

CM inaugurates gymnasiums at Kheba Ching Foothill, Khuman Lampak



IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

"Health is wealth" and "Discipline is the foundation of a society," Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said today, stressing on the importance of discipline in the functioning of a society.

The Chief Minister was speaking at the inauguration of an Open Gym at Khongjom War Memorial Complex, Kheba Ching foothill, today. He later inaugurated a similar

open gym at Khuman Lampak. The gyms are installed by the Chief Minister's Indigenous Martial Arts Akademi with support from Planning Department, Government of Manipur.

Speaking at a simple inauguration function at Khongjom, the Chief Minister expressed the need for proper maintenance of the gym compound including the Khongjom War Memorial Complex and ensured all necessary support.

He also expressed strong resentment against drug traffickers and stressed on the need for everyone to start working unitedly for the welfare and development of the State.

N. Biren Singh said open gyms have been installed at different parts of the State including at Senapati, Cheirao Ching, Thangmeiband in Imphal West and Marjing Polo Complex.

The government is trying hard to bring some positive

change, the Chief Minister said highlighting mission oriented schemes and programmes initiated by the government including Go To Hills, Go to Village, Chief Minister's Sotharabasingi Tengbang, School Gagathansi Mission, War on Drugs, etc.

Today, we are receiving support and cooperation from the public, the Chief Minister said.

N. Biren Singh also explained the need to facilitate and show the way to those desiring to overcome drug addiction and said for this the State is setting up Drug Rehabilitation Centres and encouraging sports activities in the State.

We are setting up more open gyms at various districts including at Churachandpur, the Chief Minister said and further highlighted that the gyms can be expanded if needed.

During the inaugural of the gyms, trainers demonstrated the use of the equipments. Wangjing Tentha MLA Paonam Brojen Singh also attended the inauguration at Khongjom, while, Minister L. Susindro Meetei and Youth Affairs and Sports Director T. Phulen Meitei attended the inauguration at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex.

Chief Minister N. Biren calls on youth to build unity



IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today urged the youth of the State to build unity and work for the Nation and State shedding self-centered agendas and said when we work for the development of the Nation or State, we are working towards development of ourselves.

The Chief Minister was speaking at the Golden Jubilee Celebration of Popular Union Club (PUC) cum inauguration of PUC Stage, Gym

and Park at Kairang Maming Leikai.

Encouraging unity in the State, the Chief Minister highlighted that the upcoming Sangai Festival will be celebrated at different venues across the State including in Behiang, the southern-most point of the State and also at Mao.

Elaborating on measures being taken up by the government to bring a change in the State, he said this is not possible without the support and cooperation of the people. Fortunately, the govern-

ment is receiving full support and cooperation from the public, the Chief Minister said expressing happiness.

The Chief Minister also explained the devastating impact of illegal spurious liquor and drugs on the society.

He deliberated on the issue of illegal drugs, and expressed the need to develop a collective responsibility among the people to help and support those who have strayed from the path.

The function was also attended by Social Welfare Director Ng. Uttam Singh.

Winter Session of Parliament to be held from December 7 to 29

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 19:

The Winter Session of Parliament will be held from December 7 to 29, Union minister Pralhad Joshi said on Friday.

The session will comprise 17 sittings spread over 23 days, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said on Twitter.

"...Looking forward to discussions on Legislative Business and other items during the session," Joshi said. "Looking forward for constructive debate."

On September 29, the Centre told the Supreme Court that a revised Personal Data Protection Bill will be introduced in the Winter Session. An earlier version of the Bill was withdrawn on August 3 after the Joint Committee of Parliament had recommended 81 changes and

12 "major recommendations" to it.

The old version of the Bill proposed restrictions on the use of personal information of people without their explicit consent. The subjects covered by the proposed law included consent, personal data, exemptions that can be granted, storage restrictions for personal data and individual rights.

On October 31, Attorney General R Venkataramani also told the Supreme Court that the Centre may look into the sedition law during the Winter Session.

Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code, which deals with sedition, states that whoever "brings or attempts to bring into hatred or contempt, or excites or attempts to excite disaffection towards the government established by law in India" can be held to have committed

the offence of sedition.

On May 11, the Supreme Court had put the sedition law in abeyance and requested state governments and the Centre to not file any new cases under the rule till it is re-examined.

The Congress has said that party MPs Rahul Gandhi, Jairam Ramesh, KC Venugopal and Digvijaya Singh are unlikely to attend the session as they are taking part in the Bharat Jodo Yatra.

The Monsoon Session of Parliament was held from July 18 to August 8, and it ended four days ahead of schedule. Opposition leaders had held protests seeking a discussion on topics such as price rise, unemployment, the Goods and Services Tax hike on essential items, and the Enforcement Directorate's action against those critical of the government.

50000 variety fish fingerlings release

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

Fisheries Minister Heikham Dingo Singh today released 50000 variety fish fingerlings and inaugurated the newly installed Aerator at Manipur University Campus. He said that there is necessity for transforming Manipur for Achieving Self-Reliant, Sufficient and Surplus Economical Status by transforming unproductive water bodies to productive water bodies through fish rearing and production as a part of Blue Revolution. The programme was organized by Fishery Club, Manipur University.

