

## CM welcomes 31 cadres of different UG groups on their Homecoming

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 16:

A Homecoming Ceremony for 31 cadres of different UG groups was held today at the Banquet Hall of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Manipur Rifles with Chief Minister N. Biren Singh as Chief Guest. The 31 surrendered cadres included 17 from KCP (PWG), 4 from UNLF, 6 from PREPAK, 3 from KYKL and 1 from PREPAK (VC).

The surrendered cadres laid down arms before the Chief Minister, which consisted one M16 Rifles, one M4 Carbine, one Lathod gun, one Single Barrel Rifle, seven .32 Pistols, three .22 Pistols and one 12 mm bore pistol along with five cartridges, three Lathod Shell, one IED and three live rounds.

Speaking on the occasion, N. Biren Singh welcomed the 31 cadres who had once left

home and joined the UG groups for some reason and expressed words of appreciation on their coming back to the mainstream. He continued that Northeastern States including Manipur were earlier treated as regions with law and order and insurgency problems. However, with the coming up of the Central Government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, certain political changes could be seen. Various development works had been taken up across the region while restoring healthy relationships among different communities inhabiting the State, he added.

The Chief Minister maintained that the Central Government had come up with mission-oriented programmes to ensure that all citizens should live together as one,



leaving aside all differences. He further stated that the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA), 1958, which was earlier lifted from seven segments, had also been lifted from another 15 Police Stations. He continued that the State Government had been taking up various initiatives,

under the guidance of the Prime Minister, to create a peaceful environment across the State.

Stating that the Government is opened for all forms of talk to bring back cadres of all UG groups to the mainstream, he reiterated the statement of Union Home Minister

that not a single bullet would be fired on those militants who want to return to normal lives and join the National mainstream and no FIR would be lodged against them unless they are involved in a heinous crime. He continued that the State Government would always go by the

Scheme of Surrender-Cum-Rehabilitation and also assured to provide possible assistance even after the rehabilitation period to earn their livelihood.

N. Biren appealed to the various security forces operating in the State to cooperate in the State Government's

effort to bring back members of UG groups to the mainstream, so that more cadres would come out to surrender. He also appealed to all active cadres of UG groups to come out and join the mainstream and asked to lay their hands in bringing development to our State.

Power Minister Thongam Biswajit Singh, Works Minister Govindas Konthoujam, Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan, Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution Minister Leishangthem Susindro Meitei, Members of Legislative Assembly, Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Director General of Police P. Doungel, Senior civil and police officials, senior officials of paramilitary forces also attended the programme among others.

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## Heads roll on for the devolution of power to ADC during HAC meeting

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 16:

An in-depth discussion to empower the Autonomous District Council (ADC) by devolution of power to the council was held today in a Hill Area Committee (HAC) meeting of the Manipur Legislative Assembly.

Chairman of the HAC, Diganglung Gangmei, while talking to the media after the meeting, said that a thorough discussion was taken place among the members of the HAC today at the State Assembly premises.

Diganglung Gangmei told media persons that during the meeting, the members discussed the 7th and 6th Amendments to find ways to empower the ADCs.

"Since the coming of the ADC in 1972, no powers have been empowered to the district



councils", Gangmei said at his office, adding that under the able leadership of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, the members discussed about empowering and strengthening the district council.

He, however, said that there are a lot of things that need to be discussed minutely and we could not arrive at any decision as the matter is a complex one.

"We will continue the meeting, and we need to discuss in length the matter, especially the devolution of powers and streamlining the

functioning of the ADCs", the Chairman of the HAC said.

In a query regarding the election of the ADC, Gangmei said that the government needs to follow the due process of delimitation. All stakeholders need to be consulted. The process is lengthy and for that matter, some time has to be taken. Diganglung Gangmei however said that almost all processes are in the stage of completion and the government is all set to submit the report so that the ADC election can be conducted as soon as possible.

## AR handed over toilet blocks and garbage tank

IT Correspondent  
Jiribam, Nov 16:

Srikona Battalion of 21 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of Inspector General Assam Rifles (East) assisted locals of remotely located village Jenamghat in Dima Hasao District of Assam by inaugurating and handing over the toilet block, garbage tank which is constructed under project of Assam Rifles Civic Action Programme on 15 Nov 22.

This project undertaken by Assam Rifles will not only reduce the hardship of the locals but also promotes the vision of 'Swachh Bharat'.

The project was inaugurated and handed over in presence of locals and village head. Initiative taken by Assam Rifles is highly appreciated by the beneficiaries.

In continuation of distributing Pensions to the Old Age Homes and Aged Persons residing in different parts of the State, the Monthly Pension for the month of November has been distributed to all the inmates of Langol Old Age Home, Langol, Imphal West District, Manipur in a simple function held at the premises of the Home today.

The Pension Distribution has been done under the aegis of Thounaojam Chaoba Memorial Charitable Trust, Singjamei, Imphal West District, Manipur. The Pension has been distributed under



the exclusive sponsorship of Thounaojam Romen Singh, the Managing Trustee of the Trust without taking any help of the Government, Individual and the Public as well. The Pension has been distributed and aid has been given to the Homes, Orphanages and the Aged Persons

## Golden Jubilee Celebration of AMPA

*Printing Press was there, Printing press is continuing, Printing Press will continue in future – Prof. Kamal Mohan Chopra*

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 16:

Amidst apprehension about the future of the printing press with the advancement of the internet and digital advancement, President of the World Print and Communication Forum (WPCF), Professor Kamal Mohan Chopra today said that since the invention of the printing press, it has been continuing to survive besides the advancement of internet and digital media.

