

## Senapati doctors protest over 8 demands



IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

Senapati district doctors have been staging sit-in protests at District Hospital since November 8 in support of the demands made by the All Manipur Health Services Doctors' Association (AMHSDA).

According to reports, this action was first conducted on Thursday in the hill districts of Manipur. Dr. Kiran Angom, a pediatric specialist at the District Hospital in Senapati, spoke to the media and said that the

sit-in protest was held in retaliation for the AMHSDA's failure to meet its eight-point demand.

While multiple memoranda and an ultimatum have been submitted to the Manipuri government, it appears that the demands for time-bound promotion have been made since August of last year but have not yet been fulfilled. Unexpectedly, the physician criticized the fact that some physicians maintain their grade level till retirement, which Dr. Kiran deemed unfair. Before this, it

was said that Prime Minister Modi had ordered raising the age of superannuation for medical staff starting in May 2016 to 65 years.

Accordingly, Manipur's government reportedly implemented it in August of last year. The superannuation age was reportedly increased to 65 years for both specialist and non-specialist doctors as in the case of JNIMS doctors and several states in the nation in 2020, but the rest of the state's doctors were only given 62 years of standards.

The next demand is the creation of director general positions for director of family welfare services, director of public health, and director of medical education. According to Dr. Kiran, the Manipur Health Services' other doctors will be impacted by the NPA fixing as of January 1, 2020, which she described as a significant loss for them. However, the standards have only been enforced at JNIMS, Imphal. Many doctors have to pay bribes in order to get posted, while some did not follow the rules outlined in the Transfer and Posting Policy of Health Services, 2017, which they should have properly followed. Any MHS doctors are qualified for the highest position because of their seniority, which she described as being uncommonly seen in the state. The association demands the provision of risk and difficult area posting allowances to execute the planned MHS Rules 2020 and Amendments, which place a great deal of burden on the numerous doctors assigned in remote locations.

## Drug smuggler with 1 lakhs WY tablet arrested



IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

A teams of Manipur Police Commando unit of Imphal East arrested one illegal drug smuggler namely; Phundreimayum Abdul Hadee @ Amu (35 years) S/o (Late) Abdul Gafar Khan S/o (Late) Haoreibi Makha Leikai, Thoubal District from eastern side of Arapati Thongkhong, Imphal-East at around 10 p.m. along with 1, 00, 000 (one lakh) nos. WY

tablets, one car (Maruti 800), red in colour, bearing Regd. no. MN 06LA/3217, one mobile phone (Huawei P20 Pro) along with two Airtel SIM cards and a sum of Rs. 360/- (three hundred rupees).

The person along with the narcotic drugs was arrested by a team of CDO/IE Unit led by Inspector Kh. Henery Singh, OC-CDO/IE Unit under the command of Addl. SP(Ops) Imphal East District Kh. Herojit Singh, MPS and under the supervi-

sion of M. Pradip Singh, IPS Superintendent of Police, Imphal-East District conducted foot patrolling, random frisking and checking at the eastern side of Arapati Thongkhong, Imphal-East as a preventive measures taken up in connection with upcoming Sangai Festival - 2022.

The arrested person has been handed over to Irlibung police Station for taking up necessary legal action against him.

## Protest rally staged against legalization of Liquor

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

Various forms of protests continue at different part of the state against the state government decision to legalize liquor under the aegis of the Coalition Against Drugs & Alcohol (CADA).

Yesterday evening too, at around 7 pm large number of people staged a torch rally at Hiyanglam in Kakching district demanding revocation of the cabinet decision for legalization of liquor. The torch rally was jointly organized by All Manipur Women Social Reformation & Development Samaj (Nupi Samaj), Hiyanglam Apunba Meira Paibi Lup and CADA Hiyanglam Unit.

The torch rally began from Heeyanglam Mayai Leikai and concluded at Heeyanglam Lai Pangganba.

## Pre-Board Exam from December 2

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 12:

The All Manipur Recognised Private Schools' Welfare Association (AMRPSWA) Imphal will organize Pre Board Exam from December 2 to December 15 of this year for the Academic session 2022. It may be mentioned that AMRPSWA has been organizing Pre Board Examination for the students appearing in the

HSLC examination conducted by the Board of Secondary Education Manipur since 2005 for the past 16 years.

A press release by AMRPSWA said, "As the Pre-Board exam is going to be conducted following the criteria, the pattern of BOSEM, it becomes easier for the student while appearing HSLC and appeals the student studying in Government, Government Aided and Private school to appear in the

said Pre-Board examination."

And appeals organization and individuals of the state not to call any Bandh, Blockade, General Strike, etc, during the said Pre-Board examination. Any student desirous of appearing for the examination should contact their respective schools, and the school should contact and submit relevant documents to AMRPSWA before November 24, 2022.

## Free Aid and Assistive Device distributed to 96 Senior Citizens of Moirang AC

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

District Social Welfare Office, Bishnupur, today distributed aids and assistive devices to 96 senior citizens of Moirang AC under the Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY) scheme. The assistive device includes a wheel chair, adjustable walking stick, walking stick, LS belt, knee brace, spectacles, an artificial den-

ture, foot care, a walking stick with a seat, a battery-operated hearing aid, a crutch axilla, a Tetra Pod, and a walker folder.

During the function, Moirang AC MLA stated that RVY is a scheme for distributing physical aids and assisted-living devices to senior adults who fall under the BPL category. This is a central sector scheme, wholly supported by the central government under Prime Minister

Narendra Modi's leadership. With these devices, physically challenged senior citizens can resume their normal lives.