Speaking at the occasion, Minister Heikham Dingo Singh highlighted the importance of the Fisheries department and stated that the government is making wholehearted efforts to improve the department. The public can witness the achievements of the department during the recently held Ningol



Chakouba fish fair on the 26th October 2022 when the sale of different fishes can reach to a total of about Rs. 3,33,60,000 per day, he also said.

Minister Dingo further stated that it is an awareness program to decipher knowl-

edge to the masses about the knowledge of fish-rearing in water bodies. The program was held after consultation with experts and scientists who have expertise knowledge about fish rearing and production. We are discussing what we can do with wa-

ter-bodies to increase the production further taking into account the essential prerequisites of fish rearing like technology, iron content, reasonable area size of the water bodies and scientific techniques, he also added.

contd. on page 4

World Children's Day greeting

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

Education and Law & Legislative Affairs Minister Th. Basanta Kumar Singh greeted to all the children of Manipur on the occasion of World Children's Day 2022 that falls on November 20.

In his message Basanta kumar said that the

International Children's Day offers us an opportunity to promote and celebrate children's rights that will build better world for them.

The theme of International Children's Day is "A Better Future of Every Child". This theme urges that public to advocate, celebrate and promote children's rights to secure

the future of every child. The blue color is the symbol for children's rights on children's Day. Let us support by turning blue on 20th November.

I feel children are the world's most valuable resources. Children carry the hopes for our brighter tomorrow and the dreams of our happy future, the Education Minister wrote.

Transport Department opened office in Tengnoupal District

IT News
Tengnoupal, Nov 19:

The Transport Minister Khasin Vashum inaugurates District Transport Office at Tengnoupal today. The inauguration function was organised by the Department of Transport, Government of

Manipur in the Conference Hall of the office of the Deputy Commissioner.

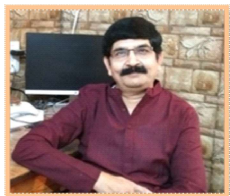
The Minister who attended the inaugural function said that funds for the construction of the building will be allocated in the next financial year, for convenience of the public and

smooth functioning in the district, the staff of the Transport department is allocated a room temporarily in the DC Complex.

Minister Letpao Haokip, MLA, Tengnoupal A/C, Michael Achom, Secretary (Transport), Dr. Nivedita Lairenlakpam, Director

(Transport) and Ranjan Yumnam, DC (Tn) attended the inaugural function as Guests of Honour and President respectively. The function was also attended by DLOs and staff of the district administration as well as staff of Transport Department and the public.

Hold each other's hand through the ups and downs, and always cherish the vows you made to one another



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Pearl S. Buck an American writer and novelist has rightly said that "A good marriage is one which allows for change and growth in the individuals and in the way they express their love." Marriage anniversaries are always special, but the first anniversary is more than that. Within one year of relationship anniversaries, couples make a lot of beautiful and cheerful memories that they can remember forever. A daughter holds a very special place in a family. As she gets married and starts her new life

her responsibilities are more than any before. Marriage is a new beginning and quite a drastic change for a woman. This change can be daunting for a woman especially if she is moving in with her husband's family. It is very important to have a unique association between new and old families for every girl because all of these sincerely demand love and participation in all situations.

My lovely daughter Mansi, is very lucky because she has such a blessed husband Shaurya whereas my son-in-law is also lucky to get a beautiful and cute life partner. Since the day she left this place, I find myself besieged by the clouds of despondency. But sometimes when I think that a girl has after all, to go to her husband's house, it brings some comfort to me, scattering the clouds of sorrow a little bit. A husband's happiness is her real happiness. But, I would say my daughter's smile is what makes my day brighter every day.

Time passes so fast that a year has gone celebrating love, happiness, togetherness and promising each other to stay together for long. Anniversary is a symbolic gesture to show that how much we love and care for each other all through the year. The loving glances that both share even the little things display how much they care and mean to each other. My daughter's first marriage anniversary is a complete happiness as they both together make a lovely pair. Watching my daughter & son-in-law is so delightful and inspiring. They have a personal touch and are often bonded with emotions. Both are an amalgamation of humility and rationality. I am lucky that my daughter got good parent-in-law. They have created a strong bond and enforced healthy boundaries. Nothing is more comforting to a newlywed bride than a woman who welcomes her into the family with an open heart. A great mother in law ensure that her daughter-in-law is comfortable in the new setting and getting feeling at home new.

Through my article, I would like to tell my daughter that not a day passes by when I don't miss her. She has left her childhood home behind a year back, but her love and affection still linger on in this space. Whenever I see a pink big doll lying on her bed, immediately her beautiful smiling face comes in front of me. Our home always felt like it missed a piece of a puzzle.

I miss my daughter, but above everything, I feel happy knowing that she is happy in her new life. Every day, I pray that her love and togetherness gets stronger by each passing day. One year has passed, and there are many more on the way. There is no doubt that celebrating a Wedding anniversary shows that marriage is a priority in our life. It gives us a chance to pull back from the daily grind and relive a moment that changed our life forever.

New Record



By: Vijay GarG

The world population has just hit a new record: 8 billion. As is often the case, there are heated debates about the planet's so-called "carrying capacity"—the total number of people who can live on earth sustainably: experts are generally divided into two camps.

