

74th Information & Public Relations Day celebrates



IT News
Imphal, Nov 1:

Department of Information and Public Relations (DIPR), Government of Manipur today celebrated the 74th Information & Public Relations day today at its office complex at Nityapat Chuthek here in Imphal.

On the occasion, Chief Editor of Kanglapao Evening Daily, P. Olbochohba has been provided financial assistance of Rs. One Lakh under the Manipur State Journalists' Welfare Scheme.

IPR Minister, Dr. Sapam

Ranjan Singh, who attended that IPR Day celebration as Chief Guest has appealed the journalist fraternity to published news with proper verification. He told these as the present trends is facing serious confusion with the growth and the misused of Social media by some individuals. The Minister appealed the DIPR to digitize all the records as the present technology keeps changing. He suggested it as digitization may enable the journalists to access the records in an easy way.

The Minister said that the Information center at New Delhi is not satisfying and need to be empowered as the government has already provided adequate infrastructures already. He said that only two staffs are deployed at the Information Center at New Delhi. He said that the Directorate need to put some ideas so that the Information Center at New Delhi can be functional and utilize to disseminate the information related to the state. The Minister further appealed the journalist to suggest ideas to improve the func-

tioning of the DIPR.

Commissioner of the IPR, M. Harekrishna, who presided over the function stressed on the challenges that the DIPR is facing today. The Commissioner of the IPR said that at present there are many grey areas on what would be the responsibility and duty of the DIPR. He said there are many technology at present to reach the motto 'last mile connectivity'. There is a directives from the Prime Minister to all the Chief Ministers of every state to utilize the mobile technology to make sure that all programme and the initiatives of the government reaches to all the people of the country. Harekrishna said that the department is still confuse on whether this should be the responsibility of the DIPR or the IT department as it is unethical to handle the personal account at social media of each ministers or MLAs. He however said that official account at Social of Ministers may be possible to handle by the department. He also said that there are challenges on how to face or check the high Tech medium of mass media channels.

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Critic forum Manipur celebrates 17th Foundation Day Politicians should not have ill feeling on criticisms to their activities – Karam Shyam

IT News
Imphal, Nov 1:

MLA, Langthabal A/C Karam Shyam Singh, who is also the chairman of the Manipur Tourism today said that intellectuals and critics should start discussion about the activities of political players and give their views through mass media.

The MLA said this while delivering speech as the chief Guest on the 17th Foundation day of Critic Forum Manipur held at Manipur Dramatic Union, Yaikul, here in Imphal today. Critic Forum originally was a platform of writers and scholars who study and discuss the proscenium theatre of Manipur.

"Scholars and writers besides writing about the play performances should also start writing about the life and activities of the present politicians in a critical way so that they can learn and change their activism", Karam Shyam said adding that there should not be any ill feeling to the politicians that the critics writes about them. The former Minister also said that as for him he welcomes criticism to



his activities or public speech and he had even awarded to a renowned critics who had satirically criticize him in the Box Popli Column of 'Poknapham' newspaper regarding his speech some years back.

The MLA also said that lives of politicians should be reflected to theatre, play or movie. He assured that advice to him by the senior social thinkers will not be let go but will fulfill it.

Dr. Lamabam Gojendra, President of the Critics Forum Manipur, who presided over the function while appreciating the MLA for his straight forward, said that as of now the forum is

confined to proscenium plays and some other art forms. He said that the forum will try to extend to discuss and review other players too.

As a part of the 17th Foundation day of the Critic Forum Manipur, a special lecture programme by renowned film maker and Theatre person, Aribam Shyam Sharma on the topic "My Theatre Journey" was also presented. Later, the play called "Ningthibi Keinya" of the Yumjao Lairembi Dramatic & Cultural Union, which is the 2nd best play in the 52nd Short Play Competition for Creative Directors, 2021 was staged.

Tamenglong District Level Chavang Kut Celebrates at Phaitol

IT Correspondent
Jiribam, Nov 1:

'Chavang-Kut', the autumn post harvest festival is celebrated with great enthusiasm by the Kuki, Chin and Mizo tribes at Phaitol village of Toubsem Sub-Division of Tamenglong District.

The event organized by the District Level Kut Committee Phaitol Tamenglong District which held at Phaitol public ground.

The celebration was began with thanksgiving prayer offered by Pastor Rohmingthanga (UPCM), which shows gratitude to the almighty for a bountiful harvest with an offering of songs and dances. Followed by welcome address delivered by Pu. Benjamin Shakum, Vice Chairman, Kut Committee.

The programme of the festival is graced by Awangbou



Newmai, Minister Water, Relief & Disaster Department, Government of Manipur as a Chief Guest while Smt. Hatthling Doungei, Former EM ADC Tamenglong as a functional President and L. Lhingneikim Mate, Asst. Labour Commissioner, Government of India as a guest of honour and the programme was graced by Khaidoukhup Ngaihte as a Kutpa.

Celebrated annually in November, Chavang-Kut brings the people together to

ensure peace, harmony and love in the beautiful state. Besides Kukis, Chins and Mizo tribes, other tribes and communities also participate in the festival to make it an occasion of peace and unity in the state.

On the speech of daises, they have briefed about the significance of kut festival which was celebrated by the Kuki, Chin and Mizo tribes.

On the Presidential speech Hatthling Doungei extended her gratitude to all for making

the programme grand successful.

On the speech of Chief Guest Awangbou Newmai, Minister Water, Relief & Disaster Department, Government of Manipur said we are celebrating the kut festival as a harvesting festival which gives refreshing in our life.

He added, the present government brings much progress in the field of peace and prosperity among the different communities of Manipur. "We need to develop together for the development of the State", he added.