District Social Welfare Officer N. Jotish stated during the function that the government is trying all possible means to bring disabled and senior citizens back to normal life. He also urged people to treat the distributed devices with respect so that others can use them in the future.

## Nitin Gadkari reviews National Highway Projects in Arunachal, Mizoram, Tripura & Manipur

Agency  
Guwahati, Nov 11:

Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari, on Friday, chaired a review meeting of the national highway projects in the Northeast states of Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Manipur.

Gadkari reviewed the national highway projects in Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Manipur along with the chief ministers of the respective states.

Union minister General (ret'd) VK Singh and senior transport officers from both

the centre and the concerned states were also present at the meeting.

The meeting was held at Guwahati in Assam on Friday (November 11).

Friday (November 11), was the last day of the review of national highway projects in Northeast region of India.

Gadkari during the review meeting strictly instructed the contractors to ensure good quality of work.

Gadkari also warned the contractors that he "would periodically get pictures from the citizens in that area to know about the exact sta-

tus and quality of work on the ground".

A threadbare discussion on projects and hurdles in completing those on time was held during the review meeting.

Many issues like land acquisition, use of latest technologies, disputes and financial interventions of the ongoing as well as future projects were discussed.

"We thank government of India for the continued guidance," said Arunachal Pradesh chief minister Pema Khandu after the meeting.

## Climate crisis in the world including India is accentuating faster

### Poor and underprivileged are bearing the main brunt globally

By Krishna Jha  
New Delhi, Nov 11:

Three coal mining workers died on September 18, 2022, due to suspected inhalation of poisonous gas while working in a rat hole coal mining at Tikok Malu hills in Ledo area under Margherita subdivision of Tinsukia district. Saidul Islam, Hussain Ali and Asmat Ali, all under thirty, died since it was suspected that there were no preventive steps taken against the deadly impact of environmental hazards, and here it was the poisonous gas emitting in the mine. According to reports in the national

dailies, illegal mining is continuing under the knowledge of district authorities, but they are compelled to keep quiet because of the involvement of several ruling party leaders.

It is a common phenomenon. The hapless workers, in search of employment which has become a rare commodity, accept the mining jobs in these rat holes that have turned into death traps in the absence of inadequate security measures. Apart from gas, there are accidental deaths too as the mines are left without any measures of renovation. Human lives are considered cheaper than the

coal they bring from the mines. The accident is not without context, though media is not allowed to cover them.

First time it was in Jogigopa, 900 km from the recent spot. This rat hole is not the only one, there are at least one thousand such mines in this district alone. The voices against the hazards are not allowed to be raised. Rat hole mining is not the only threat to life, whether it is the human life, wild life or the green life of nature itself. But in each of these cases, the responsibility falls on the greed to exploit the nature. Dehing Patkai Park is spread out in an area of

89.44 km of rainforest, declared a wild life sanctuary, on June 13, 2004.

On December 13, 2020, state government of Assam declared it a national park. On June 9, 2021 Forest Department of Assam officially notified it as a national park. The national park is spread over the largest stretch of lowland rainforests in India. Despite its mesmerising natural beauty, the National Board for Wild Life has accepted a proposal recommending the usage of 98.59 hectares of land belonging to the Dehing-Patkai Wild life reserve, for extraction of coal by Coal India Ltd. Dehing

is a river flowing through the forest while Patkai is a mountain, and no one is sure what future has in store for them.

The NBWL discussed Saleki also, a proposed reserve forest land, for a coal mining project by North Eastern Coal Field. Saleki is a part of Dehing-Patkai Elephant Reserve forest, covering 111.19 square km of rain forest and several reserve forests spread out to Dibrugarh, Tinsukia and Sibsagar districts. The scientists have also realised that there is a steep rise in zoonotic diseases directly linked with biodiversity and forest destruction.

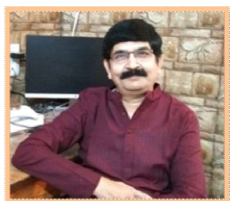
Zoonoses have opened the gates for Bird Flu, Ebola, Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Nipah Virus, Zika Virus and finally Corona Virus.

It will not be surprising that the tsunami of all these deadly ailments are found to have the only source, and that is human interference. During Pandemic, Union ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) planned out industrial and infrastructural projects detrimental to environment security. In fact a new set of rules have been introduced, which is draft Environment Impact

Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2020, and would replace EIA Notification of 2006 with, and that would be totally contrary to principles of environmental protection. The approval granted by NBWL proves violation of forest conservation Act, 1980.

North Eastern Coalfields is subsidiary of Coal India Limited which was granted a 30 year mining lease of this region in 1973. Since then North Eastern Coalfields have continued mining in the area. The lease expired long back in 2003, but it has continued mining illegally.

# Maulana Abul Kalam Azad who laid the foundation of education policy



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

11th November is celebrated as National Education Day to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the first education minister of independent India, who served from 15 August 1947 until 2 February 1958. The entire nation honors the contributions made by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad on this day, which is also known as Rashtriya Shiksha Diwas. National education day celebrates the improvements of the national education system in the country.

Maulana Abul Kalam was a scholar, activist and leader of the Congress party. He served as the Education Minister for eleven years. As a freedom fighter, Azad was the leader of the Khilafat Movement and helped organise the non-co-operation movement in 1919. Azad was a follower of the Gandhian philosophy. He also served as the President of the Congress party in 1923 and then from 1940 to 1945. Maulana has authored several books including India Wins Freedom and Ghuhr-e-Khatir. There are many great men who made their invaluable contributions to make the country independent. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad's name comes in such a great man whose sacrifice always reminds us of the unique and commendable work that he did for our society. He was unable to tolerate the word Ghulam with his name in any way, so he changed his name from Mohiuddin Haider to Abul Kalam Azad. This self-given name later went on so that the real name was completely lost. He started the editing work of a literary magazine 'Lisanussidq' in 1902 at the age of 14. At that time, this magazine had created a great surprise. Apart from this, Azad did efficient editing of magazines like 'Un Nadav', 'Vakil', 'Darul Sultanate', etc. The magazine became so popular that not a single copy of it survived. It contained articles of national ideology. Ultimately 'Al Hial' and Maulana Azad himself became the victims of the British.