"Printing Press was there, Printing press is continuing, Printing Press will continue in future", Prof. Kamal Mohan Chopra said while delivering speech as chief guest at the closing function of year-long Golden Jubilee Celebration of All Manipur Press Association (AMPA) held at the Auditorium of Hotel Classic Grande here in Imphal.

Prof. Chopra added that when radio was introduced,



there were fear that printed newspaper would be replaced by electronic media, but nothing such happened the more information technology advances, the more the printing technology too goes far beyond expectation.

In connection with the closing function of the Golden Jubilee Celebration of AMPA, a seminar on the future of printing industry in NE India was also held.

Prof. Chopra said that the topic should rather be the

shape of the printing press in future rather than the future of the press industries as there is nothing to worry about the existence of the printing press in the future.

He said that the world today have agreed that students who read printed books are much better than those reading e-book in computer technology.

Vice President of the All India Federation of Master Printers (AIFMP) Bidyut Ranjan Nag, who attended the

function as Guest of Honour said highlighted on the different challenges met by the printing house industries in NE region, particularly in the state of Manipur. He said that lack of skill workers in the printing house, extra transportation charges while procuring raw material such as papers and others as there are no industries here in the state and the limited market due to less population and less connectivity are the major problem. He however thank the government of Manipur for its support to those running printing industries in the state.

Chairman of Board of Secondary Education Manipur, Akham Joykumar, and chairman of Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur Ch. Sarat also attended that function as Guests of honours while, the president of AMPA Senjam Surjit Singh presided over it.

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## Inmates of Langol Old Age Home get monthly pension

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Imphal, Nov 16:

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who do not get any benefit from the Government side.

Speaking on the occasion, Thounaojam Romen Singh, the Managing Trustee of the Trust, said that caring and helping the older persons is need of the hour. We should respect them with decency as they did a lot of things for the welfare of their wards, the State and the Country as well. When they are young, they gave us parental care in such a way that we can stay in such a position. Now we have our turn to serve them in our best level. If they satisfy with our service, we should be in a well and good position, he asserted.

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## Three Film Critic from Manipur to participate the IFFI

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 16:

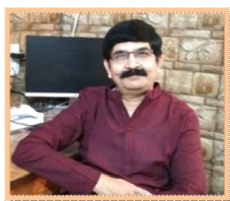
Film critic, Ashangbam Netrajit, film journalist of Poknapam, Boney Thongamcha and former Film Forum Manipur Chairman and film actor, S. Mangoljao Singh has been selected for partial sponsorship by MSFDS, to attend the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), Goa which is scheduled to held from Nov. 21 to Nov.28 by the Manipur State Film Development Society (MSFDS).

It may be mentioned, interview for selecting interested delegates for IFFI Goa was held at the office of MSFDS. Out of

seven applications received, two did not turn up. This time, weightage for selection were given to first-timers with knowledge of film appreciation, potential for extensive media reports and larger interest for the film community.

Besides sponsorship of the three delegates, MSFDS is sponsoring to and fro air travels of nine filmmakers whose films are in the special Golden Jubilee Manipuri Cinema package, consisting of 10 films, five feature films and five non-feature films, including the first Manipuri feature film director, Deb Kumar Bose and his assistant, a statement by the Secy. MSFDS said.

# Every child should have the opportunity to receive a quality education



By: Vinod Chandrashekhkar Dixit

Swami Vivekananda once said, "If education is identical with information, libraries are the greatest sages of the world and encyclopedias are 'Rishis'." There is something very much more than mere information that has to be imparted to the young mind. Today, the quality of India's primary education is a bigger concern than the number of small children who don't attend school. The private sector has played a role in raising enrolment and literacy rates, by responding to the prodigious demand for education. India has one of the largest higher education systems anywhere in the world.

The history of education in India is very rich and interesting. Education is a way to gather knowledge and enrich one's thought. Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. When we talk of quality education, skill development is an inherent part of it. Given our population structure, its diversity and vastness, a degree catering to a 'one size fits all' prescription no longer works. Quality education by global standards is the crying need of time. Quality education produces leaders, who need to be globally competitive, if Indian economy aspires to be a developed country.

The Supreme Court has held that the right to education is a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution and that the state is obliged to provide education to children at the primary level. Good education is not only desirable in itself but is also essential for the empowerment of our people. Education should be viewed as a basic human right leading to empowerment and awareness. The politicization of education poses a serious threat to society. It is necessary for the authorities to investigate whether reservation has genuinely helped the backward sections of society. The government should address this problem on an urgent basis and take a holistic approach to it. Granting everyone the right to education is not enough in itself. It is the duty of the State to ensure proper implementation of this law in every section of the society. The 25 per cent reservation for poor kids is a terrible insult to the majority of India's children. It is like the 'two-tumbler' system that prevails in many villages.

After more than two decades of the private sector boom in education, it is clear that private schools are no alternative to the government as far as imparting quality education is concerned. Instability and stress within a nuclear family can impact a child's education. There is a lot of stress on achievement and performance from the teachers and parents. Children are pushed to do much more than customary to get the desired acceptance and acknowledgement from the family and society circle. Education is also visualized as an evolutionary force so that each individual is enabled to evolve from purely material consciousness towards superior planes of intellectual and spiritual consciousness.

Life skills education is a very important and integral part of educational system worldwide. A lot of thought requires to be given on how to bring in life skills education into the mainstream curriculum. Skill development is directly related to the employment prospects of our youth and, therefore, the focus has to be on providing quality education with skill development.

Efficient networking of educationists, psychologists, mental health professionals and policy makers would be required to develop a concrete workable life skills training programme. The need of the hour, therefore, is to focus not only on education per se, but more importantly on quality. The crowning defect of our existing educational system that requires the immediate and earnest consideration is its excessive passive and mechanical character. The government should take effective steps to provide sound education to students from the backward classes rather than just creating quotas. What is more important is to ensure that proper facilities are provided in schools and the best teachers recruited to teach children in their formative years. Right to education will remain a dream unless sincere efforts are made to create the necessary infrastructure.