He also conveyed his best wishes for the programme as well as presented gifts to the village chiefs and elders.

One of the main attractions of the festival is the cultural dance performed by the troops of various localities of Jiribam and Phaitol areas during the celebration.

AFSPA will be withdrawn from more areas, if violence declines: Eastern Army chief Lt General RP Kalita

Agency
Kolkata, Nov 1:

The armed forces special powers act (AFSPA) will be withdrawn from more areas in the Northeast, if violence declines in those places.

This was stated by chief of the eastern command of the Indian Army - Lt General RP Kalita on Tuesday.

Kalita said that more areas that are still tagged as "disturbed areas" under AFSPA will be de-notified, as and when violence parameters come down to an acceptable level.

Chief of the eastern command of the Indian Army - Lt General RP Kalita - claimed that violence in most parts of



the Northeast have dropped considerably in the past nine months.

"This (peace) has been possible only due to sacrifice that has been made by the Indian armed forces in ensuring that violence parameters are brought down to an acceptable level," Lt General RP Kalita said.

He added: "As and when parameters of violence drop, AFSPA will be withdrawn from more areas."

Notably, AFSPA was withdrawn from several places in Nagaland, Assam and Manipur from April 1 this year.

The clamour for withdrawal of the AFSPA from the Northeast region of India grew louder since the botched counter-insurgency operation at Oting village in Mon in December last year.

At least 14 innocent Nagaland civilians were gunned down by troopers of the special forces of the Indian Army at Oting village in Mon district of Naganad in December last year, after mistaking them for being insurgents.

Nagas should join hands & support negotiating groups for an early political solution: Zeliang

Agency
Kohima, Nov 1:

Former Nagaland Chief Minister T R Zeliang has urged the Naga people to join hands and support the negotiating groups to bring the Naga Political issue to a logical conclusion at the earliest as this is the finest time for a solution.

Zeliang, who is currently the chairman of United Democratic Alliance (UDA) said this while addressing a press conference in Chumoukedima on Monday.

"At present, all the Naga negotiating groups have come

together and all 60 MLAs are also together with one voice for the sake of Naga solution. So why not we all join hands and support both the negotiating groups to arrive at a logical conclusion at the earliest instead of pointing fingers at each other with political vendetta for personal vested interest," said Zeliang.

Maintaining that the political talks between the Government of India (GoI) and NSCN (IM) are positively progressing, he said "we expect a solution sooner than later, so let us hope that GoI will bring out the common draft so that before



inking the accord, it can be brought to the Naga leaders, and all concerned to also see and acknowledge if it is acceptable to us." By any standard, Zeliang said, the negotiation is

long enough, and it must have a logical conclusion.

Some principal issues which are being deliberated upon and yet to arrive at a conclusion, need to be re-

solved amicably at the earliest, he said.

Zeliang said that the core committee of the state government on Naga Political Issue was informed that some competency points are transitional towards a final settlement.

"With such a solution formulation process, we can keep moving forward to reach the final agreement as stated by the Prime Minister," he said.

For the last many decades, no Prime Minister or Home Minister has come up in this manner with such a positive attitude to solve the Naga Political issue, he said, while

strongly maintaining that this is the finest opportunity for both parties, the GoI and the Nagas to finally resolve the long-protracted Naga Political Issue.

"If we miss this opportunity, I am doubtful that we will be able to maintain this momentum again in the coming years and also for any Indian leader to revisit this chapter with such vigour and concern to solve the Naga Political Issue," said Zeliang.

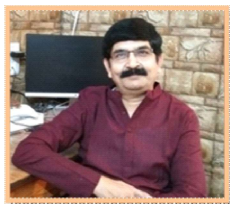
The Government of India (GoI) has been holding parallel peace parleys with NSCN-IM and the Working Committee of

Naga National Political Groups (WC, NNPGs) comprising at least seven Naga groups.

The talks with NSCN-IM started in 1997 following the signing of a ceasefire agreement and they inked the Framework Agreement on August 3, 2015.

While the WC NNPGs started separate negotiations in 2017 and signed the Agreed Position in November same year, have expressed their willingness to go ahead with a solution with whatever is possible now and continue discussing the remaining issues post solution.

Eradicate Corruption - Build a New India



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

ity and efficiency.

A. P. J. Abdul Kalam had rightly said that "If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher." "Prevention is better than cure". I don't think there is anybody who doesn't know this age old proverb passed on from generations. We are now giving much more stress on preventive vigilance rather than punitive vigilance.

Vigilance is considered to be a managerial function and needs to be given utmost importance in managing an organisation. It is required to detect the irregularities before it is carried out, analyze and find out the reasons of such irregularities to curb malpractices and corrective action are taken as per laid down guidelines to plug the detected loopholes in the system. To remain Vigilant is the right of every individual. But then, any Vigilant Act should always be result oriented. It is best to have a well-defined goal oriented act that should be beneficial to a majority of the stakeholders.

Vigilance is not something external. It should be accepted as an essential part of management. Vigilance connotes watchfulness. It is not the purpose of vigilance to wait for lapses to be committed and then try to conduct post mortem. What is more important than punitive vigilance is preventive vigilance. In short, management should be interested in preventive vigilance measures. If adequate attention is paid to preventive vigilance side, many vigilance cases will not arise.

Vigilance has to be looked upon as one of the essential components of management. Like Finance, HR, Technical; it also plays an important role in building the organisation. It is believed that if the vigilance set up is effective in an organization, it will certainly ensure the functioning of the other segment in an efficient way. Although, like a bitter pill, the work of Vigilance Department is not liked by dishonest officer; for the health of the organization, the bitter pill has to be administered, which will taste sweet in the long run and will ensure the good health of the organization.

