tutors and students feel a sense of belongingness towards a common objective.

Better Attention to Specialisation: In a conventional school environment a child's specialisation may go unnoticed or unappreciated. Interests like music, dance or any non-academic skill are generally not given much support. This attitude does not do just

ice to the talent of the individual. Homeschooling offers the facility to go for what one is perfect in. Musician, sportsperson etc. require more training in their chosen field instead of just pure academics.

Enjoyment in Education: It is not a hidden fact that nobody has got enjoyment from education at school, of course, exceptions are always there, but very few. At home, education can be delivered in more ways than possible in a school environment. Kids or parents can mould education with props like CD's, puppets or activities like a visit to a zoo, cooking, artistry etc. Such form of education brings variety in education as compared to the repetitive routine of schooling.

Safety: Safety here means both physically and mentally. Children can be spared from bullying, adultery, addictions or any other negative influence which children face while studying in a school.

AR conducts Screening for Recruitment Rallies

IT News
Imphal, May 8:

In continuation with the efforts to ensure maximum enrolment of potential youths from Manipur in Armed Forces, Loktak Battalion under the aegis of IGAR(S) conducted screening of youths for appearing in recruitment rallies organised by Staff Selection Committee (SSC) at Kengvai, CCpur district yesterday.

As part of screening, physical test trials were conducted to guide the youths about physical standards re-



quired for recruitment in uniform services. The team of

Assam Rifles also assisted the youths in document prepara-

tion. Total 32 youths took part in the screening trials.

Cyclone Asani over Bay of Bengal likely to intensify by evening; Heavy rainfall expected in Odisha, AP: IMD

Agency
New Delhi, May 8:

The rapidly intensifying cyclone Asani over east-central Bay of Bengal is likely to transform into a severe storm in the next 24 hours, said the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The cyclone formed in the wee hours on Sunday was centred roughly 380 km away from Port Blair and 970 km southeast of Visakhapatnam at 5:30 am, and has continued to move north-westwards in the direction of the east coast over the last few hours. 'Asani' — a name suggested by Sri Lanka, which roughly translates to 'wrath'.

According to meteorologists, it is expected to continue moving northwest towards north Andhra Pradesh till the evening of May 10 with a severe intensity, bringing winds 105-115 km/hour gusting up to 125km/hour over the sea. However, the latest fore-



casts suggest that it may not make a landfall over the east coast.

"Most of the numerical models are in good agreement that the system would intensify into a cyclonic storm by morning of May 8, and into a severe cyclonic storm over east central Bay of Bengal by evening. Most models indicate that the

system would move northwestwards till May 10. It is likely to reach west-central and adjoining Northwest Bay of Bengal off the coast of North Andhra Pradesh and Odisha by Tuesday evening, and then recurve north-northeastwards and move towards northwest Bay of Bengal off Odisha coast," said IMD.

While the coastal states may escape the wrath of the cyclone this time, it will certainly bring moderate to heavy rains and squally winds of 40-50 kmph gusting to 60 kmph over coastal Odisha and north Andhra Pradesh coast on May 10-11. The weather department has already sounded a fishermen warning, in view of the

rough seas, and asked those in the sea to return immediately. According to meteorologists, the impact could be felt over north-eastern states, with fairly widespread heavy rainfall expected over Arunachal Pradesh, Assam-Meghalaya and Mizoram-Tripura during May 9-11.

The system was formed over south Andaman Sea on May 6, and the next morning it became well-marked and concentrated into a depression. It intensified rapidly and developed into a deep depression Saturday evening when it was found centred 1,140 km south-east of Visakhapatnam. By Sunday morning, it had gained strength to become a cyclone.

The sea surface temperatures of around 30-31 degree Celsius over the Bay of Bengal are fuelling the storm, which is further gaining strength from the favourable ocean-atmospheric conditions which are supporting its further intensification.

Major haul of Teak Timber



IT News
Imphal, May 8:

A team of Jiribam Forest Division led by Rajesh Darade, IFS, Divisional Forest Officer, Jiribam Forest Division seized around 112 cum of sawn teak

beams on May 5 at Dibong in Jiribam district.

A case has been registered under section 41, 42 of the Indian Forest (Manipur Amendment) Act, 2018 and 33(a) of Manipur Forest Rules, 1971.

AR organises Tree Plantation

IT News
Imphal, May 8:

Loktak Battalion under the aegis of IGAR(S) carried out tree plantation drive in Komlakhang and Kumbi villages of Imphal West and Bishnupur district yesterday.

The plantation drive was organised to spread awareness and encourage villagers about growing environmental concerns and ways to prevent it by tree plantation. Assam Rifles planted 80 new saplings. It was also aimed at educating local populace about the importance of trees in maintaining the ecological equilibrium.

ULFA-I killing two of its cadres a shameful act by the outfit: Assam DGP

Agency
Guwahati, May 8:

After ULFA-I stated to have executed two of its cadres on charges of being Assam Police spies, DGP Bhaskar Jyoti Mahanta on Sunday claimed that the police department had no connection with the two boys.

Denying the claims of the ULFA-I, the DGP said, "Has anyone ever heard of Assam Police sending spies to any-

where? This is a baseless allegation."