By: Vijay GarG

Since time immemorial, India is famed for its rich contribution to the field of science and mathematics. In fact the concept of 'Zero' as a number and decimal system were inventions of brilliant mathematicians of ancient India. India's rich history is replete with examples of several great scientists who have brought immense pride to the nation. Among them there are several women scientists who have contributed significantly to various disciplines of science. Their lives are role models for all girls who aspire to make a mark in the field of

science and technology. So let's take a look at some of the greatest Indian women scientists of all time. **Anandibai Gopalrao Joshi (1865 – 1887)**

Joshi was the first Indian woman physician and the first woman to have graduated with a two-year degree in Western Medicine in the United States. Her personal life led her to take up medicine. She was married at the age of nine to a widower who was 20 years older to her. At the age of 14 she gave birth to a son who died soon after, due to lack of enough medical facilities. The death of her new-born inspired her to become a physician. Her husband encouraged her to study medicine abroad. She studied at the Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania in 1886; this was the first women's medical programme worldwide.

**Janaki Ammal (1897 – 1984)**

Ammal was the first Indian scientist to have received the Padma Shri Award in 1977, who went on to

Students are the future. These are the people and the minds that are going to take our countries forward. No matter their background or their field of study, we should always celebrate those who want to further their knowledge, with a lot of students going to great lengths to do so.

**International Students' Day is on November 17.** It's a day when we remember the bravery of thousands of students in Prague who fought for national pride and the right to higher education. In 1939, Nazi forces arrested and executed nine protesters without trial and sent over 1,200 students to concentration camps. Many did not survive. International Students' Day commemorates their sacrifice. And while it seems worlds apart today, the right to education and peaceful protest remains a struggle in many countries. On International Students' Day, let's strengthen and resolve to protect the rights of our youth and support them by directing them towards the right resources such as Schoolroom — a platform providing information on scholarship and resources for acquiring education. International Students' Day is the perfect opportunity for us to pay honor to the students of the world. From all corners of the globe, students are working hard to achieve their career goals and make a difference. Some students leave their families and travel far and wide to have a place in a university that will help them to have a better life and provide for their loved ones. This is something that we should definitely honor and celebrate. While student life is difficult for everyone, there is no denying that international students face a number of challenges. This includes homesickness, cultural differences, currency differences, financial troubles, and language barriers.

For insights into International Students' Day, let's first trace the events leading up to it. When Adolf Hitler came to power in 1933, the Third Reich started aggressive claims over territories outside Germany's borders. The Nazis first annexed Austria in 1938, Hitler's home country. Next, they forced Czechoslovakia to give up parts of its territories. Germany occupied the Czech regions, forcing Slovakia to split into a satellite state. In 1939, students of the Medical Faculty at Charles University in Prague held a

demonstration to commemorate the formation of an independent Czechoslovak Republic. The Nazis brutally suppressed the gathering, resulting in a student **Jan Opletal's** death. Thousands of students turned up at his funeral procession — an event that transformed into an anti-Nazi demonstration. The Nazis responded by shutting down all Czech education institutions. In a shocking display of brute power, they arrested over 1,200 students and sent them to concentration camps. But the worst was yet to come. On November 17, the Nazis rounded up nine protesters, executing them without trial. Historians believe that the Third Reich allowed the funeral procession because they anticipated a violent outcome. It would give the regime the validation they needed to close down all Czech universities, dealing a severe blow to rebellion from academics and student activists. November 17 is International Students' Day, to remember the courage of student activists during the 1939 Nazi storming of the University of Prague. The first observance took place in 1941 at the International Students' Council in London. It was there that students decided to introduce International Students' Day, to be observed every November 17. Since then, many organizations and international student groups have continued to observe the day. The day is a public holiday in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. It is formally called the **"Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day."**

Post-1939, the wave of student unification and protesting against unfair systems and politics was seen in other parts of the world as well. Here are the three stories that perfectly sum up how good habits for students together can flip the geo-political landscape.

An inspiring aspect of Bangladesh history is the historic mid-20th century Bangla language movement. Bangla became one of the official languages of the country after the bravery, sacrifices, love for the mother tongue, and devotion to the homeland forced the then-powerful rulers of Pakistan to accede to popular demand. In a nutshell, the Language Movement is a wonderful illustration of the perseverance of people. The movement's leaders, who included teachers, writers, and majorly students organized millions

of young people for 20 years (1952–1971) by walking barefoot in the early hours of February 21st on the streets in the direction of the Shaheed Minar (Martyrs Memorials) in Dhaka (and to the thousands of replicas throughout the country) and the Azimpur graveyard in Dhaka, where the martyrs are buried. Organizing a political movement under the guise of a cultural movement by the students, ostensibly to lament the unjust killing of students and commemorate February 21 as a day of remembrance, was simply a wonderful way to inspire patriotism and a sense of belonging to the Bengali Nation.

A turning point occurred in Burma (now Myanmar) with the 1988 demonstrations and crackdown. Thousands of people were killed by the military and other security forces during the suppression of widespread pro-democracy protests in Burma from March to September 1988. On August 8, 1988, protests for a democratic transition and an end to military rule broke out simultaneously in cities and towns all over Burma as a result of a statewide strike involving thousands of students, monks, and regular civilians. The administration was taken aback by the number and scope of these protests, so it sent forces to violently put an end to them. Armed forces shot at unarmed protesters, killing dozens and injuring many more. With the help of swords, poisoned darts, and sharpened bicycle spokes, some demonstrators retaliated, killing some police officers. 8th August 88 is remembered as a day when students together fought for democratic rights.