A handful of officers posted in the vigilance department alone cannot achieve the same. However I have strong belief that, by opening the proactive vigilance eyes of every individual of the organisation; the same can be made possible. I hope that the initiatives of the Vigilance Department will be useful in sensitizing all concerned and reinforcing the principles of Transparency, Impartiality and adherence to rules.

Considering the vigilance function is an integral function for good governance, being in Vigilance department; we ensure all kinds of support to the management in all types of constructive approach for the good governance, where FAT content will go like : F(Fairness-100%) A (Accountability-100%) T (Transparency-100%). It is rightly said that "Transparency is the Ornament of the beauty of the Good Governance"

Apart from the obvious damages that we cause to society through bribery and corruption, it has a divine angle too from religion point of view. Every religious book, be it Geeta or Koran or any other, all tell us to shun corruption in any form. It states that every action we do on earth during our life has its ramification after death. Therefore, for achieving a peaceful life during one's lifespan or even after death, it is needed that we prevent corruption and save our society.

The fight against corruption can only be successful when public awareness is coupled with anti-corruption efforts. The primary objective of creating public awareness is to sensitize the public about the consequences of corruption and to educate the people about the improvements needed to create a corruption free society.

Dalai Lama – a spiritual leader that rightly quoted that "Happiness is not something readymade. It comes from our own actions." One must remember that vigilance begins with you, let us all together create a united India. Anti corruption also starts from you, so let us create Vigilant India, Prosperous India.

India Water Week-2022

By: Pankaj Kumar

The Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India is organizing the 7th India Water Week – 2022 (IWW-2022) during 1-5 November 2022 at India Expo Center, Greater Noida, adjacent to National Capital Region, Delhi. The event will be the seventh in line since its inception in 2012.

Keeping in view the vital role of water in all aspects of life and also in assuring the development of economy, the Ministry of Water Resources decided in 2011 that India Water Week (IWW), a multi-disciplinary forum may be initiated as a flagship event of the Ministry, creating an international platform for meaningful deliberations and generating valuable recommendations and action points.

India Water Week event is designed as a "knowledge hub" for innovative ideas and solutions. Its objective is to invigorate the discussions and exchange of ideas amongst the participants for optimally managing water resources.

India Water Week provides a forum for various stakeholders, including policy makers, water managers, professionals, academia and the user groups from different sections of the society, wherein all water related issues are discussed and measures identified to address water security challenges in a sustainable way.

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Being Vegan - a big step to protect the Earth



By: N. Munal Meitei

Everyone has a role to play in effectively implementing the global shift to a decarbonized economy. The world is looking at the climate actions by the governments during this COP-27. Research shows that meat and dairy products are fueling the climate crisis, while plant-based diets - focused on fruits, vegetables, grains, and beans - help protect the planet.

World Vegan Day is observed on 1st November every year since 1994. The difference between vegetarians and vegans is that vegetarians don't eat any animal flesh (beef, chicken, fish, etc.), but vegans don't take anything that comes from an animal (egg, dairy, leather, fur, etc.).

Going vegan stops the deforestation, soil degradation and greenhouse gas emissions associated with meat production, helping to slow climate change and secure our global food supply. This day also emphasizes the environmental considerations, animal welfare and rights and personal health benefits to encourage people into ditching animal products.

The benefits of vegetarian diets are, weight loss, reduce risk of

heart diseases, stroke, cancer, and manage diabetes by lowering A1C levels. Lifestyle and diet are the biggest contributors for diabetes. Plant-based diets help to keep the insulin and glucose levels and reduce the amount of toxins going in the body.

It reduced infection risks, as it automatically eliminates the risk of bacteria like salmonella, E. Coli and many other meat, poultry or fish borne diseases. Unwashed, improperly cooked or infected meats are the cause of 67 million illnesses each year, according to a CDC report.

Researchers from Buddhist Tzu Chi Medical Foundation in Taiwan revealed that a vegetarian diet help to lower risk of urinary tract infections as UTIs are usually caused by the gut bacteria that enter the urinary tract and affect the kidneys and bladder. According to a latest research, turning into a vegetarian can increase strong immune system keeping us away from diseases more than those who are non-vegetarians.

According to a climate change report, eating 75 grams of beef - a typical fast-food hamburger - daily for a year emits greenhouse gas equivalent to driving a car over 11,580km - that's equal to driving 7 times the India-Myanmar border for 1643 km long. Compare that to eating 150 grams of beans - twice the beef - daily for a year, which is equivalent to driving a car 150 km only. The study found that 57% of global greenhouse gas emissions come from meat and dairy products whereas just 29% are from plant-based foods.

Vegetarian diets are good for both people and the planet. Being vegetarian and vegan can create a better world because vegetarian diets have proven health benefits, save animals lives and help to preserve the earth.

A shift to a plant-based diet will reduce the global mortality and greenhouse gases production by 10% and 70% respectively. Just a global dietary shift would save an estimated 79 million human lives and avoid 5.1 million deaths per year. Estimates for a completely vegan diet project closer to saved 129 million lives and 8.1 million deaths avoided. These projections also save trillions of rupees saved in health care costs by 2050.

Vegetarian and vegan diet save animals from suffering in factory-farm conditions and from the pain and terror of slaughter. It also conserve vital but limited freshwater, fertile topsoil, precious resources including irreplaceable ecosystems such as rain forests and other wildlife habitats, decrease greenhouse gases and mitigate the environmental pollution.