When India became independent, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was elected the Prime Minister of the country. Impressed by the intense scholarship of Maulana Azad, Nehru appointed him the education minister of the country because the progress of any country depends on the education there. Azad had a pure philosophy for India's education. He played a significant role in the establishment of various educational institutions. Some of these are Indian Institute of Science and Jamia Milia Islamia. His most significant contribution was the establishment of the first Indian Institute of Technology in 1951. He was also responsible for creating and setting up the University Grants Commission in 1953 and emphasized setting up the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. Over the past few decades, a number of IITs have come up. The objective of celebrating National Education Day is described as strengthening India's educational institutions. We need to raise the quality of education and also to evaluate the country's current performance in the field. It is also seen as an opportunity to improve the current situation of education in India. Education is one of the fundamental human rights given to all citizens by the constitution of India. Without knowledge and education, society cannot progress, which hampers the nation's overall progress. Maulana's heart was deeply pained by the horrific massacre of 1947. Maulana came after winning both the general elections of the Lok Sabha and remained the education minister of the country. During his tenure, Maulana laid the foundation of education policy for the progress of the country, he will always be remembered. People know him as a warrior of a pen. He established higher education institutions and also worked for free education in India.

Several leaders have remembered the contribution of Azad in building the foundation of a strong education system in the country. His invaluable contribution towards laying the foundation of a strong education system in independent India will be remembered forever. Let this day be a realization to motivate the young generation to strive for excellence in the field of education for the overall development of the country.

# COP27 : A summit for human survival



By: N. Munal Meitei

Science has established beyond doubt that the window for climate action is closing rapidly. The world's most significant climate summit, COP27 is a make-or-break moment for the global action on climate change with 198 member countries in the coastal town of Sharm al-Sheikh in Egypt, from the last Sunday, 6th to 8th November, 2022 with a view to building on previous successes and paving the way for future ambitions. Environmentalist at COP26 were clear for the countries 2030 global emissions reduction targets will cause at least 2.5°C warming by 2100. However, this is well above the target of Paris Agreement. Therefore, 1.5°C target is just like being on 'life support in ICU'.

COP27 is a golden opportunity for all stakeholders to rise to the occasion and tackle effectively on the global climate crisis. We all know the gravity of climate crisis and the need to address the value of multilateral, collective and concerted action to fight this global threat. The world is

not on track to keep warming within 1.5°C, and past events have made the path to success even more difficult.

The continuing global economic effects of Covid-19 and Russia's invasion of Ukraine, along with mounting impacts of climate change in the form of various disasters, have created huge stumbling blocks for decarbonisation and international cooperation on climate. As it stands, the Paris Agreement is teetering on the brink of irrelevance.

A successful COP27 – which will include delivering on support for developing countries to deal with loss and damage caused by climate change – is very essential to keep international cooperation on climate alive. India's stand on this issue will be a major discussion point at COP27. Pakistan has also stressed to make the formal agenda at this climate talks. Thus, at COP27, developed countries will be under pressure from vulnerable nations to prioritise support for loss and damage during the negotiations.

In its latest report, IPCC warned that climate change is impacting the world much faster than anticipated. Furthermore, it points out that even if we successfully limit global warming to 1.5°C, we won't be able to avert losses to nature, societies or economies entirely. The best-case scenario is to reduce them substantially.

Limiting global warming is a matter of life and death for communities struggling to cope with weather ex-

tremes, and who lack the economic resources to adapt. Most of the developing countries rely on financial support from their richer counterparts to enhance mitigation and adaptation and meet their pledges under the Paris Agreement.

The COP27 is the perfect stage for global leaders to demonstrate the climate ambitions by fulfilling their financing commitments to support the most vulnerable regions for fossil fuel phase out. The developing countries, such as African countries, can't fight global warming independently.

COP27's priorities should be to deliver on previously agreed finance targets by the developed countries to meet their initial goal of Rs. 48000 billion between 2020 and 2025. Moreover, at this summit, countries should develop road maps for balanced adaptation and mitigation finance to go into effect after 2025.

According to some leaders, the previously agreed Rs. 800 billion in annual financial aid is insufficient. As a result, they urge to scale up the financial support to match developing countries' evolving adaptation and mitigation needs. The working group estimates the annual cost of adaptation in developing countries at between Rs. 11200 billion and Rs. 24000 billion by 2030 and 2050 respectively and the total may go up to Rs. 40000 billion.

Current spending on adaptation are much smaller than needed. Only 6% of climate finance goes to

adaptation efforts. In fact, there have been calls for all climate finance to go towards adaptation to help it catch up. Countries must update their Nationally Determined Contributions in line with the 1.5°C target and lay out ambitious and long-term strategies. They also should agree on credible and auditable financing mechanisms that can make those targets possible in the shortest period of time.

According to reports, there is a significant discrepancy between climate finance figures reported by donor countries and the real provisions. For maximum transparency, a trusted third party must oversee the entire process. In reality, the most effective adaptation measures can't prevent all losses especially for the vulnerable regions.

As a result, COP27 can't be another stage for empty promises and meaningless commitments that will remain only on paper. Instead, the global leaders demonstrate the progress and tangible results to the world in addressing the most pressing matters.