Czechoslovakia brought an end to the nation's more than 40 years of communist governance. Eastern Europe experienced an uprising against the communist government in 1989. Students in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia, assembled for a nonviolent protest on November 16, and the next day, a student march in Prague was sanctioned by the government. The Prague March was meant to mark the 50th anniversary of the police's savage suppression of a student protest in German-occupied Prague, but as soon as students started to criticize the government, the police reacted violently. The Velvet Revolution was started by this occurrence, which intensified across the nation's industrial hubs. Negotiations with the oppo-

sition were pushed upon the communist government. Gustav Husák resigned on December 10 and a transitional administration made up of members of the Civic Forum and Public against Violence was established.

The international students' day date is the same around the globe—17th November. This day is observed by numerous universities all over the world as a chance to highlight diversity and multiculturalism. On International Students' Day, some universities host a number of activities to promote young involvement. On International Student Day, a number of student organizations in addition to colleges host numerous events. Other than performing a single act of social service, students can show their support by taking part in other activities. They can even use social media to provide information about the significance of International Student Day. Every year, International Students Day is observed with the goal of promoting the importance of education and its access for all students. The purpose of the day is to guarantee that every student has access to education worldwide. Because of the events that occurred in Prague during World War II, November 17 has been designated as International Students Day.

International Students' Day is a celebration of multiculturalism, diversity and cooperation among students across the globe. Though originally a day of commemoration of the more than 1,200 students from the University of Prague whose lives were taken in WWII, International Students' Day has become an occasion for universities the world over to boast their masses of international students, and the good they do for the local community. Students display and celebrate their acts of social responsibility and have gatherings on campus to showcase the causes they volunteer for, take part in gleeful competitions, indulge in student food, gossip about the student unions and complain about their student fees. Although decidedly not as elevated or as relevant to mankind as the activities of the forefathers of International Students' Day, these gatherings attract a good deal of involvement, donations and attention for organizations and charities.

(Writer can be reached at: [sjugheshwar@gmail.com](mailto:sjugheshwar@gmail.com))

# Great female scientists of India who made history

**Asima Chatterjee (1917 – 2006)**

An Indian chemist, she is regarded highly for her works in the fields of organic chemistry and phytochemistry (chemicals derived from plants). She graduated in chemistry from the Scottish Church College of the University of Calcutta in 1936 and then pursued research. Her most notable work includes research on vinca alkaloids (derived from the periwinkle that is known for its anti-cancer properties), and the development of anti-epileptic and anti-malarial drugs.

**Rajeshwari Chatterjee (1922 – 2010)**

First woman engineer from the state of Karnataka, Rajeshwari received a government scholarship to study abroad in 1946. She studied at the University of Michigan where she obtained her Masters degree from the Department of Electrical Engineering. After obtaining a doctorate degree, she returned to India and joined the Department of Electrical Communication Engineering at IISc as a faculty member where she along with her husband set up a microwave research laboratory where they did

pioneering work on microwave engineering.

**Kalpna Chawla (1962 – 2003)**

Chawla is the first astronaut of Indian origin to have forayed into the space. She first flew on a Space Shuttle Columbia in 1997 as a mission specialist and primary robotic arm operator. She then moved to the United States in 1982 and obtained a Master of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1984 and earned a second Masters in 1986 and a PhD in aerospace engineering in 1988 from the University of Colorado Boulder. Chawla was one of the crew members who died in the space shuttle Columbia disaster on February 1, 2003. The tragedy occurred when the space shuttle disintegrated while returning into the Earth's atmosphere.

**Dr. Indira Hinduja**

With a doctorate degree in 'Human In Vitro Fertilisation and Embryo Transfer' from the Bombay University, Dr. Indira Hinduja is an Indian gynaecologist, obstetrician and infertility specialist who pioneered the Gamete intrafallopian transfer (GIFT) technique resulting

in the birth of India's first GIFT baby on January 4, 1988. Prior to this she delivered India's first test-tube baby at KEM Hospital on August 6, 1986. She is also credited for developing an oocyte donation technique for menopausal and premature ovarian failure patients, giving the country's first baby out of this technique on January 24, 1991.

**Dr. Aditi Pant**

A successful oceanographer, Dr. Aditi Pant was the first Indian woman to visit Antarctica in 1983 as a part of the Indian expedition to study Geology and Oceanography. Pant was inspired to take up Oceanography when she came across the book *The Open Sea* by Alister Hardy when she was a BSc student at the University of Pune. She got a US government scholarship to study an MS in Marine Sciences in the University of Hawaii. She did her PhD in Westfield College, London University. Her PhD thesis was based on the physiology of marine algae. She has worked at the National Institute of Oceanography and the National Chemical Laboratory.

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# After meet with PM Modi, Rishi Sunak greenlights 3,000 UK visas for Indians

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 16:

British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has given the go-ahead for 3,000 visas for young professionals from India to work in the UK each year.

The British government said India is the first visa-national country to benefit from such a scheme, highlighting the strength of the UK-India migration and mobility partnership agreed upon last year.

"Today the UK-India Young Professionals Scheme was confirmed, offering 3,000 places to 18-30-year-old degree-educated Indian nationals to come to the UK to live and work for up to two years," the UK Prime Minister's Office said in a tweet.

This announcement came hours after Sunak met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 17th edition of the G20 Summit on Tuesday. It was their first meeting after the first Indian-origin British PM assumed office last month.

"Prime Ministers @narendramodi and @RishiSunak in conversation during the first day of the



@g20org Summit in Bali." PM Modi's Office said in a tweet.