As empathy, we are all a part of nature. Being vegetarian and vegan will make the world a better place not only for animals, but for our health and environment too. It is a change from an unhealthy to a healthy habit and diet. To become vegetarian lifestyle is the ethical, environmental and humanitarian benefits.

The climate crisis is the biggest threat to the lives on this planet. Being vegetarian will surely help to combat climate change and reduce from further damages to our natural environment. Greenhouse gases are driving the climate crisis. Meats

have a high carbon footprint leading to methane emissions. The global meat and dairy industry is responsible for greenhouse gas emissions as all the global transportation combined. You can reduce your carbon footprint by 50% if you go with vegetarian and vegan.

Animal farming is destroying our environment. It causes up to 91% of Amazon deforestation. Growing vegetarian food uses 50% less land than animal agriculture. And a meat and dairy diet is inherently wasteful. Remember that for every 100 calories fed to animals, we receive back only 12 calories by consuming their flesh and milk. Feeding crops to people rather than farmed animals could feed three billion more people.

The plant-based foods are required not only for climate change mitigation but for public health too. Thus the net zero emission aiming for 1.5°C by 2100 will be possible via a shift towards plant-based diets only.

Some people think that becoming a vegetarian lifestyle could be a challenge and have to spend much time and labour to the family and also worried about finding the vegetarian food options. But, many vegetarians acclaimed, the vegetarian's lifestyle is always easier, happier and healthier.

Therefore to become vegetarian and vegan have the best option in the brighter side of our life. Such acts will surely save us from the climate crisis heading to a healthy environment and the mother Earth for the future generations.

(The author is an Environmentalist, Email-nmunall@yahoo.in)

Career Guidance for People With Disabilities



By: Vijay GarG

a restricted margin related to health and other benefits because of both social exclusions and factors like poverty. So it is important that one must know their rights before facing any kind of sociocultural oppression from society.

Declaration Over The Rights Of The Disabled People:
Declaration Over

It states that the disabled person shall enjoy all rights contained in this declaration without distinction or discrimination: the right to have respect and live with dignity irrespective of their origin, nature, and seriousness of their handicaps and disabilities, same civil and political rights, rights in their social and rights in security, rights in living with families or with foster parents and rights in participating in all social creative or recreational activities and they shall be protected against every kind of sociocultural exploitation and Constitutional Rights of Disabled People: Rights against their discrimination: Under article 15 it deals with the prohibition of discrimination on various grounds.

Socio-economic and cultural rights: The article 25 of the CRDP ensures the "right of a person possessing disabilities to education With a view in realizing certain rights without discrimination and based on the same opportunity, state parties should be ensuring inclusive education system at each and every level. The other rights and articles include The right to work, the Right to liberty and freedom of expression. Disability certificates can be issued from any state medical board which is established under the state governments by anyone possessing more than 40% disability. Disability pension: people who are suffering from more than 80% disability and are living below the poverty line and are above 18 years of age are entitled to the Indira Gandhi National Disability Allowance in government jobs and various other examinations, 3% of the seats are reserved for the disabled. Person with Disabilities Act 1995: the main provisions of the act include prevention and early detec-

tion of disabilities, education, employment, non-discrimination, social security, research, and. Thus, several rights, schemes, benefits, and ideologies have truly come up as a source of relief and have affluently helped many in providing equal opportunities to the most neglected sphere of our society.

Career Exploration

The primary step for choosing the right path as a career is to explore what the person wants, to look into various strengths and weaknesses, to think about the diverse skills and experiences that they have while applying for a new range of career opportunities and focusing how to highlight the same in a CV or resume during the interview process. People having disabilities too have aspirations and dreams of their own so counsellors or supervisors should discuss and interact with the person including evaluation and analysis of their interests, strengths, weaknesses, career goals, skills, talents, etc. If his/her career seems unattainable, the mentor should never demotivate him/her but should give constructive feedback and try to conclude to a mutual agreement over a certain relevant target nad the respective way and path that need to be followed to achieve the same. But despite the obstacles, the mentor should never assume his/her disability to be a hindrance. The respective mentors should also make sure that they get the same chances and opportunities as the others for participating in various development sessions or opportunities related to further career lattices.

Team Building

Opportunities in this field provide the people with multiple chances for solving problems and the development of concrete work-based relationships with co-workers. Simultaneously it should also be made sure that they are being provided proper leadership perks and have been allocated to special and interesting varieties of projects, sessions, assignments, etc. the most important thing is to make him/her feel normal and

not make important decisions related to a career based on narrow concepts or other stereotypes related to his/her dysfunctionality or disability.

Planning

Many people having disabilities have decisions made for them and do not have an opportunity to become experienced in the decision-making process. Many do not get the opportunity to test their own competencies. Many do not receive information that will aid in a realistic perception of what opportunities might be available to them. Thus it is important together information which includes information about the client's specific situation including how he or she views himself or herself, his or her abilities, barriers, worldview, and decision-making style. Understanding and making hypotheses about the client's behavior. How does the information the client has presented relate to the client's career development process? Identifying the specific disability variables that will affect outcomes for the client. Developing a career goal and plan of action. Decide on an appropriate intervention that will best include the client in the decision-making process, as well as, best assist the client in his or her goals. Clients should be involved in the planning process and given relevant information that will aid them in making their own decisions.

Networking

The most important thing amongst all is that they should never feel left out, that is they should be included in every formal or informal work domain, work meets, etc. they should actively participate in each and every type of social, cultural or leisurely activities just like others. In such a way more interpersonal or work-related relationships are significantly developed and henceforth everyone should be given an opportunity to actively participate in this. Moreover, the employers and the organizers should organize in such a way that the facilities are easily accessible for them.