The way in which the world responds to the present climate emergency is crucial to our future survival. Therefore, COP27 becomes the moment when the world moved from negotiation to implementation, words were translated to actions and where we collectively work towards sustainability for the planet and the future generations.

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

# Long live honest journalism

By: Nava Thakuria

Even though the Indian media fraternity observes National Press Day on 16 November commemorating the day since when the Press Council of India (PCI) starts functioning, it's unfortunate that the quasi-judicial body still has no authority over news channels and digital media outlets. While rich tributes are paid to everyone who contributed to the growth of print media and also its mentor & watchdog (PCI), it should be an occasion for the practicing media persons to introspect seriously over their noble profession, where it has actually been heading in the post-Covid-19 era.

Since its inception and functioning, the PCI continues to symbolize a free and responsible press in the largest democracy of the world. Among all press or media councils, function-

ing in various countries, the PCI is recognized as a unique entity that exercises authority over the media and also safeguards independence of the press. Under the Press Council Act 1965, various relevant functions such as helping newspapers to maintain their independence and building up a code of conduct for newspapers and journalists in accordance with high professional standards are being authorized for the PCI. Undoubtedly, the sole aim of journalism should be the service to humanity. Till the last century, newspapers dominated the media scenario, but lately it has witnessed a drastic fall in the circulation of printed newspapers. The newspaper industry is actually struggling for survival after the invasion of satellite television channels and digital outlets.

Since the days of Arunodoi (1846), northeast India has witnessed the publication of a good number of morning dailies in various languages. Prior to the pandemic, Guwahati supported the publication of around 30 dailies with hundreds of periodicals. But the endless corruption among many editors and a visibly low space for the valued readers/audience/viewers to make their official points even in need have steadily ruined the sacred profession. Once the quality internet becomes available to the common people, a large number of social media users start questioning the professional journalists and the professional media persons were seemingly not ready for that.

Rejection to social media terming it a nuisance by a number of print-

editors has also deteriorated the situation. In the recent past, altogether three Guwahati-based television journalists (who started careers as print journalists) were named and shamed in social media as being beneficiaries of the National Register of Citizens updation scam in Assam scam.

At least one prominent filmmaker identified a television talk show host in his facebook post that the scribe had grabbed a huge amount of money which was due for the temporary workers (data entry operators) in the process. The accused television journalist aggressively supported the draft NRC in various official appearances (reasons best known to him), even though it still faces many pertinent questions ranging from its cut-off year (1971) to inclusion of millions of illegal Bangladeshi migrants. In a public comment, the tainted scribe even compared those who support 1951 as the cut-off year to identify the infiltrators in Assam (as it is done across the country) as idiots.

Lately a senior print journalist in his post claimed that the accused scribe even spent money in the local press club election to get an executive committee of his choice. Need not to mention that the concerned electoral exercise was a visible expensive affair to the common city residents as well. A large number of leading print journalists were denied their membership, so that they could not participate in the election, neither as candidates nor as voters. Rumours were spread that a powerful politician was behind their mission, which turned false later.

In both cases, when thousands of alternate media users accused the journalist and press club authority of corruption and mismanagement, they remained silent. Months back, a list of beneficiaries from the coal mafia went viral in social media where some journalists and press associations were named. Amazingly, they did not make any response. PCI should have intervened in all those matters for the sake of India's media fraternity, but it has limited authority. Thus, existence of the statutory body has been denied by those dishonest media persons. What worse we are waiting for!

# Social media profiles as a branding tool

By: Kaustov Kashyap

Social media today is, more than just about tweeting to your favorite celebrities or sharing photos from your high school or college days. In fact, it's an important and powerful tool to promote yourself and make yourself look more appealing to potential job recruiters and employers. This means that one must be cautious about their activities on social media and ensure that they don't post any offensive content that can hinder their chances of being hired.

What do recruiters look for on candidates' social media profiles?

Generally, hiring managers look at a candidate's social media profiles to get a better picture of their actual personality and to look more closely at them beyond what their resume suggests. Social media profiles of candidates also help employers to assess accurately if they will be the right fit for the company's culture. Sometimes, the candidates fear that recruiters may find some harmful or embarrassing content on their so-

cial media and so they delete their account or online persona. However, this approach may not be a sound one, as it also makes them invisible to employers. Moreover, if you're a regular user of social media platforms, there are a few dos and don'ts that you must take care to follow if you want recruiters to take you seriously and make sure that your skills and good qualities are not overshadowed by questionable social media activity.

The implications of posting such content could be extremely unfavorable for job seekers. In the worst possible case, you will not only gain a bad reputation among potential employers but also lose your current job depending on the severity of the issue. The number of people getting fired due to the misuse of social media is rising constantly. So, one must understand that while they are comfortable sharing intimate or seemingly embarrassing details of their personal lives on social media, employers take a very

dim view of such behavior from their prospective or current employers.

How to leverage social media for your professional branding?

For a job seeker, his/her social media profile plays the role of a branding tool, wherein it's not just their personality, but also their skills that must be packaged well enough to draw the attention of recruiters. Maintaining the right balance between being professional and being yourself on social media can be tricky.

But keeping it professional doesn't mean that one must dilute their personality and stop being their authentic self. Rather, job seekers should utilize each social media platform for its strengths and position themselves in a manner that appeals to employers who want a skilled person to fill a gap in the organisation; while at the same time, allows them to see that the candidate is someone who will fit in well with the rest of the team.

How to make a compelling social media profile:

Use a professional photograph or headshot on social media profiles

Make sure that your display picture on professional networking

websites like LinkedIn and Google+ and even Facebook, is appropriate. Grainy or blurry pictures where your face is not easily visible can put recruiters off from going through the rest of your profile.