"The launch of the scheme is a significant moment both for our bilateral relationship with India and the UK's wider commitment to forging stronger links with the Indo-Pacific region to strengthen both our economies," 10 Downing Street said in a statement.

It said the UK has more links with India than almost any country in the Indo-Pacific region. Nearly a quarter of all international students in the

UK are from India, and Indian investment into the UK supports 95,000 jobs across the UK.

The UK is currently negotiating a trade deal with India - if agreed it will be the first deal of its kind India has made with a European country. The trade deal would build on the UK-India trading relationship, already worth 24 billion pounds, and allow the UK to seize the opportunities presented by India's growing economy.

In parallel to the mobility partnership with India, the British government said it is also strengthening its ability to remove immigration offenders.

"A landmark Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the UK and India in May 2021 aimed at increasing mobility between our coun-

tries, returning those with no right to be in the UK and India respectively and sharing best practice on organised immigration crime," the UK PMO added.

The new scheme will see Britain offer 3,000 places annually to 18 to 30-year-old degree-educated Indians to come to the UK to live and work for up to two years.

"I know first-hand the incredible value of the deep cultural and historic ties we have with India," Sunak, who is of Indian origin, said.

"I am pleased that even more of India's brightest young people will now have the opportunity to experience all that life in the UK has to offer - and vice-versa - making our economies and societies richer."

# India reports 501 Covid-19 cases; active cases dip to 7,561

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 16:

India reported 501 new coronavirus infections in the last 24 hours, a day after seeing the lowest drop of 474 cases since 6 April 2020.

As per the health ministry data, the active cases in the country has now declined from 7,918 to 7,561.

The total Covid cases in the country now stand at 4,46,66,676.

The death toll has climbed to 5,30,535 with two more fatalities — one each

from Delhi and Rajasthan. The active cases comprised 0.02 per cent of the total infections and the recovery rate increased to 98.79 per cent, according to the data.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,28,580 and the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

Under the vaccination drive, as many as 219.82 crore doses of Covid vaccines have been administered in the country so far.

Meanwhile, 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.

# Green energy - An antidote for inflation and economic uncertainty Control over fossil fuel is a reason for major wars in the world

By Nilanjan Banik and Guido Cozzi

By the end of this century, planet earth may not be a liveable place, with the average temperature rising at least 2.5 Celsius higher than what it is now. This is according to the latest published UN Climate Change Report. With the climate change set to become worse, the world which is already experiencing a regular bout of deadly heat waves, floods and drought, hurricanes, may have to brace for potentially irreversible natural calamities, impacting the lives of at least 3.3 billion people. And all of these have to do with the dependence on fossil fuel and the resultant greenhouse emissions. In fact, there is another darker side. Control over fossil fuel is a reason for major wars, with a negative spill-over effect on the economies.

But why war? World energy depends on geographically localized resources, with large quantities of fossil fuels concentrated in tiny areas of the planet. Hence, control over the coal, oil, and natural gas regions is highly valued. The bordering countries try all excuses — different religions, languages, alliances, etc., to grab them. Conflicts suddenly start as soon there is a temporary change in balance of power, breaking the previous peace deal.

History has shown time and again control over fossil fuel has been a reason for some of the biggest wars. Consider this. Next year is the centennial of the occupation of the Ruhr (1923-1925). The Ruhr region spreads around the Rhine River, which borders France and Germany. The French and Belgian troops occupied the mineral and industrially rich Ruhr region, as Germany was not sending coal to France as part of the reparations deal struck during World War I. This occupation led to the crash of the German currency and the economy, which eventually led to the start of World War II.

Almost 45 years after the end of World War II, ownership of fossil fuel (petroleum) became the focus of another global conflict when Saddam Hussein invaded the neighbouring Kuwait. A win over Kuwait would have made Iraq world's leading energy power, dominating both the Arab and the Persian Gulf regions, home to the bulk of the planet's oil reserves. The US and its allies could not accept this dramatic shift in balance of power if Iraq were let to win.

Fast forward to the present day conflict involving Russia and Ukraine. The Donbas region has a rich coal reserve. The other parts including the Dnieper-Donetsk region, and the Black Sea of Azov is a rich source of natural gas, an important input for manufacturing fertilizers. Earlier during 2014, Russian invasion of Crimea is related to control over oil and natural gas reserves in the Black Sea region. Like the Ruhr region which had a considerable German population but was occupied by the French and Belgian, this time around the Donbas, Dnieper, Donetsk and the Luhansk regions had a considerable number of Russian speaking population; with both the parties claiming the territories.

What is worrisome, the apparent randomness of these conflicts and their duration had led to a highly volatile energy price and its resultant negative impact on the economy. Take for instance, the Yom-Kippur war of 1973 and the subsequent Saudi embargo, leading to worldwide stagflation. During 1974, to fight the raging inflation that skyrocketed to 11%, the then FED chairman, Arthur Burns raised the funds rate to 12%, before reducing it back to about 5% in 1975. But that did not help as there was a second oil crisis in 1979 with the start of the Iran-Iraq war. To tame the inflation, Paul Volcker, who was in charge of the FED, pursued a consistent hawkish policy. Between 1979 and 1981, the FED increased policy rates from 13.6% to 20%. It took about a decade to tame inflation reaching 14.5% in the US during the early part of 1980s.

However, such monetary tightening came with a cost of recession (famously touted as Volcker's recession), with the US unemployment rate climbing to a 10%. There was other collateral damage. Countries like Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico which borrowed heavily in dollars to sustain infrastructure investment defaulted as an appreciating dollar increased the cost of borrowing.

One can notice some eerie similarity with the current set of events. Many countries in Asia (Pakistan and Sri Lanka), Europe (UK) and in Latin America (Argentina) are suffering because of an appreciating dollar, an outcome of a hawkish monetary policy undertaken by the FED Chairman Jay Powell.