He added that over the decades there has been a lot of bloodshed because of the ULFA-I and the Assam Police has been taking care of more than 1200 children belonging to families of the ULFA.

He termed the allegations to be a conspiracy.

Mahanta further added that the killing of two Assamese youth was a shameful and cowardly act.

He asked the ULFA-I to refrain from such activities in the future.

The police chief further urged the youth in Assam to not join the militant outfit as it would be a very wrong decision.

"The ULFA-I Chief Paresh Baruah had responded quite well to the ongoing discussions regarding the peace process. In between this, the claim of an Assam Police spy being sent there would be a foolish step", he added.

Proscribed rebel outfit United Liberation Front of Asom-Independent (ULFA-I) is said to have killed two of its cadres on Saturday for allegedly "spying" on the outfit at the instruction of Assam police.

The two cadres were identified as Dhanjit Das alias Roopak Asom and Sanjib Sarma alias Rishav Asom.

Dhanjit Das hailed from lower Assam's Barpeta town while Sanjib Sarma was a resident of Baihata Chariali in

Kamrup district.

Meanwhile, General Secretary of the Pro-talks faction on the United Liberation Front of ULFA (ULFA) Anup Chetia said that youth are joining militant organisations because of the wrong policies by the government.

Speaking to the media, Anup Chetia said that many youths in the state are being attracted to the ULFA-Independent only because they are fed up with the policies of the government.

Documents Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my Original Certificate, Admit Card and Original Marksheet of Class X Examination, bearing Roll No.19296 of 1986, issued by the Board of Secondary Education, Manipur on the way between Khabam Lamkhai to Nagamapal on Passenger Autorickshaw on May 4, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-

Waikhom Inaobon Singh
Kontha Khabam Maning Leikai
PO. Mantripukhri - 795002
Imphal East District, Manipur

Sports

Thakur launches mascot, logo and jersey of Khelo India Youth Games

Agency
Panchkula (Haryana), May 8:

Union Sports Minister Anurag Thakur launched the mascot 'Dhakad' along with official logo and official jersey of the Fourth Khelo India Youth Games at Panchkula on Saturday and lauded the effort of Haryana to host the games.

Thakur was accompanied by Haryana Chief Minister ML Khattar, Haryana deputy CM Dushyant Chautala and Haryana sports minister Sandeep Singh during the function. Last week saw the conclusion of the Khelo India University Games and Thakur was of the view that Haryana will set an example in hosting the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games from June 4 to June 13 at Panchkula and other cities.

"The mascot of the games is 'Dhakad' and I am sure that these games will also be Dhakad. Khelo India Games are the brainchild of PM Narendra Modi and his vision of how to take India forward in sports. The Khelo India University Games at Bengaluru saw the participation of more than 3,500 players and a total of 7,500 players and officials."

"The fourth edition of Khelo India Youth Games will see more than 8,500 participating players. While there were



two traditional games included in KIUG, we have introduced five traditional games like gaska, thang-ta, kalaripayattu, mallakhamb and yogasana in Khelo India Youth Games. Apart from these, players will showcase their talent in 20 sports disciplines," said Thakur during the function.

The games were earlier scheduled to happen in October-November last year before they were postponed to February this year owing to the Covid-19 pandemic. The games, which are to be held in 25 sports disciplines including five indigenous disciplines, will be held in Shahbad, Ambala, Chandigarh, Panchkula and Delhi.

During the launch of the official mascot on Saturday, players like Tokyo Paralympics silver medalist Yogesh Kathuniya, boxer Amit

Panghal, athlete Manjeet Chahal, shooter Manu Bhaker, archer Ridhi and other players were present.

"In the Khelo India University Games last week, we saw two national records being broken, along with 20 other records. Swimmers Srihari Nataraj and Maana Patel and many more players displayed their talent in Khelo India games and later went on to compete at the world level, including the Olympics. The sports ministry is spending more than Rs 144 crore on the training of 2,300 Khelo India athletes and our endeavour is to provide opportunities to everyone in the country. I am sure that the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games will also see many records being broken with the emergence of new talents. I wish all the

players luck for competing in the games," Thakur added.

Haryana CM ML Khattar urged all the departments to function smoothly in order to make the games a success. "While the fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games were postponed earlier, the extra time has given us more time to prepare. With 28 days remaining in the start of the games, all the infrastructure and preparations have been done and we welcome players from all over the country to give their best. I also urge all the departments along with the sports department to work in tandem and make these games successful," said Khattar.

Haryana sports minister Sandeep Singh too wished the players. "The games are finally happening after the delay due to Covid-19.




Invitation

The Organizing Committee of the **6th Foundation Day** of
Rongmei Naga Youth Organization & Rongmei Naga Students Organization

Cordially invite your kind presence and participation at the
Foundation Day Celebration on

11th May 2022 11:00 am

at Amity Hall, Adimjati, Chingmeirong, Imphal, Manipur.

Shri Dinganglung Gangmei (Retd. IAS)
Hon'ble HAC Chairman, MLA, Govt. of Manipur
has kindly consented to grace the occasion as
Chief Guest.

Organizing Committee.