Create a consistent and accurate online persona

Maintain consistency across all social media platforms that you use, especially on LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter which are among the most popular channels and also which recruiters usually check first when considering a candidate. Therefore, vital information such as educational qualifications, job experiences, and skills must be mentioned clearly and accurately on LinkedIn and Facebook profiles.

Talk about your skills and achievements

Highlight your professional achievements and skills, but not in a manner that seems boastful. Mention specific goals that you have met as part of your former job roles and back them up with numbers. Also, don't take credit for anything that you haven't done, as recruiters and employers are bound to find out if any of your claims are false or exaggerated.

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# Indian Army launches single window facility for welfare and grievance redressal of veer naris

PRO  
Imphal, Nov 11:

Taking yet another step in leveraging technology, the Indian Army with a motto of "Taking Care of Our Own, No Matter What" launched a single window facility named the "Veerangana Sewa Kendra" (VSK) for welfare and grievance redressal of veer naris. The project was inaugurated by President Army Wives Welfare Association (AWWA) on 10 November 2022 at the premises of the Directorate of Indian Army Veterans (DIAV) premises located at Delhi Cantt.

Veerangana Sewa Kendra (VSK) will be available as a

service to the Indian Army Veterans. Portal [www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in](http://www.indianarmyveterans.gov.in). The system caters for registering grievances with tracking, monitoring and regular feedback to the applicant. Veer naris /Next of Kin will have multiple means for approaching the VSK through telephone, SMS, WhatsApp, Post, e-mail and walk-ins to seek assistance. Stakeholders can monitor the status of grievances through a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) software and the applicant will receive regular status updates through SMS and email.

The project leverages digital technology in the seamless coupling of various stakehold-

ers i.e. Record Offices, Officers Record Office, ECHS, AWWA, Canteen Services Directorate, Colonels Veteran, Liaison Officers at PCDA (O) and PCDA (P) on a common digital platform. Non-military stakeholders like Rashtriya Sainik Board (RSB), Kendriya Sainik Board (KSB) & Zilla Sainik Board (ZSB) are being linked through e-mail.

The postal address of the facility is DIAV, 104 Cavalry Road, Maude Lines Delhi Cantt 110010. A WhatsApp number for the facility is being shared shortly. Registration of welfare-related grievances can be done on the portal by veer naris through the respective Record Offices, Col

Veterans and DIAV. Veer naris will have an option to walk into the facility and meet Assistant Manager VSK/OIC VSK to register and monitor their grievances.

The project has been driven by DIAV, AG's Branch and the technology solution has been developed by BISAG-N, while Hero Moto Corp has supported the project through their CSR initiative.

Veer naris are employed as VSK staff to maintain inherent connect and empathy with the beneficiaries. The VSK is one of its kind initiative by the Indian Army towards extending genuine care and support to its widows and veer naris and NoKs.

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 11:

India has logged 842 new coronavirus infections taking the tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,46,64,810, while the active cases dipped to 12,752, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Friday.

The fall in cases comes a day after the country reported 1,016 new infections.

The death toll climbed to 5,30,520 with six fatalities which includes five reconciled by Kerala. One death has been reported from Rajasthan in a span of 24 hours, the data up-

dated at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprises 0.03 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate increased to 98.78 per cent, according to the ministry website.

A decrease of 435 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 4,41,21,538, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

Under the nationwide vaccination drive, 219.77 crore doses of Covid vaccine have

been administered in the country so far.

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.

## Moreh Battalion AR foils cross border smuggling of Narcotics

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

On November 8, Moreh Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of Headquarter Inspector General Assam Rifles (South) foiled cross border smuggling of narcotics at Moreh.

Based on specific input regarding move of narcotics a

Check Post was established in General Area of Moreh. At around 1225 hours, the suspected Eco Van was intercepted. The Eco van driver posed as a taxi driver and was carrying innocent, unwitting civilians including women and children as passengers. On inspecting the vehicle narcotics were found hidden in the modified petrol tank of the vehicle.

A total of 1.7 KG of Brown Sugar in 43 Soap Cases, 0.815 KG of WYI Tablets, Cash Rupees fifteen thousand were seized during the search. The seized narcotics were assessed to be worth Rupees 3.9 crores.

The recovered items along with the Drug Smuggler were handed over to Moreh Police Station for further investigation.

## Loktak Battalion organises Medical Camp

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

Loktak Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a Medical Camp at New Zalenphai village in Churachandpur District on November 9.

With an aim to address the basic medical needs of the locals staying in remote areas of the district which invariably gets neglected due to lack of medical resources, the team of Assam Rifles organised the Medical Camp wherein free consultation, routine health check-up and medical treatments were provided to the locals of New Zalenphai and adjoining villages. A total of 165 locals to include 57 men, 69 women and 39 children were screened, diagnosed & treated



during the medical camp. The event was also utilised by the medical team to raise awareness amongst locals about basic health education, causes & prevention from viral diseases and significance on hygiene and sanitation.

During the event, the locals of New Zalenphai village conducted a cultural programme depicting the celebration of harvesting season to show their gratitude and enhance the bonhomie with Security Forces.

## The Godrej & Boyce Disputes the Proceedings of Land Acquisition for Ahmedabad-Mumbai Bullet Train

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Nov 11:

The Godrej & Boyce Manufacturing Co Ltd on Thursday submitted to the Bombay High Court that the proceedings of acquisition of its land at Vikhroli in North East Mumbai, initiated by the Maharashtra government for the Ahmedabad-Mumbai bullet train project were "illegal and bad in law".