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Election bodies expect social media sites to proactively flag fake news: CEC Rajiv Kumar

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 1:

Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar Monday said election management bodies (EMBs) expected social media sites to use their "algorithm power" to proactively flag fake news. He was addressing an international conference for EMBs hosted by the Election Commission of India (ECI) under the aegis of the United States' "Summit for Democracy" platform.

He said social media platforms proclaim to have content policies, but added that they do also have the "algorithm power" and a proactive approach to countering fake news would facilitate "credible electoral outcomes".

"More early or deeper red-flagging of fake news based on known modus operandi and genres is not an unfair expectation from the EMBs", he said. Speaking of India's experi-



ence of holding elections during the Covid-19 pandemic, the CEC said disenfranchisement, even if temporary, was not an option for democracies. He said the group of EMBs present, including senior representatives from EMBs of Mauritius and Greece, could develop benchmarks and start a dialogue on the challenges

and opportunities before them. United States Charge d'Affaires Elizabeth Jones, who attended the inaugural along with Kumar and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey, said the US-India partnership was most consequential, according to an EC statement.

"India's Election Commis-

sion is a testament to a well-run election management body overseeing electoral processes. The United States is gratified by your leadership and sharing your expertise with other democracies. Administration of Indian elections has set standards for democracies worldwide," she said.

SC to hear petition seeking judicial probe into Morbi bridge collapse on November 14

Agency
Ahmedabad, Nov 1:

The Supreme Court on Tuesday listed for November 14 a petition seeking to set up a judicial commission led by a retired judge to investigate the bridge collapse in Morbi, Gujarat, reported Bar and Bench.

The colonial-era cable bridge on Machchu river had snapped on Sunday evening, four days after it was reopened to the public and seven months after the start of renovation work. So far, 141 persons have been found dead. Search and rescue operations are continuing.

In his public interest litigation, advocate Vishal Tiwari said that the accident showed negligence and utter failure of government authorities.

"From past decade various incidents have taken place in our country wherein due to the mismanagement, lapse in duty, negligent maintenance activities, there has been cases of huge public casualties which could have been avoided," the petition told Chief Justice UU Lalit who listed the matter for

hearing on November 14.

The bridge in Morbi municipality was given to the Oreva Group on contract for management for 15 years in March, local body chief Sandeepsinh Zala had said. The bridge was then shut down for renovation.

Zala has alleged that bridge was reopened by the Oreva Group without the municipality giving it a fitness certificate.

The company, however, claimed that the bridge collapsed as too many persons in the mid-section of the bridge were trying to sway it from one way to the other.

The state government too has shrugged off responsibility with former Deputy Chief Minister and Bharatiya Janata Party leader Nitin Patel saying that it had no role in the renovation and reopening of the bridge. Patel added that the renovation was being handled by the Morbi administration.

The police have arrested two managers of Oreva, two ticket clerks, two contractors and three security guards for negligence leading to the tragedy.

Earlier, the Opposition had attacked the Gujarat government over the incident, asking if it was an "act of God" or "act of fraud", alluding to PM Modi's line of attack against the Mamata Banerjee government in West Bengal when a flyover collapsed in Kolkata on March 31, 2016, killing many.

Modi, who is touring Gujarat, did not visit Morbi on Monday, which was also questioned by the Congress. He addressed three events in the state, and speaking at one at the Statue of Unity in Kevadia, to mark Sardar Patel's birth anniversary, said while his thoughts were with the people of Morbi, "karma" and "kartavya" had led him to Kevadia.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday night chaired a meeting on the Morbi bridge collapse in Gujarat and asked authorities to extend all possible help to those affected by the tragedy, officials said.

At the meeting, which took place at the Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar, the PM, who is touring poll-bound Gujarat, was briefed on the relief and

rescue operations at the accident site, located around 300 km from the state capital, they said.

At least 134 people have lost their lives in the tragedy which took place in Morbi town of the Saurashtra region when the British-era suspension bridge came crashing down on Sunday evening, a police official has said.

Modi emphasized on ensuring that those affected by the disaster get all possible assistance, the officials said.

"Modi chaired a high-level meeting to review the situation in Morbi at the Raj Bhavan, Gandhinagar," an official release said.

The Prime Minister was briefed on the relief and rescue operations launched at the accident site and all aspects related to the tragedy were discussed, the release said.

The meeting was attended by Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, Minister of State for Gujarat DGP Ashish Bhatia along with other top officials.

India reports 1,046 new Covid cases in last 24 hours; active caseload at 17,618

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 1:

With 1,046 people testing positive for coronavirus infection in a day, India's tally of Covid-19 cases rose to 4,46,54,638, while the active cases declined to 17,618, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Tuesday.

The death toll climbed to 5,29,077 with 53 fatalities which includes 46 deaths reconciled by Goa and three by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.04 per cent of the total infec-

tions, while the national Covid-19 recovery rate increased to 98.78 per cent, according to the ministry.

A decrease of 294 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,07,943, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 219.64 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive. India's Covid-19 tally had

crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one crore mark on December 19.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4 and three crore on June 23 last year. It crossed the four crore mark on January 25 this year.

Four deaths were reported in a span of 24 hours with one each in Delhi, Haryana, Karnataka and Rajasthan.

Jaishankar to represent India at SCO heads of govt council meeting

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 1:

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will represent India at a virtual meeting of the Council of Heads of Government (CHG) of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation on Tuesday.

The CHG meeting, which is held annually, focuses on the trade and economic agenda of

the bloc and approves its annual budget.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said the meeting will be attended by SCO member states, observer states, the SCO secretary general and the executive director of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure (RATS). Turkmenistan and other invited guests are expected to join the deliberations.