The 2022 inflation is not as bad as what the US witnessed during the late 1970s, but it is the worst inflation in decades. A more aggressive monetary tightening, with the Fed increasing the policy rate by 300 basis points since March 2022, has led to an increase in the yield on one-year US treasury security.

Yield on the US treasury increased from 1.86% in 1 March 2022 to 4.80% on 4 November 2022. More such bouts of quantitative tightening may follow, and that may spell bad news for emerging and developing economies. The good news, however, as during the 70s, central banks around the world, are now reluctant to raise rates on par with inflation, possibly leaving inflation the time to spread and engrain into expectations and wage contracts.

The inflation volatility is the outcome of our excessive dependence on fossil fuels, and so are many conflicts, dictatorships, and climate change. An uncertain economic environment instigates fear and induces high defence spending that could otherwise be spent on social welfare measures and to arrest a degrading environment. A move towards renewable energy may come as a saviour. Unlike fossil fuels, sources of green energy — sunlight, water, wind — are much less localized, and that would eliminate the reason for many territorial conflicts. (IPA Service)

\*\* Nilanjan Banik is with School of Management, Mahindra University

\*\* Guido Cozzi is with Institute of Economics, University of St. Gallen

# Income Tax Raids Over 20 Locations Linked to Close Aide of Maharashtra SP Leader

By- Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Nov 16:

The Income Tax department raided over 20 locations linked to Samajwadi Party (Maharashtra) President MLA Abu Asim Azmi's close aide, Abha Ganesh Gupta, in connection with alleged benami property investments, tax evasion and black money, on Tuesday.

The raids were conducted at Kamal Mansion located in Colaba in South Mumbai, where offices of Abu Asim Azmi and Abha Ganesh Gupta are located. Besides the raids were conducted at other locations across Mumbai, Varanasi, Kanpur, Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh and Kolkata in West Bengal, official sources said.

Abha Ganesh Gupta (wife of late Ganesh Gupta) was the Secretary of SP (Maharashtra). The I-T department also raided Vinayak Nirman Ltd, one of the companies in Varanasi where Abha Gupta has reportedly made huge benami investments. The premises in Kolkata were raided in connection with alleged hawala deals. Additionally Vinayak Real Estate and readymade garments unit in Varanasi, were also raided.

As per an affidavit sub-

mitted to the Election Commission during 2019 Maharashtra Legislative elections, Azmi had shown his property worth Rs 209 crore and had mentioned that 11 offences are registered against him.

Co-incidentally Abu Azmi while addressing a public meeting in Amravati in Maharashtra on Tuesday, had lambasted Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying that he had promised to bring back black money staked in foreign banks and deposit Rs 15 lakh in the banks account of every Indian, but nothing happened.

"Modi was to make available two crore jobs for unemployed people across the country. On the contrary the unemployment rate went up. Modi was trying to sell the country and he could be at the best described as "Mr Natwarlal", Azami said.

Usually a conman is addressed as "Natwarlal" since there was an Indian fraudster Mithilesh Kumar Srivastava, who known for his high-profile crimes and prison escapes. He had repeatedly "sold" the Taj Mahal (monument in Agra in Uttar Pradesh), the Red Fort, the Rashtrapati Bhavan and the Parliament House of India located in New Delhi. He passed away in 2009.

## IN THE COURT OF THE JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS; JIRIBAM, MANIPUR

Cril. (P) case No. 3 of 2020  
Ref- F.L.R. No. 29 (06) 2018 JBM-P.S.  
U/s. 14 Foreigners Act

The State of Manipur

-Vs-

Miss Mariyam, aged about 17 years; D/o.  
Late Md. Aishup @Hasim of Patiya  
Village, Chittagong District, Bangladesh

..... Accused Persons

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED. (Under section 82 Cr.P.C)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that Miss Mariyam, aged about 17 years; D/o. Late

Md. Aishup @Hasim of Patiya Village, Chittagong District, Bangladesh has committed that offence of Cril. (P) case No.3 of 2020, Ref: F.L.R. No. 29(06) 2018 of JBM-P.S. under section 14 Foreigners Act, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issue that the same warrantee Miss Mariyam, aged about 17 years; D/o. Late Md. Aishup @Hasim of Patiya Village, Chittagong District, Bangladesh cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said accused Miss Mariyam, aged about 17 years; D/o. Late Md. Aishup @Hasim of Patiya Village, Chittagong District, Bangladesh has been absconded or concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant.

Proclamation is hereby made that the said accused Miss Mariyam, aged about 17 years; D/o. Late Md. Aishup @Hasim of Patiya Village, Chittagong District, Bangladesh is required to appear at Jiribam before this court to answer the said complaint on this the 6<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

Dated, this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2022.

Bonny Laishram  
Judicial Magistrate First Class  
Jiribam, Manipur

## Registration Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, Thiyan Nishikumari Devi, have lost my original Registration Certificate issued by Manipur Nursing Council Medical Directorate, bearing registration No. 6741 of 2016, on the way between Keishamthong Elangbam Leikai to Paona Bazar on October 30, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
Thiyan Nishikumari Devi  
D/o Th. Gourabidhu Singh

## Driving License Lost

I have lost my Driving License, bearing No. MN0420180017379 on the way between Pallel to Imphal on 13th November, 2022.

If anybody found please contact the Mobile no. 7005964070.

Sd/-  
Koshelung Tontang  
Nungourak Village,  
Pallel, Chandel Dist.

# PM Modi's 'no war' message resonates in G-20 resolution

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 16:

"Today's era must not be of war," Prime Minister Narendra Modi's powerful message in the backdrop of Ukraine-Russia conflict is now the underpinning of the outcome statement of G20 communiqué.