The company which last month filed a petition challenging the Maharashtra government's order dated September 15, awarding compensation to it for land acquisition, stated that the final compensation amount of Rs.264 crore offered by the Government was a fraction of the initial Rs.572 crore offered to the company for the land acquisition.

The company in its petition has sought that the high court direct the state government to not proceed towards the award passed and initiation possession proceedings. The company in its rejoinder affidavit filed in response to the affidavits filed by the Maharashtra Government and the National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd (NHSRCL),



The Godrej & Boyce locks horns with Maharashtra Government over land acquisition for bullet train. A representational image.

denied that it was delaying the project.

A division bench comprising Justices Nitin Jamdar and Sharmila Deshmukh heard the matter on Thursday and adjourned it till November 21.

In the affidavit filed through Bachubhai Munim & Co, the Godrej & Boyce stated that after taking over 26 months to issue the award of compensation, it is unacceptable that the Govt now claims urgency for the project. The delay in concluding the acquisition proceedings and recourse to multiple extensions was due to the State.

The authorities have failed to fulfil the mandatory statutory requirements of the Fair

Compensation Act. No report was prepared detailing the approximate cost of the land acquisition. The authorities have failed to fulfil the mandatory statutory requirements of the Fair Compensation Act. Besides, the issuance of award does not entitle the authorities to take possession of the petitioner's property since the award is ex-facie illegal and null.

The company and the government have been embroiled in a legal dispute over the acquisition of the company-owned land in suburban Vikhroli in North East Mumbai for the bullet train project since 2019. Of the total 508.17 kilometres of rail track between

Mumbai and Ahmedabad, 21 km is planned to be underground. One of the entry points to the underground tunnel falls on the land at Vikhroli owned by Godrej.

The company's land already acquired include 89 sq yards land for laying additional tracks in connection with the Ghatkopar - Mulund Arterial Railway Sidings and 56 acres for the Eastern Express Highway.

In an application filed earlier, the company had claimed that the entire proceedings for land acquisition had lapsed in 2020 and, hence, the award recently passed by the officer was void ab initio.

Earlier, the state government in its affidavit stated that the Ahmedabad-Mumbai high-speed rail corridor project is a priority project for the Government of India, since it will be the country's first bullet train and will run at a maximum speed of 350 km per hour, covering the stretch between the two cities in under three hours from the usual seven hours.

In the meanwhile out of total of 1,070 acre of land to be required in Maharashtra, around 1,015 acre land in Thane, Palghar and Mumbai has already been acquired.

## Career Guidance

## How to Equilibrate Internships & Studies Together



By: Vijay GarG

One of the major challenges that many young people face on a daily basis is striking a balance between their lives at work and their personal lives.

Now that you have taken the first step to pursue an internship alongside your studies, are you struggling to bal-

ance the two?

One of the major challenges that many young people face on a daily basis is striking a balance between their lives at work and their personal lives. In the same way, one must balance studies with an internship when one is a student. While there is no ideal method to balance everything in your life, there are a few things you can do to make things go more easily.

Here are some important tips on balancing your internship & studies:

### 1. Keep Your Priorities Straight

Knowing your priorities will help you succeed in your internship. They don't have to be at odds, but if your routine is very hectic, you might find

that you have to prioritise one over the other. You can avoid rapid decisions in the heat of the situation by determining your priorities ahead.

When you have got your priorities laid out, it will be easy to handle situations where you need to reduce your internship hours, or just give more time to the work and a little less to your studies. Do not be afraid to take a break from internship if your degree is suffering as a result of poor time management, not having enough hours in the day, or exhaustion. Inform your management of this and suggest that you work fewer days or hours or take a break and then resume work later.

### 2. Plan Ahead

The last thing you want to

do is rush and complete your task at the eleventh hour. You must give both your university and internship your complete engagement and focus. The best defence against deadlines sneaking up on you is prioritising and planning. So, be sure to plan ahead by paying attention to the class schedule and deadlines.

As you mark the deadlines, organise your tasks by importance. Determine how much time you will need for each of your academics and internship. Once you have a clear understanding of your study timetable, you can organise your time at work and still have enough time to study at home.

### 3. Communicate With Your Employers

You could struggle to

complete your schoolwork on time because of a clash between your work and study schedule. Be upfront with your manager in communication. By communicating your worries and your availability or lack thereof for a short period of time, keep a good rapport with them. Recognise your limitations by only accepting jobs that you can finish within the specified deadlines. You'll be able to manage situations at work effectively and finish your studies on time if you keep your manager up to date.

### 4. Have A Daily Routine

Developing a regular schedule for work and school not only helps in mental preparation for the day, but also offers some stability to your life

at a time when you are balancing a lot of different tasks. What you should do first, studies or an internship is the last thing you should need to think about. Keep a close tab on your class schedule and make a timetable that includes time for classes, homework, internships, and personal rest.

### 5. Balance Your Time

You must make sure that the time you spend studying is time well spent if you want to be able to balance studies and internships. To stay focused and avoid procrastination, break up your study sessions by taking brief breaks in between. This will give your mind and eyes some much-needed rest, ensuring that you can study more efficiently. Ultimately, this will mean that

you will be able to balance the work and the studies better. Also, remember to schedule proper time for rest and sleep. If your brain is too tired, both your pursuits are likely to suffer.

The benefits of working while pursuing a degree at a university are obvious, and they will have a significant impact on your career prospects. You may expand your network, learn new skills to highlight on your resume, and even get a better handle on your finances. So, if you work and study at the same time, hopefully, these tips will make things somewhat easier for you. You will change as a result of the experience, as well as how you view the working environment.