"India remains actively engaged in various SCO activities/dialogue mechanisms in the region as well as other multilateral cooperation within the SCO framework," the MEA said. The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan became its permanent members in 2017.

Heavy rains lash Chennai and neighbouring districts, holiday declared for schools

Agency
Chennai, Nov 1:

As forecasted, heavy to very heavy rains have lashed Chennai and the neighboring districts of Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu. And, as per the IMD forecast, more rains are in store for the region today and tomorrow.

Red Hills in Tiruvallur has recorded a whopping 13 cm of rainfall, the highest in the State in the last 24 hours ending 8.30 am on Tuesday. Perambur in Chennai recorded 12 cm.

Weather stations in Chennai Collectorate Building, Tondaiyarpatt, Villivakkam and Ponneri recorded 10 cm of rain-

fall. Several other stations, including Nungambakkam, DGP Office, Nandanam, Anna University etc, have also recorded significant rainfall ranging from 6 cm to 8 cm.

In view of the heavy rains, holiday has been declared for schools in Chennai, Tiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu districts.

Today, heavy to very heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places over Tiruvallur, Ranipet and Kancheepuram, while heavy rain is likely over Chennai and Chengalpattu districts.

A 47-year-old woman died after a portion of a wall from her house's balcony allegedly fell on her on Tuesday morning. The

woman identified as Shanthi, a resident Prakash Rao colony in Pulianthope, was standing outside her house and pumping water from corporation water when the wall fell on her. She died on the spot. Her body was sent to Government Stanley Hospital for postmortem. The Pulianthope has registered a case and a probe is on. Initial inquiries revealed that the house was old and the wall fell allegedly due to heavy rain from last evening.

Despite the heavy overnight rains, by morning water has drained from many of the arterial roads in Chennai. In some residential areas have reported waterlogging.

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India Water Week....

The first event was organised in New Delhi in 2012 for which the theme was "Water, Energy and Food Security: Call for solutions". Subsequently, five more events were organized in years 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2019, covering various water related aspects such as efficient water management, water management for sustainable development, water cooperation, water and energy. These events encompassed major issues related to water resources development and management and thus provided an opportunity to the water resources fraternity to forge pragmatic strategies towards addressing them. These events have received encouraging response from the water resources community across the globe.

The United Nations World

Water Development Report 2021 brings out that annual fresh water withdrawals in the world have increased several fold, from 500 BCM in 1900 to more than 4,000 BCM now. The report cites a study which projects that global population experiencing severe water scarcity, which was 32 million in 1900, would increase to 3.1 billion by 2050. This brings out the need for sustainable management of water resources and their equitable access.

The 7th India Water Week is being organized with theme "Water Security for Sustainable Development with Equity" focusing on various aspects of water security and related challenges for equitable development with following three sub-schemes:

i) "aspects of water security and their impact";

ii) "addressing challenges of growing water demand through water cooperation";

iii) "water governance - policies, action plan and institutions".

India Water Week - 2022 will have various events including seminars, panel discussions and special sessions organized in cooperation with stakeholders particularly the State Governments, the related Ministries of the Union Government, International Organizations, Partner Countries and related institutions, including NGOs from within the country. An exhibition supporting the theme and showcasing the technologies, latest developments and solutions available in various fields related to water security would also be part of IWW. The exhibition would be spread over an

area of about 3,500 square metres and co-located with the IWW-2022 at India Expo Center, Greater Noida. Participation of about 2,000 professionals is expected from India and abroad.

The event will be inaugurated by Honourable President of India and her august presence will be an inspiration and encouragement for mobilizing efforts to address emerging challenges in the water sector.

We all have to join hands to have a water secure future. The deliberations in the sessions of the conference and dissemination of the knowledge during this mega event would guide us to the path of water resource development in a sustainable manner.

(The author is a Secretary, Deptt. of WR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Govt)

Career Guidance for People....

Mentoring

Employees possessing disabilities should be encouraged immensely to find mentors or career counsellor irrespective of them being the same and when they become experienced they can be motivated and encouraged for mentoring others who may or may not be dysfunctional. However, counsellors are beneficial to everyone. They widen every perspective related to skills-transferability and interests as well as directions with respect to future career planning for considering motivation and influences for taking calculated risks, advice related to human-relationships, providing unbiased feedbacks related to the problematic areas, coaching on various aspects like interpersonal, technical and management skills,

also providing encouragements, networking of contacts, introductions, and references.

Appraisals And Constant Encouragements

This varies from company to company. They should be constantly appreciated and event their smallest of achievements should be praised. Even if some task seems unachievable because of a certain disability, they should be constantly encouraged and motivated to do so. This is how the unachievable can be achieved and we can get past all the barriers.

Self-Development Sessions

A person with a disability should also take it as his/her own duty towards career development. The process of seeking out for endless knowledge, new educations training

and gaining information should never stop whatsoever. They should also start volunteering for new assignments and projects.

Training And Employer Practices

Various training opportunities should be provided to people having disabilities along with management and leadership training to boost up the self-confidence. Classes must be held in favor of these and course materials should be provided to the same and interpreters must also be made available where-ever necessary and other required accommodations must also be made. Thus by this mentoring process, people having disabilities are highly benefitted since they have throughout faced various kinds of barriers in sectors like employment as well.

PM Modi declares Mangarh Dham national monument, pays tributes to tribals killed by British in 1913

Agency
Jaipur, Nov 1:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday declared Mangarh Dham in Rajasthan as national monument and paid tributes to the tribals who were massacred by the British army in 1913 in Mangarh.