There are those who argue that we need to drastically reduce the human population to avoid ecological catastrophe. And then there are those who believe that technology will find smart solutions without any need to actively tackle the issue head-on. Scientists have been debating such demographic issues at least since the 18th century, when Thomas Malthus

published an essay on the Principle of Population, arguably the first global treatise on the relationship between population growth and scarcity.

A few decades later, however, the Industrial revolution (which the British economist had failed to anticipate) ushered the world into an era of abundance, relegating Malthus's grim predictions about the inevitability of scarcity to the margins of scientific debate.

In a bestselling book published in the late 1960s, The Population Bomb, Stanford professor Paul Ehrlich brought the topic back, advocating for immediate action to limit population growth on a finite planet. This recommendation was reiterated a few years later by the Club of Rome, an international network of scientists and industrialists. Its 1972 report The Limits to Growth aptly demonstrated the dynamic relationship between increasing consumption and the idea of "planetary boundaries" which cannot be crossed without risking severe environmental change.

It's true that some technologies have made production more efficient (think of fertilisers), thus alleviating the impact of population growth on resource use. But there is little doubt that the human race has massively overstepped the planetary boundaries, presently exceeding the safe operating space in six domains out of nine (see graphic above). It is difficult to estimate just how many humans the planet can carry sustainably, however. This is often overlooked in policy debates, which generally deal with the issue rather simplistically, resting on the assumption that increasing living standards will lead to lower birth rates. Therefore, the argument goes, the global population will decline as soon as continents like Asia and Africa reach similar development levels as Europe and America.

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Mother nature is the solution for our climate crisis



By: N. Munal Meitei

Mother nature is a living being. Everything humans need are provided by mother nature. She is the vital source of life. The healthier our ecosystem are, the healthier the planet and its people. Each living being is the integral part of the mother nature. Thus, humans worried about climate change but we are saved by the mother nature.

Earth's land and ocean currently absorb about half of all CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and other sources which is almost three times as much as currently present in the atmosphere. Peat-lands, wetlands, soil, forests and oceans play a crucial role in absorbing and storing carbon. Otherwise earth's carbon building in the atmosphere would have been double as we have now. But the amount of carbon emitting

into the atmosphere is too high that the planet will no longer be in the position to absorb more carbon in future. Carbon levels in the atmosphere hovered between 180 and 280 PPM until about the 1800s but after the Industrial Revolution, the levels have increased 2.5 times to more than 421 PPM now.

Mother earth provides us with air, water, food and shelter. When we destroy the planet, we start destroying our survival. The best way to save mother earth is by reducing our carbon footprint. Mother nature can be a great ally in the fight against climate change because she can absorb and store maximum of CO₂. But if her biodiversity and ecosystems continue to be destroyed then mother nature may turn on us instead.

Mother nature provides some powerful carbon sinks, which remove more carbon from the atmosphere than they release. The best known are trees, which absorb CO₂ through photosynthesis and then lock the carbon for its lifetime. But with current rates of deforestation, we are exacerbating the problem—accelerating more carbon than to decelerate in the air.

But there are other powerful natural carbon sinks, soils (30%), Forests (21%) and the Oceans

(40%). In fact, without these carbon sinks, atmospheric CO₂ levels would be well above 600 ppm, the level not compatible for a 2°C future.

If we're not careful, nature could become our foe and not our ally in the fight against climate crisis. Take for instance, peat-lands - despite covering just 3% of Earth's surface area - store twice as much carbon as the world's forests. But drained peat-lands for urban or agricultural expansion are responsible for about 4% of anthropogenic greenhouse gas. Thus, we need to conserve peat-lands and restore those degraded through re-wetting.

Amazon rainforest - taking a pivotal role in the climate crisis - has been found by emitting more CO₂ than it absorbs. Scientists found that due to deforestation and farm fires, emit 1.5 billion tonnes of CO₂ but have reduced removing capacity to 0.5 billion tonnes making 1.0 billion tonnes left in the atmosphere a year which is equivalent to the annual emissions of Japan, the world's fifth-biggest polluter.

Now, it appears that our actions are turning nature against us. Nature's capacity to absorb CO₂ has come to the forefront in climate change discussions. At COP26 last year in Glasgow, world leaders

signed a *Pledge for Nature* to reverse biodiversity loss and ecosystem degradation in part because biodiversity loss is exacerbating climate change by debilitating nature's ability to sequester or store carbon. Hope to strengthen the same at COP27 in Sharm-el-Sheikh.

Managing and restoring biodiversity can help both mitigation and adaptation to climate change. We need to address biodiversity loss and climate change as dual challenges as they are inextricably linked. Climate change is a key driver of biodiversity loss, and protecting, conserving and restoring biodiversity is crucial to addressing climate change.

Plants and trees return CO₂ to the atmosphere when they die and decay. But biomass burial and biochar are some new technologies which can lock and store carbon permanently into the soil. But seeing the urgency of the climate crisis, we need to be proactive and test and scale up these natural carbon removal approaches. Therefore, if we don't take care of our mother nature right now to fight back the climate crisis, then the planet may start to work against us.

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

The World We Don't Belong



By: Nongpoknganba Soram

zens of that country. To fill the quench many are also migrating and converting to become the citizens of their country.