"The Indian delegation played a big role in achieving consensus among member states over the wording that criticised the Russian invasion, according to three officials with knowledge of the negotiations. The language of the statement echoed Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's words to Putin in September by saying 'now is not the time for war and the key role played by India in achieving consensus for the outcome document was clearly spelled out by Foreign



Secretary Vinay Kwatra in his press briefing at Bali.

Modi's call seeking to address conflicts through peaceful resolution, efforts to address crises as well as diplomacy and dialogue, was visible in the approach undertaken by the global leaders. His suggestions that in view of deep divisions, the Ukraine war issue be settled through an inclusive paragraph has paved the way for an agreed language in the Declaration after

five days of discussions.

At the G20 Summit in the Indonesian city of Bali, by emphasising on the 'path of ceasefire and dialogue' prime minister opposed any restrictions on the supply of energy amid West's call against procuring Russian oil during his address.

The wordings and the message coming out from the G20 Summit in Indonesia have clearly put India's narrative in the global discourse, on the

back of the Ukraine conflict. A full-fledged leaders' declaration has been issued due to India's leadership of developing countries and emerging markets.

India's suggestion that in view of deep divisions, the Ukraine matter has to be settled through an inclusive paragraph has paved the way for agreed language in the Declaration after five days of discussions. India's position on Russia-Ukraine at UN fora has also been totally preserved.

During the summit India played a key role in getting important references on internationally relevant subjects like Sustainable development and lifestyles, New quantified goal for climate finance post-2025, Multilateral reforms aimed at implementing 2030 agenda, Global Digital health networks and Finance and technology as critical enablers, to name a few.

## Contd. from Page 1 CM welcomes 31 cadres of different UG groups on their....

It may be mentioned that under the Revised Scheme for Surrender-Cum-Rehabilitation of Militants in the North East State, 2018 of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, rehabilitation benefits given to the surrendered cadres include a onetime financial grant of Rs. 4 lakh to each surrendered cadre, which is to be kept in a bank in their names as a fixed deposit for a period of three years,

monthly stipends of Rs. 6000 per person and incentives for surrendered weapons. They will stay in a rehabilitation camp for three years.

Later, the Chief Minister visited the Marjing Polo Complex at Heingang and inspected the ongoing installation work of Sagol Kangjei Statue and development of Polo ground. He also inspected the construction of New Civil Sec-

retariat buildings and its complex at Mantripukhri.

He was accompanied by Works Minister Govindas Konthoujam, Chairman, Planning and Development Authority Lourembam Rameshwar Meetei, MLA of Wangoi AC Khuraijam Loken Singh, MLA of Andro AC Thounaojam Shyamkumar, Commissioner (Works) T. Ranjit Singh and other officials among others.

## Golden Jubilee Celebration....

On the occasion, three pioneer Press industry proprietors were also honoured in recognition to their service and dedication for improvement of the printing press industries in the state. Leimapokpam Bhubaneswar Singh, proprietor of the Iboyaime Printers, Loklaobung was conferred on with the Life time Achievement Award, Kh. Krshnan, Managing Director of the,

NEST Advertising and Marketing was conferred on with the Press of the year award and Senjam Surjit Singh, President of the AMPA and also Proprietor of the Sur Printing Press was honoured by conferring the Member of the year award.

During the seminar representatives from Konica Minolta Business Solution India, Satyakriti, Auto print Machinery Private Ltd. And prominent entrepreneurs

from Manipur including Thangjam Joykumar, CMD Thangjam Agro Industries (LIKLA) attended as resource persons.

On the occasion, various entrepreneurs and members of AMPA were honour for making the Golden Jubilee Celebration of the AMPA. General Secretary of AMPA Yk. Dhiren expressed gratitude to those who have extended help to the association.

## Manipur militant involved in ambush on Assam Rifles last year sent to jail

Courtesy: Hindustan Time  
New Delhi, Nov 16:

A National Investigation Agency (NIA) court sent the arrested Manipur Naga Peoples' Front cadre to jail on Tuesday in connection with an ambush on the convoy of an Assam Rifles officer in Manipur last year.

The militant was arrested on Saturday.

A team of security forces including the Manipur police, an NIA team, and four Assam Rifles personnel arrested Machukring Zamshim Shimray, alias Ningkham, of New Cannon village in Ukhrul district, a wanted Manipur Naga Peoples' Front (MNPFF) militant.

He was produced before the special judge (NIA), Manipur on Wednesday.

The special judge (NIA) remanded him into fifteen days judicial custody till November 29, after finding sufficient prima facie materials to show that the accused is involved in the ambush 2021.

Before the court, the public prosecutor of NIA submitted that in compliance to order of Ministry of Home Affairs, government of India on November 26, 2021, the NIA, New Delhi re-registered ambush case under section 121/121A/302/307/326 and 34 IPC, section 10 and 20 UP(P) Act, section 25(1-C) Arms Act and section 5 of explosive substances act.

The ambush occurred near S Sehken village under Behang police station close to the Indo-Myanmar border. Colonel Tripathi was reportedly returning to his base ac-

company with his wife and six-year-old son from the Behang company post when he was ambushed.

At least six jawans, including a havildar, driver of the CO, and three Quick Reaction Team members were also injured in the attack. Two insurgent groups – the People's Liberation Army (PLA) and the MNPFF – had claimed responsibility for the attack.

The arrested accused was taken into custody on November 5 by NIA and was in their custody till November 6.

During the course of investigation, the accused disclosed and admitted his direct involvement in the ambush of the Assam Rifles and also revealed the involvement of more leaders of the MNPFF organisation.