PM Modi attended the 'Mangarh Dham ki Gaurav Gatha' programme in Banswara, Rajasthan along with Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and his Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh counterparts CM Bhupendra Patel and Shivraj Singh Chouhan respectively.

"PM @narendramodi declares Mangarh Dham as National Monument, #Rajasthan," the Press Information Bureau (PIB) tweet

Addressing the gathering, the PM Modi said that it is always inspiring to be in the holy land of Mangarh which is a symbol of tapasya, sacrifice, bravery and sacrifice of our tribal bravehearts. "Mangarh is a shared heritage of the people of Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat", he said.

The prime minister also remembered Guru Gobind Singh, saying that "great freedom fighters like Govind Guru were the representative of India's tradition and ideals".

The dham is a memorial for around 1,500 tribals massacred by the British army. It is located in the district on the Gujarat-Rajasthan border.

Social reformer Govind Guru had led the gathering of tribals and forest dwellers in 1913 in Mangarh against the British regime.

Remembering the massacre 1913 Mangarh massacre, PM Modi remarked that it was an example of extreme cruelty by British rule in India. "On one



hand we had the innocent tribals who were seeking independence while on the other hand, it was the British colonial rulers who after surrounding the hills of Mangarh, massacred more than one thousand five hundred innocent men, women, elderly and children in broad daylight," he said.

He emphasised that "India's past, history, present and India's future will never be complete without the tribal community. Every page of the story of our freedom struggle is filled with tribal valour."

The Prime Minister also threw light on the severe shortage of schools in tribal areas 20-25 years ago. "Today there are 2 tribal universities, Govind Guru University in Godhra and Birsu Munda University in Narmada that make for the finest institutions of higher education" he added. The Prime Minister further elaborated that the facilities at Govind Guru University will be further expanded after the inauguration of the new campus. He also mentioned that the new campus of the Skill University of Ahmedabad will also benefit the youth of all tribal areas including Panchmahal. "This is

the first university in the country which has got the recognition to grant a Drone Pilot Licence", Shri Modi underlined.

Throwing light on the huge role that Vanbandhu Kalyan Yojana has played in the all-round development of tribal districts in the last decades, the Prime Minister said that in the last 14-15 years, more than Rs 1 lakh crore has been spent under this scheme in tribal areas. He also informed that the Gujarat government has decided to further spend Rs 1 lakh crore in the coming years.

Giving insights into the overall development of the region the Prime Minister gave examples of piped water facilities, micro-irrigation, and the emphasis on the dairy sector in tribal areas. He also informed that Sakhi Mandals were formed to empower tribal sisters and increase their income. Underlining that the tribal youth should get the benefits of rapid industrialization in Gujarat, the Prime Minister mentioned the opening up of many modern training centres such as Vocational Centres, ITIs and Kisan Vikas Kendras that have helped

around 18 lakh tribal youth acquire training and get placement.

Highlighting the menace of sickle cell disease 20-25 years ago, the Prime Minister pointed out that the tribal districts lacked dispensaries and had negligible facilities for large hospitals and medical colleges. "Today", he said, "the double-engine government has established hundreds of small hospitals at the village level and opened up more than 1400 health and wellness centres in the tribal areas. He noted that the work on the new building of Godhra Medical College will reduce the burden on medical colleges built in Dahod, Banaskantha, and Valsad.

Addressing the event, the Gujarat CM said that the massacre of tribals at Mangarh in 1913 was more gruesome than Jallianwala Bagh killings.

Speaking from the same dais, Ashok Gehlot said PM Modi receives great honour when he visits abroad as the world welcomes the Indian prime minister of the nation of Gandhi, where democracy is deep-rooted. When world realises this, they feel proud that PM of that country is coming to them.

Protestors defy section 144 CrPC, take to streets in Shillong to demand ILP implementation

Agency
Shillong, Nov 1:

Members, activists and supporters of at least four pressure groups in the Northeast state of Meghalaya took to the streets of Shillong to press for fulfilment of their demands.

The pressure groups from Meghalaya that organised the protest rally in Shillong are: HYC, HANM, EJNC and JSM.

The protestors under the banner "Save Hynniewtrep Mission" marched towards the Meghalaya state secretariat in Shillong.

The protestors defied section 144 CrPC that was imposed by the administration of East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya.

Section 144 CrPC was imposed in the whole Shillong city Limits, including the Shilong upper agglomeration area in East Khasi Hills district of Meghalaya following several incidents of assault on



commuters and vandalism of vehicles on October 28 during a protest rally.

Demonstrations were carried out in at least two different locations - near the SP office and near the DC office.

The groups demanded early implementation of Inner Line Permit (ILP) system in Meghalaya, inclusion of Khasi language in the eighth schedule of the constitution, review of border deal with

Assam, relocation of the Harijan colony, CBI or judicial inquiry into Cherristerfield Thangkiew death case, filling up vacant posts in government departments and immediate repeal of the gambling act.

Some of the representatives of the protesting pressure groups also met Meghalaya home minister Lakmen Rymbui and apprised him about their demands.

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74th Information & Public Relations...

Regarding the regulations frame for the welfare of the journalists, Hare Krishna said that he felt to review some of the regulation with the changing of time. Whether the newspaper should be approved as news channel or not is still yet to be affirmed. On the other hand, the Commissioner also said that there are regulations framed for journalists where benefit provided could not be entertained to working journalist who are above 60 years. However, many journalists in the state

are already above sixty years and some had even cross the age. So, whether the benefit should be provided or not become as another big challenge.