Alike, it is quite huge in number were well qualified and educated people who are by blood Manipuri and brought up on the soil of our Manipur settling permanently in different various developed countries of the world. At this point a question want to be raised from my side, the question is - Q. How do you see our motherland even if the well qualified and educated people like you left for permanent settlement in other developed countries?

By knowing that your motherland is in very poor condition and leaving permanently for settling in other nation after becoming a well qualified and educated person instead of sensibly bringing up your motherland is synonymous that you have a heart but there is no shadow of being loved of your motherland. A boy can say I love a beautiful

girl but the love is never completed by the words. There is in need of action to show the boy's love of the girl. In the same manner, a person's love of his or her motherland is never completed by the words. The person have to work on fields to assure the provision of benefits to lift their motherland. The person's small work will be a huge contribution to the society. For instance, the role of a dutiful teacher will lift a thousand disciples.

Those indigenous people who are settling in other developed countries for temporary services or for pursuing higher studies are not discouraging from my side as they are quite opposite to one who are settling permanently for life. They are like the birds migrant to a certain place in search of food however they are going to return back to their homeland for sure. These people are not only providing benefits to other countries but will also ensure benefit to their homeland.

As I as born in this world, just

like other being I too asked question to myself about the purpose of life. Many times I failed to get the answer but today I believed that I have received some part as a response. It is clear sighted that we have taken each and every needs from our motherland however in return if we are not capable of performing a little sacrifice for the sake of our homeland then there is no meaning of being birthed. The other remaining response can only be fulfilled by the action of ours to lift, save our nation.

Last but not least I would like to mention that the developed countries which are the center of attraction by many in these days are never been born but they are crafted by its own people, they may not be that advanced if their citizens are not well concerned and conscious enough about lifting their own nation.

(The writer is currently on his Bachelor's Degree and also an ex student of DPS Dwarka)

The Beauty in Tea



By: Shahnaz Husain

They contain polyphenols, which are powerful natural antioxidants. These not only have health benefits, but actually help to delay the visible signs of ageing on the skin and hair. They prevent and retard the degeneration caused by oxidation damage. Antioxidants also nourish skin cells and prevent skin damage. So, if you are prone to inflammation, dullness, and blemishes, you may opt for potent herbal teas.

Green tea contains a powerful antioxidant called EGCG that fights DNA damage from UV rays to prevent skin cancer. Green tea has zero calories and is penacea for those who wants to have slim, active, smart body physique and get rid of belly fat. Green tea contains EGCG which reduces waist size, aids weight loss and decreases body fat. Green tea helps to deal with problems of acne, blackheads, whiteheads, clogged and closed pores. This is a natural astringent, and so mops up the extra sebum or oil, solving the problem at its root. It helps remove all the dirt and grime from open pores, and then tightens the freshly cleansed pores to prevent pollutants from getting in.

Jasmine Tea is said to rejuvenate the skin, as it clears pigmentation and reduces fine lines and wrinkles. Jasmine tea keeps the skin



moisturised and has anti-ageing benefits. Rose Tea is also said to be very good for the hair and skin. Rich in antioxidants, rose tea is also called natural retinol because it can help fight signs of premature ageing like wrinkles, fine lines and dullness on your skin. Furthermore, it contains vitamins A, B3, C and E, and helps to stimulate hair growth and make the scalp healthy.

Chamomile tea - Turn chamomile tea into ice cubes and wrap a few chamomile ice cubes in a cloth, then apply to eyes for 10 minutes at a time for puffy eyes. You can use chamomile tea as natural shampoo and conditioner. Alternatively, You can steep two chamomile bags in hot water, then mix them with lemon

juice and apply it on your hair for 5-10 minutes. It will help in lightening your hair in a natural way

Some other herbal teas can be made with Turmeric, which is said to lend a glow to the skin, due to its curcumin content. When added to tea, turmeric adds bright yellow-orange color and earthy, spicy notes. Turmeric is often included along with ginger in anti-inflammatory herbal teas. Turmeric also has anti-inflammatory antimicrobial, and antioxidant properties and helps acne-prone skin by controlling breakouts and closing the pores, and improving your skin health.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)

Jailed Delhi minister Satyendar Jain gets full body-massage inside Tihar Jail, CCTV footage goes viral



Agency
New Delhi, Nov 19:

A CCTV video of Delhi minister Satyendar Jain getting a full body massage in Tihar Jail has emerged on social media two days after demands to shift the minister from the prison were raised by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Jain was arrested on May 30 by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on allegations of money laundering. The purported CCTV footage dated September 13 shows the minister lying on his bed and reading some papers while a man sitting next to him is seen massaging his foot.

In another video, shared by BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla on his official Twitter handle, a man is seen massaging the Delhi minister's legs and back before proceeding to give him a full head massage.

"So instead of Sazaa - Satyendar Jain was getting full VVIP Mazaa? Massage inside Tihar Jail? Hawalabaz who hasn't got bail for 5 months get a head massage! Violation of rules in a jail run by AAP Govt," Poonawalla tweeted along with a video.

"This is how official position abused for Vasooli and massage thanks to Kejriwal," he added. The videos surfaced on social media on Saturday, around 10 days after the ED accused Delhi minister Jain, who was arrested in a money laundering case, of getting special treatment inside the Tihar jail.