As the investigation is at the initial stage, PP of NIA

prayed for remanding the accused into judicial custody so as to enable the NIA to investigate the case properly.

However, the counsel of the accused requested his release on bail claiming he did not commit the crime.

On November 13, 2021, the commanding officer of 46 Assam Rifles Vivapal Tripathi and his family along with four Assam Rifles jawans were killed after the convoy carrying the officer came under heavy attack by militants in Churachandpur district of Manipur.

NIA had announced a cash reward of Rs. 4 lakh for information on Shimray, who, according to the probe agency, was an active member of the MNPFF and was directly involved in the ambush which led to the death of seven persons.

## Inmates of Langol Old Age....

Romen Singh said that the youngsters of today is very much unaware of Drugs. They use it without any fear, it is very unfortunate. Using Drugs by the youngsters can cause the carelessness of the Older Persons as they long only for the Drugs. They do not want anything else. In order to prevent such kind of things, the Chief Minister of Manipur, Nongthombam Biren Singh initiates War on Drugs. It is very fruitful. The present Biren Singh led Government is trying its best to prevent the illegal use of Drugs amongst youngsters in every round of corner of the State. If this Campaign goes fruitful, our Society will be in a good position.

The effort of the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is highly appreciated, Romen Singh contended.

Romen Singh further said that apart from distributing Pensions to the Old Age Homes and Aged Persons, the Trust will initiate Widow's Pension Scheme in a very short period of time. The Widow's Pension Scheme will be initiated first of all in Bishnupur District. The Screening Process has been taken up by the Screening Committee of the Trust to choose the eligible widow of Phubala, Bishnupur District. As the Screening Committee recommends after finalising the process, the Pension will be distributed to the selected Widows residing in that area. The Pension Distribution assumes to be started within this month onwards, Romen Singh assured.

He said that the Pension Distribution which has been confined in the Valley Districts of the State will focus in the Hill Districts shortly. For this, the Screening Committee has been working heart and soul to identify the eligible persons in the Hills. Once it is finalised, it will be taken up in the Hills. Ukhrul District will be taken up in the first phase, Romen Singh asserted.

In today's function, Oniam Sagar Singh, Social Activist and the Founder and Chairman Oniam Mangi Singh attended among others.

## Sports

## 2nd North East Olympic Games: Manipur jump to top spot in medal tally

Agency  
Shillong, Nov 16:

Manipur jumped on the top of the medals tally on the penultimate day of the 2nd North East Olympic Games in Shillong today. Manipur finished the day VI with 221 medals that included 78 gold, 71 silver and 72 bronze. Assam increased their tally to 183 medals and among those 75 are gold, 55 silver and remaining 53 are bronze. Arunachal Pradesh (108) and Meghalaya (142) are at third and fourth spot respectively.

Mighty Manipur bagged another gold medal at the 2nd North East Olympic Games 2022 by winning the final of the U-17 women's football final against Arunachal Pradesh at the MFA Turf, Polo Ground, here today on the final day of the games.

Player of the match, S Lynda Kom scored a brace (in the 29th and 44th minutes) in the first half before Manipur added two more goals in the second half through L. Babina Devi (in the 62nd minute) and L. Shelia Devi (in the



87th minute), as the team with seven India U-17 players controlled the game sublimely.

The gold medal could be significant in terms of the race to be the NEOG 2022 overall champions.

As of last night, Manipur was leading Assam in the medals table by 78 to 75 and is now at 79.

The football medals ceremony will take place after the U-21 men's final between Mizoram and Meghalaya. That match will begin at 1pm.

The picturesque road from Shillong to Mawthadraishan Peak was the setting for the road

cycling event at the 2nd North East Olympic Games 2022 on Tuesday, which Manipur won in both the men's and women's events.

Covering 80km, this was the only event of the 18 at NEOG 2022 to venture outside of the Greater Shillong area and cyclists were treated to stunning views on one of the state's excellent roads in the early morning light.

The test of endurance and perseverance saw Konthoujam Bishan Singh from Manipur finishing first in f2 hours, 28 minutes and 25 seconds to win the open men's category.

## Vishwanath kickstarts India's campaign in style at Youth World Boxing Championships 2022

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 16:

The reigning Asian youth champion Vishwanath Suresh opened India's campaign on a winning note at the IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships 2022 after clinching a thrilling opening-round match against Ireland's Patsy Joyce Thady by a split 3-2 decision in La Nucia, Spain on Tuesday.

The 17-year-old Chennai boxer shifted gears impressively in the deciding three minutes after the intensely fought first two rounds of men's 48kg bout which saw equal resistance from both ends. Vishwanath was among the seven Indians to secure gold medals at the ASBC Asian Youth Boxing Championships, held in Jordan earlier this year.

Later tonight, two more Indians, Vanshaj (63.5kg) and Deepak (75kg), will be seen in action. While Vanshaj will take on Uzbekistan's Boltayev Shavkatjon, Deepak will square off against Useid Nika



of Albania.

Indian boxers produced a historic show in the last edition of the prestigious event when they clinched 11 medals, including eight gold. This year's 25-member contingent consists of 13 men and 12 women pugilists.

Reigning Asian champions Vishwanath, Vanshaj,

Tamanna and Muskan will spearhead India's challenge at the on-going championships which will witness participation of world's top boxing nations. The tournament will go on till November 26.

Most of the boxers in the men's category will start in the Round-of-32 while Mohit Dahiyia (57kg) and Rhythm (+92kg) will

kickstart their campaigns in the pre-quarterfinals. In the women's category, on the other hand, Muskan (75kg) and Kirti (+81kg) will open their campaigns directly in the quarterfinals whereas others will begin their challenge in the Round-of-16 with only Preeti Dahiyia (57kg) starting in the Round-of-32.