# China reports 10,000 new virus cases, capital closes parks

Agency  
Beijing, Nov 11:

China's capital Beijing has closed city parks and imposed other restrictions as the country faces a new wave of COVID-19 cases. Elsewhere, more than 5 million people were under lockdown Friday in the southern manufacturing hub Guangzhou and the western megacity Chongqing.

The country reported 10,729 new cases on Friday, almost all of them testing positive while showing no symptoms. With the bulk of Beijing's 21 million people undergoing near daily testing, another 118 new cases were recorded in the sprawling city.

Many city schools switched to online classes, hospitals restricted services and some shops and restaurants were shuttered, with their staff taken to quarantine. Videos on social media showed people in some areas protesting or fighting with police and health workers.

Chinese leaders promised Thursday to respond to public frustration over its severe "zero-COVID" strategy that has confined millions to their homes and severely disrupted the economy. No details were offered other than a promise to release "stranded people" who have been in quarantine or blocked for weeks from leaving cities where there are cases.

"Zero-COVID" has kept China's infection rate relatively low but weighs on the economy and has disrupted life by shutting schools, factories and shops, or sealing neighborhoods without warning. With the new surge in cases, a growing number of

areas are shutting down businesses and imposing curbs on movement. In order to enter office buildings, shopping malls and other public places, people are required to show a negative result from a virus test taken as often as once a day.

With economic growth weakening again after rebounding to 3.9% over a year earlier in the three months ending in September, forecasters had been expecting bolder steps toward reopening the country, whose borders remain largely closed.

President and ruling Communist Party leader Xi Jinping is expected to make a rare trip abroad next week, but has given little indication of backing off on a policy the party has closely associated with social stability and the superiority of his policies. That has been maintained by its seven-person Politburo Standing Committee, which was named in October at a party congress that also expanded Xi's political dominance by appointing him to a third five-year term as leader.

It is packed with his loyalists, including the former party chief of Shanghai, who enforced a draconian lockdown

that sparked food shortages, shut factories and confined millions to their homes for two months or more. People from cities with a single case in the past week are barred from visiting Beijing, while travelers from abroad are required to be quarantined in a hotel for seven to 10 days — if they are able to navigate the timely and opaque process of acquiring a visa.

Business groups say that discourages foreign executives from visiting, which has prompted companies to shift investment plans to other countries. Visits from U.S. officials and lawmakers charged with maintaining the crucial trading relations amid tensions over tariffs, Taiwan and human rights have come to a virtual standstill.

Last week, access to part of the central city of Zhengzhou, home to the world's biggest iPhone factory, was suspended after residents tested positive for the virus. Thousands of workers jumped fences and hiked along highways to escape the factory run by Taiwan's Foxconn Technology Group. Many said coworkers who fell ill received no help and working conditions were unsafe.

Also last week, people posted outraged comments on social media after a 3-year-old boy, whose compound in the northwest was under quarantine, died of carbon monoxide poisoning. His father complained that guards who were enforcing the closure refused to help and tried to stop him as he rushed his son to a hospital.

Despite such complaints, Chinese citizens have little say in policy making under the one-party authoritarian system that maintains rigid controls over media and public demonstrations.

Speculation on when measures will be eased has centered on whether the government is willing to import or domestically produce more effective vaccines, with the elderly population left particularly vulnerable. That could come as soon as next spring, when a new slate of officials are due to be named under Xi's continuing leadership. Or, restrictions could persist much longer if the government continues to reject the notion of living to learn with a relatively low level of cases that cause far fewer hospitalizations and deaths than when the pandemic was at its height.

## Assam Rifles conducts Medical Camp

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

'Khuga Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted a Medical Camp at Behiang village, Churachandpur district today. In continuation of its efforts to improve mutual trust and to maintain peace and harmony in the region while simulta-

neously addressing the medical requirements in the underdeveloped border villages, a medical camp was organised for local populace of Behiang village. Total of 33 villagers including 4 children were examined by the medical staff of the Assam Rifles. Essential medicines were also distributed to all the affected people to ensure a healthy so-

ciety. The villagers were also briefed about the ill effects of drugs and importance of hygiene and sanitation in daily routine to avoid unwarranted diseases. Special focus was given on educating the villagers on contagious diseases during approaching winter season and ways to prevent them.

# AR motivates students to join Sainik Schools



IT News  
Imphal, Nov 11:

In pursuance to lend a helping hand to the young school children & guiding them in cracking All India Sainik School Entrance Examination 2023, Loktak Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) conducted an awareness drive for

both girls and boys at Unit Public School in S Kotlein village and Heritage Academy School in Kaprang village, Churachandpur District today.

The drive included distribution of posters, information brochures at prominent places followed by conducting awareness lecture on eligibility criteria, online registration

process, exam pattern, syllabus, selection process, fee criteria and documents required was also delivered by the team of Assam Rifles.

The event saw exhilarating participation by the students and teachers alike. It was attended by a total of 139 students and 11 teachers of both Unit Public School and Heritage Academy School.

Contd. from Page 1

## Climate crisis in the world....

Dehing-Patkai wild life area and its elephant reserve are in the same danger that our miners face in the rat hole mining in Dibrugarh. These are all the tips of an iceberg. The reality is even more grim and worrisome.

Climate change report has pointed out that India is one of the 197 countries that had made a promise of not letting the Green House effect to cross 1.5 C by 2030. The Climate Action Tracker, an independent analysis that tracks

government climate action classifies India's action as "highly insufficient". It also says India's continued support to the coal industry undermines a green recovery. The UN Climate Change report says the world is failing to act with urgency to curb greenhouse gas emissions despite the planet witnessing c l i m a t e - e n h a n c e d heatwaves, storms and floods after just 1.2°C of warming.