"Unknown persons were giving massages and foot massages to Mr Jain, even beyond curfew hours. He was given special food," the ED had said in a court.

Soon after this, the Superintendent of Delhi's Tihar jail,

Ajit Kumar, was also suspended for the alleged VIP treatment of jailed Delhi minister.

The minister, Jain, was arrested and has been in jail since June in connection with a money laundering case, and his bail application was also denied by a Delhi court on Thursday.

Trial court recently ordered ED and minister Satyendar Jain's legal team not to leak any content of affidavits and video in this regard. Court had also taken the undertaking of both sides. There was however, no restriction/direction were passed for media.

Recently, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) sought a detailed report from Delhi Chief Secretary about allegations that jailed Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Satyendar Jain is getting "special treatment" inside Tihar jail, sources said.

The move comes after the ED in an affidavit in October

end informed a Special Delhi Court that Satyendar Jain, who is in jail in connection with a money laundering case, was being given "special treatment" inside Tihar Jail.

ED has alleged in its affidavit that Jain's wife, Poonam Jain, has been given access to his cell and she meets the Delhi Minister beyond the limits permissible.

The agency also submitted CCTV footage of Jain purportedly receiving a body massage from an unidentified person inside his cell. CCTV footage also showed the jail superintendent meeting him regularly.

During its arguments earlier in court the ED had submitted that there are witnesses and materials sufficient to make out a case of money laundering against the Delhi minister.

Additional Solicitor General appearing for the ED submitted that the accused was involved in money laundering with other accused. He sent money to Kolkata-based companies and that money belonged to Jain. He is the conspirator and kingpin.

The Rouse Avenue Court on November 17 dismissed the bail petition of Jain in the ED case and said the accused Satyendar Jain had knowingly done such activities to obliterate the tracing of the source of ill-gotten money and accordingly, the proceeds of crime were layered through Kolkata-based entry operators in a way that its source was difficult to decipher.

Amit Shah raises issue of rising attacks on Hindu Minority, Temples in Bangladesh

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 19:

Union home minister Amit Shah on Friday raised the issue of attacks on minorities and temples in Bangladesh when he met his counterpart from the neighbouring country, Asaduzzaman Khan.

The two leaders had a productive exchange on border management and common security-related issues on the sidelines of the 'No Money for Terror' conference in Delhi. Shah brought up how attacks on the minority Hindu community were on the rise in Bangladesh, alongside incidents of temple desecration, official sources said.

"Union Home Minister @AmitShah met H.E. Asaduzzaman Khan, the Home Minister of Bangladesh on the sidelines of the 'No Money for Terror' conference. Both sides had productive exchanges on

border management and common security-related issues," Shah's office tweeted.

Khan is attending the third 'No Money for Terror Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing' hosted by the ministry of home affairs. The two-day conference, which began on Friday, is being attended by 450 delegates from over 75 countries and international organisations. Officials said Pakistan and Afghanistan were not taking part in the conference while China was invited but did not come.

According to his office, Shah also met Binal Andaleem, who is the minister of peace from Ethiopia, and discussed bilateral, multilateral and regional issues of mutual interest.

Speaking at the summit earlier in the day, the home minister said while terrorism was a serious global threat, terror financing was more dangerous. He

said to achieve the goal of the conference, the international community must understand the "mode-medium-method" of terror financing and adopt the principle of "one mind, one approach" in cracking down on it.

"The transformation of terrorism from 'dynamite to metaverse' and 'AK-47 to virtual assets' is definitely a matter of concern for the countries of the world. And we all have to work together to formulate a common strategy against it," Shah said, adding that terrorists were now using the darknet to spread radical content and conceal their identities.

This was a veiled attack on Pakistan and China, in reiteration to similar views expressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the conference. Shah further said there were countries that "seek to undermine, or even hinder, our collective resolve to fight terrorism".

AR provides Sports items to the youth and Sports Club of Dikuiram



IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

Due to the remoteness of the Tamei Sub-division under Tamenglong district, combined with harsh hilly terrain, the locals have limited or no access to better sports facilities, sports infrastructure and material. Manipur has given many sports person of national stature and acclaim however the path to sports is hard. The immense hidden talent in sports is trapped due to the accessibility and remoteness of this place.

Tamenglong Battalion under the aegis of 22 Sector/IGAR (East) initiated a project in Dikuiram village in Tamei Sub-division under the Tamenglong district, with an aim to provide sports material and items to boost sports culture in the area. The sports items were distributed at this time especially considering its utilization by the teams in the upcoming winter sports tournament to be held from 21st of this month. Under AR Civic Action Program, Footballs, football studs and accessories

, volleyballs and accessories, basketballs, carrom-boards etc have been provisioned to the teams of the village.

The sports items were handed over to the villagers by the Officer Commanding of Dikuiram post of Tamenglong Battalion on 17 Nov 22. The secretary, village authorities, the sports and youth club expressed their gratitude to the unit for providing them with these sports essentials, while at the same time ensuring safety and security in the region.

India logs 556 Covid infections; active caseload declines by 252

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 19:

India's tally of Covid cases rose by 556 in a day to reach 4,46,68,523 while active cases declined by 252 during the same period to reach 6,782, according to Union Health Ministry data updated Friday.