Hare Krishna further said that the role of the DIPR should not be confined to distribution of government departments' advertisement or government release. He said the DIPR should rather focus on spreading news or information which focuses more on the idea of Manipur. He also appeal to take strict actions to employees of the DIPR who

had not handed over the files that are pending with him to his or her predecessors before relieving from the post. On the other, Hare Krishna also appealed the JOURNALSIT to suggest and discussed about the issues that are being faced by the journalists fraternities of the state.

AMWJ President W Shamjai, EGM President Kh. Khogendra, MHJU president Peter Adani and Director of the IPR Balkrishna also attended as the guest of Honours during the function.

Sports

Dhananjaya, Hasaranga star as Sri Lanka beats Afghanistan by six wickets to keep T20 World Cup semifinal hopes alive

Agency
Brisbane, Nov 1:

It rained incessantly in Brisbane on Tuesday morning, but by the time the Afghanistan and Sri Lanka players reached the Gabba for their must-win T20 World Cup fixture, the skies cleared up.

And over the next three and a half hours, as the sun played hide and seek, the Sri Lankan players dominated the game, defeating Afghanistan by six wickets to stay on course for a semifinal berth.

On a used pitched - the same one that saw Australia beating Ireland last night - Afghanistan captain Mohammad Nabi won the toss and opted to bat, a decision that did not quite go as per plan. A miserly Lankan bowling line-up restricted Afghanistan to 144 for eight, before the batters rode on Dhananjaya de Silva's unbeaten 66 to chase down the target with nine balls to spare.

On a surface that looked a bit slow and aided the spinners initially, Afghanistan's innings saw a lot of starts from its top-order batters but none of them could cross 30. After a solitary run in the opening over of Kasun Rajitha, Rahmanullah Gurbaz - the top-scorer of the Afghan innings with 28 off 24 (2x4, 2x6) - laid a strong foundation with a 42-run opening partnership with Usman Ghani.

A quality batter with lots of T20 experience, Gurbaz took time to settle in but eventually accelerated with a couple of sixes and fours. After finishing the PowerPlay at 42 for no loss, Afghanistan tried to attack but a good-length delivery by Lahiru Kumara in the very first delivery after the PowerPlay rattled Gurbaz's stumps.

While Kumara brought Sri Lanka back into the game, wrist-spinner Wanindu Hasaranga (three for 13) put his side in the

driver's seat.

After Gurbaz's exit, Ghani went on to score a run-a-ball 27 before holing out to Hasaranga as the runs dried up in the middle-overs and Afghanistan went without scoring a boundary for seven overs. With none of the middle-order batters stepping up, Hasaranga claimed a brace in the final over, which only went for three runs, as the Afghans failed to capitalise on a steady start.

Afghanistan looked up to its star spinner Mujeeb Ur Rahman for an early breakthrough. Mujeeb, who is familiar with the pitch at the Gabba due to his Big Bash League (BBL) stint with Brisbane Heat, cleaned up Pathum Nissanka off the last ball of his first over. Having lost its first wicket for 12, Sri Lanka looked cautious but Dhananjaya (66 n.o., 42b, 6x4, 2x6) stood firm - forging partnerships with Kusal Mendis and Charith Asalanka to bring its chase

back on track.

As Dhananjaya cruised along, Afghanistan, despite having Mujeeb and Rashid Khan in its ranks, claimed just two wickets in the first 10 overs. By the time Rashid dismissed Asalanka and Mujeeb removed Bhanuka Rajapaksa, Sri Lanka was just four runs away from victory. Dhananjaya sealed the match with a four off Fazalhaq Farooqi.

Towards the end of the game, Rashid seemed to have twisted his knee while trying to stop a boundary. He limped out of the field, with the physio and team-mates accompanying him.

While this defeat knocked Afghanistan out of the tournament, a clinical performance by Sri Lanka kept the Asia Cup champion in the hunt for a spot in the semifinals.

Captain - Sri Lanka rode on Dhananjaya de Silva's unbeaten 66 to chase down the target with nine balls to spare.

Injured France midfielder Paul Pogba out of FIFA World Cup, Says Footballer's Agent



Agency
Milan, Nov 1:

Paul Pogba will miss France's World Cup defence as he needs more time to recover from knee surgery, his agent announced on Monday.

"Following yesterday and today's medical review in Torino and Pittsburgh, it is extremely painful to inform Paul Pogba will still need recovery time from his surgery," said Rafaela Pimenta in a statement.

"For this reason, Paul will not be able to join Juventus' squad before the World Cup break nor the French National Team in Qatar."

Juve coach Massimiliano Allegri had already said on Friday that it was "very unlikely" that the 29-year-old midfielder would play for his team before Serie A breaks up for the World Cup.

Italian media reported earlier on Monday that Pogba could be out for around 15 days with a thigh injury.

"Paul Pogba, in light of the recent radiological examinations performed... and the consultation carried out in Pittsburgh by Prof. Volker Musahl on the evaluation of his knee, needs to continue his rehabilitation program," Juve said in a statement.

Pogba is one of 12 Juve players currently out of action.

He hasn't played for Juve since re-signing for them from Manchester United in the summer, hurting the meniscus in his right knee in July.

He initially elected not to go under the knife in a bid to make the Qatar tournament which kicks off on November 20.

However after returning to training early last month Pogba changed his mind and opted for surgery, which kept him on the sidelines until two weeks ago when he recommenced partial training with Juve.

Pogba was a key member of the France team that won the World Cup in Russia four years ago. He scored in the 4-2 victory over Croatia in the final.

His absence from Didier Deschamps' squad adds to that of midfield partner N'Golo Kante, who has been ruled out for four months following surgery on a hamstring injury.

The 31-year-old Kante had not featured for Chelsea since limping off against Tottenham in August.