Even if the countries meet their pledges, we are on track

for around 2.5°C of warming, which will be disastrous. The findings are based on an analysis of the latest Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), or country-specific action plans to cut emissions and adapt to climate impacts. The report adds that emissions compared to 2010 levels need to fall 45 per cent by 2030 to meet the Paris deal's goal. In fact, earth itself is rejecting the life that it once celebrated. (IPA Service)

## Sports

## Asian Boxing Championships: Shiva Thapa advances to final; Four Indians sign off with bronze

Agency  
Amman (Jordan), Nov 11:

Six-time medallist Shiva Thapa was the only Indian male boxer to advance to the finals as four others bowed out with bronze medals at the Asian Boxing Championships in Amman, Jordan on Thursday.

Thapa (63.5 kg) out-punched Bakhtodur Usmonov of Tajikistan via a 4-1 split verdict in the semifinal to be assured of at least a silver.

Thapa will face Uzbekistan's Abdullaev Ruslan in the final.

Both boxers looked to attack while defending cautiously but Thapa, the most successful pugilist in the championship, was able to land his combination punches to take the first round 5-0.

However, Usmonov made a strong comeback in the second round to take it 4-1.

In the third round, Thapa attacked Usmonov relentlessly as the Tajak fell on the canvas within the first few seconds following which the referee gave him the count.

The Indian continued to dominate by landing a flurry of punches while defending with ease to take the tie.

Two-time Commonwealth Games bronze medallist



Mohammad Hussamuddin's (57kg) came to an abrupt end as he couldn't contest the semifinal due to a cut above his right eye he sustained during his last eight bout earlier this week.

The 28-year-old ended his campaign with a bronze medal as did Thailand Open champions Sumit (75kg) and Govind Kumar Sahani (48kg) and Narendar (92+kg).

Govind (48kg) was up against Sanzhar Tashkenbay of Kazakhstan and started off his bout trying to block his opponent's punches and attack with counterpunches but he could not sustain that strategy for long.

His Kazakh opponent, who

is the 2021 Youth World Championship gold medallist, dominated the next two rounds and inflicted a 0-4 defeat on the boxer from Gorakhpur.

Sumit (75kg) was involved in a tough matchup against the reigning Asian champion Jafarov Saidjamshid of Uzbekistan and in spite of his best efforts, failed to take control of the bout and suffered a 0-5 defeat by unanimous decision.

Narendar, seeded second, suffered a 0-5 defeat against third seed Mullojonov Lazizbek of Uzbekistan in his semifinal bout.

Five Indian women pugilists, including 2020 Tokyo Olympics

bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain (75kg) and 2022 World Championships bronze medallist Parveen (63kg), will be fighting for gold in the final of the tournament on Friday.

The other women boxers competing in the final will be Alfia Pathan (81+kg), Saweety (81kg), and Minakshi (52kg). Saweety, who punched her way into the final after defeating the native Lina Jaber by RSC in the second round late on Wednesday night, will face Gulsaya Yezhan of Kazakhstan in the final.

After the conclusion of the women's finals on Friday, the finals of the men's category will be conducted on Saturday.

## 2nd North East Olympic Games begins in Shillong

Agency  
Shillong, Nov 11:

The 2nd North East Olympic Games 2022 officially got underway with the opening ceremony at the SAI Training Centre, on Thursday in the presence of thousands of athletes and dignitaries.

The athletes performed the march past, oath taking (led by Meghalaya karateka Wandahunshisha Mawblei) and witnessed the lighting of the flame.

There was a lineup of artistic acts, including the performance of the Games' official anthem 'Play' by Summersalt and other artists from the North East; musical performances by Tarari Choir, Pynter Orchestra and Lamphang Syiemlieh & Ensemble; fireworks display; laser show; a song and dance performance that was a cultural extravaganza; and stunning drone show.

A galaxy of dignitaries from around the Northeast were present on the occasion, including cabinet ministers, legislators, senior officials, representatives of the Meghalaya State Olympic Association (MSOA) and North East Olympic Association (NEOA), and star athlete, the 'Dhing Express' Hima Das.

The emcee was noted television presenter and actor Mandira Bedi.

The Olympic torch was handed over to the Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma by star Meghalaya runner Marso Kyndait. The CM placed it on the pedestal where it will remain for the rest of the Games.

In his speech, Sangma said, "Meghalaya is celebrating 50 years of statehood and to mark this we have to celebrate the youth. We were firm to host the North East Olympic Games in Shillong in this very special year. We have always believed that the youth are the greatest strength of the nation."

"We have to help them channel their energy in positive ways and hence we wanted to this the North East Olympic Games. Sports is not

only about results but the personality that develops, like how to learn from a loss, improving and playing fair."

The Sports and Youth Affairs Minister, Banteidior Lyngdoh, welcomed the 3000 athletes and other visitors. "Volunteers and stakeholders have worked very hard in getting everything ready. Sports are an integral part of the journey of a human being and also helps the people stay fit and active," he added.

MSOA working president John F Kharshing, meanwhile, said, "We have used this opportunity to create new infrastructure and facilities for the smooth and comfortable experience for the athletes. We are grateful to the state government for bringing a paradigm shift in its approach to sports development."

## Registration Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, Sudeepa Arambam, have lost my Registration Certificate, bearing Registration No. 3878 of 2021, issued by the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur, on the way between Keishamthong to Paona Bazaar on November 9, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand it over to the undersigned.

Sd/-

**Sudeepa Arambam**  
Keishamthong Elangbam leikai  
Imphal, Manipur  
Contact No. 8014510300