The death toll has climbed

to 5,30,570 with 17 more fatalities, including 15 reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,31,171, while the case fatality rate was 1.19 per cent. Active cases comprise 0.02 per cent of the total infections while the national COVID-19 recovery rate

has increased to 98.79 per cent.

According to the health ministry's website, 219.85 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

India's COVID-19 tally 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.

India crossed the grim milestone of two crore on May 4, three crore on June 23 last year and four crore on January 25 this year.

World Toilet Day – India leading the world in implementing complete sanitation policies



By: Vini Mahajan

While World Toilet Day may sound like a strange occasion to commemorate, it is critical to ensure health and hygiene for many. The dedicated day highlights the global sanitation crisis that affects millions of people around the world who are living without access to a safely managed toilet. Without clean, safe toilets, human waste contaminates communities' food and water sources, leading to sickness and even death, most commonly diarrheal deaths in severely affected areas. Also, in-

adequate sanitation is a huge problem for women; despite the detrimental effects of this widespread practice on men and women alike, women are more likely to be shamed because of it. It is often impossible for women to manage menstruation and pregnancy in private due to the lack of toilet facilities, or they have to wait until the dark to do so, which makes them vulnerable to attacks.

The observance has been held every year since 2013, in order to raise awareness about the fact that globally 3.6 billion people don't have safe access to sanitation. It is about taking action to tackle the global sanitation crisis and achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6: sanitation and water for all by 2030. The 2022 campaign "Making the Invisible Visible" explores how inadequate sanitation systems spread human waste into rivers, lakes and soil, polluting underground water resources. This problem, however, appears invisible to

the naked eye. Invisible because it happens underground. Invisible because it happens in the poorest and most marginalized communities.

The theme of World Toilet Day 2022 suggests 'safe sanitation is crucial to protecting groundwater from human waste pollution' as the world is seriously off track to meet the promise of Target 6.2 of SDG 6: ensure safe toilets for all by 2030; and to meet this by 2030, UN calls upon governments to work four times faster. This being said, as policy makers in India, we fully recognized the connection between sanitation and groundwater and safeguarding this vital water resource; hence proud to state that India has already achieved the SDG 6.2 Target in 2019 i.e., 11 years before the 2030 target date! With construction of over 11 crore individual toilets (and 2.18 lakh community Sanitary Complex (CSCs)), the percentage of people using at least basic sanitation services (improved sani-

tation facilities that are not shared with other household) for India stood at 67% against Southeast Asia percentage of 63% in 2020 (as stated in WHO/ UNICEF Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP) for Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene) and this figure has only improved in spite of the COVID crisis. Not only this, but we are also marching ahead towards total sanitation, beyond just toilet use, to comprehensive waste management, especially Faecal Sludge Management (FSM), so as to stop contamination of our water bodies and protect the environment and our people.

Through the SBM(G), now in its phase II to make rural India ODF plus, dedicated interventions are implemented to manage solid and liquid waste, viz. for safe management of human faecal sludge, 392 faecal sludge management arrangements have been instituted across 147 districts. In terms of innovations, DDWS expanded the scope of engaging Start-ups, for promot-

ing innovation in areas like mechanized desludging. A Start-up Grand Challenge was organized earlier this year for crowd-sourcing technologies that could support sustainable, affordable, scalable, and responsive solutions to the solid and liquid waste management challenges in rural areas.

Our efforts towards total sanitation and envisioning an ODF plus India are based on the premise that water and sanitation infrastructure generates positive spillover effects that can be captured and demonstrated as incentives to the stakeholder. The spillover effects in form of significant reduction in morbidity and mortality from water-borne diseases - diarrhoea, cholera, typhoid, dysentery, and hepatitis, more affordable water supply, increase in local economic development, reduction in groundwater contamination, improvement in the recharge status of nearby aquifers, and reuse of treated water for agri-

culture and/or industrial purposes; are enticing enough for the stakeholders to invest their time and energy in SBM(G). While the health and environmental advantages of a functioning sanitation system are clear, the benefits go further. The UN states that for every \$1 invested in basic sanitation up to \$5 is returned in saved medical costs and increased productivity. Also, when carefully managed, wastewater can provide some surprising economic benefits, contributing to overall well-being and health, water and food security and sustainable development.

The point of investments brings me to innovative public-private practices in water and sanitation in India. These public-private partnership models focus on collaboration between communities, women, and implementing agencies to deliver safe drinking water and better sanitation and to also educate women on hygiene and personal well-being.

Though our 'Lighthouse Initiative' with corporates and the Rural WASH Partners' Forum comprising all development sector entities, we are streamlining and channelizing all efforts to achieve ODF plus status for all villages of India. Like I often say, WASH targets of the country are ambitious, but the efforts to achieve them are equally backed by strong political will, adequate funding and the partnerships among all stakeholders.

I would like to conclude by saying that under the visionary leadership of our Prime Minister, we are putting in every effort towards total sanitation in the country. You too must do your bit! Learn more about this issue and get involved by spreading the knowledge and taking action to contribute to the sanitation movement of your country.

(The author is a Secretary, Deptt. of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India)

PM Modi inaugurates Kameng hydro project, 1st greenfield Airport in Arunachal

Agency
Imphal, Nov 19:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday inaugurated Arunachal Pradesh's first greenfield airport at Hollongi near Itanagar and dedicated the 600 MW Kameng hydropower station to the nation.

Located near the capital, the airport will improve connectivity. It is also expected to boost tourism in the state, improve transportation of indigenous products to all parts of the country and help patients travel to other places for improved treatment.

"When I laid the foundation stone of this airport in February 2019 ahead of the general elections, political commentators stated it was a poll stunt and wouldn't materialize. But the inauguration of this project today within three years is a befitting reply to such commentators," Modi said in his address.

"With the airport becoming operational, farmers of Arunachal Pradesh would now be able to send their products to other parts of the country. It would help them earn much more for their products,"



he added.

Named after Donyi-Polo, names given to the sun and moon in the indigenous religion of the state and spread over 690 acres, built at a cost of Rs. 640 crore, it is the fourth operational airport in the northeastern state and the 16th in the northeast.

The airport has 2,300 m and is suitable for all-weather operations. The airport terminal is a modern building promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy and the recycling of resources.

"For many decades north-

east was ignored by the powers in Delhi, but we changed that after Atal Bihari Vajpayee came to power. But the successive governments didn't continue the process," Modi further said in his address after the inauguration.

"It was after we came to power again in 2014 that the region was again given importance. Now the region is in focus right from culture to agriculture, commerce to connectivity, trade to tourism and telecom to textile," he added.

After the inauguration of the airport, PM Modi dedi-

cated the 600 MW Kameng Hydro Power station to the nation.

Built at a cost of Rs. 8,450 crore, the Kameng power project is the largest such project commissioned in the region with the potential to generate 3353 million units of energy annually. It will provide nearly 398 million units (equivalent to Rs. 200 crore) of free power to Arunachal.

It is also estimated to generate Rs. 8,000 crore revenue for the northeastern state.

The PM, further in his address said that as part of the vibrant border village programme, work is on to stop the migration of residents to other places and promote tourism in the state.

"Efforts are on to strengthen border villages in the state by giving them the status of vibrant border villages. When avenues of new possibilities open up in every border village, it will be the start of prosperity," said Modi.

Efforts are also on to connect youths from border areas with National Cadet Corps (NCC). These youths can get further trained and become officers in the defence forces, said Modi.

Preparations for Manipur Sangai Festival, Churachandpur begins

IT News
Churachandpur, Nov 19:

Preparations has begun for the grand and successful holding of the annual tourism festival of the State, the Manipur Sangai Festival 2022, Churachandpur even as the State Government has chosen Churachandpur's border village Behiang, a spectacular offbeat tourist destination, Geljang Resort, Khugaand Lamka Public Ground to be the other venues of the festival this time.

A joint inspection for the inaugural event at Churachandpur District was held by Chinlungthang, MLA of Singhat A/C along with Thienlaljoy Gangte, ADC and Nodal Officer for Sangai Festival Celebration, Churachandpur district; Samuel Lungdim, SDO, Singhat and other departmental representatives today at Behiang village.

Construction of Stage, Hall and stores will begin today and parking areas have been identified and ready for the day said Thienlaljoy Gangte. Traveling



arrangements will be notified later as arrangements for other amenities like accommodation, food, lodging etc. are being planned for the celebration, he added. The team also inspected the on-going repair works of Guest House and other tourist sites.

Meanwhile, Paulenlal Haokip, MLA, Saikot A/C and LM Khaute, MLA of Churachandpur A/C Mobile Road show for the promotion of Sangai Festival at Mini-Secretariat, Tuibong today at 4 pm. Hosted by Mang Thailth, the show features performances from Apaben Samte, Anggu Singit, Muan Hangzo and Soupiu.

It may be mentioned that an inaugural event for Sangai Festival, 2022 Churachandpur District will be held at border village Behiang on Nov 24 at 1 PM to be followed by the main events to be held from Nov 24 - 25 at Geljang Resort, Khuga and a grand closing ceremony at Lamka Public Ground in the evening of 26th November, 2022.

Besides, to enliven and add zing to the two sites during the festival, potential activities such as cultural shows, music concerts, live football World Cup telecast, food and handicraft stalls, motorcycle rally, hiking/trekking etc. at the sites have been explored.

Assam Rifles organised an interaction with student and faculty of MU

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19:

Keithelmanbi Battalion under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) conducted interaction with students and Faculty of Manipur University at Keithelmanbi Garrison on 18 Nov 2022.

The programme saw a

healthy participation of both students(26) and Faculty(03) of Dept of National Security Studies, Manipur University.

The visit commenced with Weapon display organised by Assam Rifles. Discussion on Role of Assam Rifles in Nation Building and Career oppor-

tunities in armed forces was also organised with an aim to motivate them to join Indian Armed forces.

DIG, HQ 9 Sector Assam Rifles shared his experiences while serving in Manipur and motivated them to work hard and contribute actively in the nation building process. He also encouraged

them to join the Indian armed forces and serve the nation.

The interaction provided a platform for students to discuss all important issues including drug menace and working in harmony with Assam Rifles towards achieving common goal of peace and development.

Contd. from Page 1 50000 variety fish fingerlings.....

Fisheries Director Balkrishna Heinsam spoke of introducing a Fisheries App that will cater to the needs of both the buyers and sellers. The cost of the App can be launched with a budget of about Rs.7-8 Lakh only. There is no proper database available at present at the department but some fisheries database can be collected from the Environment & Ecology Department that will give de-

tails about wetlands and farm ponds, he said.

Balkrishna Heinsam also said that the Fisheries App will contain details about the fish farmers, contact number and complete picture of fishes reared by him. The App will apply to all districts, especially the valley districts. The process for Imphal East is already over. If we need to buy fishes for any local ceremony like house in-

auguration, we need to take into account factors like availability of the desired fish variety in farm ponds, location, home delivery service etc., he added.

Prof. N. Lokendra Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Manipur University also graced the occasion as President. Officials from Fisheries Department and others also attended the programme.

Sports

FIFA World Cup Opening ceremony: When, where to watch, BTS' Jungkook among performers in Qatar 2022

Agency
Doha, Nov 19:

Here's what you need to know about the opening ceremony that will take place ahead of the November 20-December 18 World Cup in Qatar:

What time is the opening of the World Cup 2022?

The opening ceremony of the World Cup will take place on November 20, ahead of the opening Group A match between host Qatar and Ecuador.

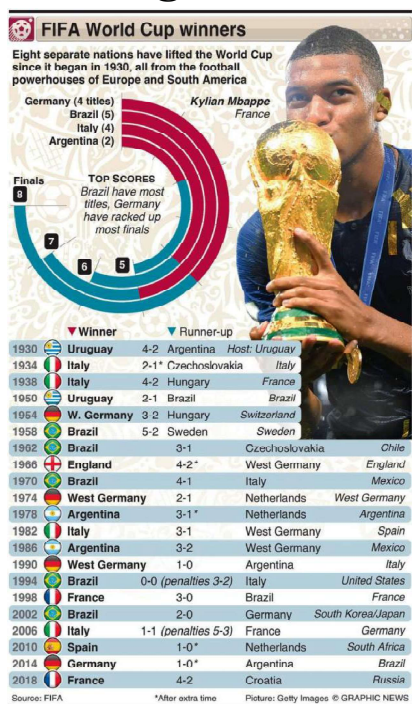
The opening ceremony is scheduled to begin at 7:30 pm IST.

The original plan was for the opening ceremony to be held before Qatar's first game on November 21, which would have created the unusual situation of two games being held before it. The opening match was then brought forward by a day.

Ecuadorian President Guillermo Lasso said he will not attend his nation's high-profile opening match against Qatar, citing domestic unrest.

Where is the opening ceremony for FIFA World Cup 2022?

The opening ceremony



will be held at the 60,000-capacity Al Bayt Stadium located 40km north of Doha.

With a seating capacity of 60,000, located in Qatar's northeastern coastal city of Al Khor, the Al Bayt stadium will host the opening fixture of this edition's World Cup between Qatar and Ecuador.

The stadium was inaugurated on 30th November 2021 during the FIFA Arab Cup. According to the Qatar World Cup website, the architects have drawn inspiration from tents that were used by ancient nomads in the middle east.

Who all are performing at the World Cup 2022?

FIFA are yet to announce a complete list of performers for the 2022 World Cup opening ceremony.

South Korea's BTS said Jungkook, one of seven members of the boy band, will perform at the ceremony.

According to *The Telegraph*, other names reported to be involved in the opening ceremony include pop star Shakira, who sang the 2010 World Cup's official song, the Black Eyed Peas, Robbie Williams and Nora Fatechi.

British singer Dua Lipa denied a report that she was set to perform at the ceremony. Some Spanish media reports said Shakira would also not perform.

Singer Rod Stewart told *The Times* he had turned down an offer of "over \$1 million" to perform in Qatar.

Who performed at the 2018 World Cup opening ceremony?

The 2018 World Cup in Russia kicked off with a ceremony in Moscow headlined by British pop star Williams and Russian soprano Aida Garifullina.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and FIFA President Gianni Infantino gave speeches at the opening ceremony.

Where or how can I watch the World Cup opening ceremony?

The opening ceremony of the FIFA World Cup 2022 will be available in the following channels across the World:

- * India: Sports18, Sports18 HD and Jio Cinema
- * UK: BBC One
- * USA: FOX, Telemundo, fuboTV
- * Canada: CTV, TSN, RDS
- * Australia: SBS

Italian referee Orsato to officiate Qatar vs Ecuador opening match



Italian referee Daniele Orsato was chosen on Friday to handle the opening game of the World Cup.

FIFA picked Orsato for Sunday's match between host Qatar and Ecuador, describing him as "one of Europe's most experienced referees." He turns 47 on Wednesday.

Until 2016, FIFA imposed a mandatory age limit of 45 on match officials for international games.

Orsato, who was a video review official at the last World Cup, refereed the 2020 Cham-

pions League final when Bayern Munich beat Paris Saint-Germain 1-0. He worked three games at last year's European Championship, which was won by his home country.

Italian referees have one of the best reputations in the modern era of World Cups, handling two of the past five finals.

FIFA referees committee chairman Pierluigi Collina officiated the 2002 final and Nicola Rizzoli was picked for the 2014 final.