

Sangai Festival kicks start with mesmerizing cultural extravaganzas

Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy enthralled seeing all the 32 tribal communities of the state in one place

IT News
Imphal, Nov 21:

Sangai Tourism Festival – the largest festival of Manipur organized by the State Tourism department to boost the tourism industry in the state kicks start today at the newly constructed Sangai Ethnic Park at Moirang Khunou in Bishnupur District.

Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy, who is also Minister for DoNER and Culture of the Government of India, who attended the inaugural function of the festival officially declare the opening of the largest Tourism festival of the state at around 2.30 pm today.

Talking on the Occasion Reddy said that for two years the Sangai Festival could not be organized due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. But with the vibrant Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Center over 220 crore doses of Covid Vaccine have been given free of cost.

"Because of the commitment and vision of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi we can now gather and celebrate Sangai Festival", The Tourism Minister said adding



that prime Minister Modi had told him that by next year the Sangai Festival will be a Mega Tourism festival.

He also said that Indian visits foreign countries like South Africa, London, Canada, Switzerland etc. to see the beauty of those country.

However, if those people started knowing the natural scenic beauty of Manipur their holiday plan will certainly change and more and more people will start visiting the state of Manipur.

Unlike yesteryears, the state Tourism department under the di-

rectives of the government of Manipur is organizing the Sangai Festival at 14 locations, including Behiang in the East and Moa in the North. Hapta Kangjeibung, Lamboi Khongnangkhang etc. will also continue to be Sangai Festival Venue.

What attracts the inaugural day of the festival is the witnessing of the Sangai Ethnic Park in complete structures with traditional houses of all the 33 tribal communities besides other major infrastructures.

"We started the construction of the Sangai Ethnic Park on August

28 and in nearly 3 months the structure is almost completed," Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, who graced the occasion as the Chief Host said.

As per the official announcement on behalf of the State Tourism department, the total estimated project cost for the construction of the Sangai Ethnic Park at Moirang Khunou is Rs. 4.45 Crore. Interestingly the land for the construction of the ethnic park was donated by the villagers and people of Moirang Khunou area without demanding or accepting any land compensation.

Rajya Sabha MP Maharaj Leishemba, who presided over the inaugural function while praying for the grand success of the festival urged the Government of India through the Tourism Minister to take special care for the protection of the Loktak lake, the one and only floating Keibul Lamjao National Park where the rare Brow Alter Deer (Sangai) is found. He also said that the pony which gave Polo game to the world is endangered and urged the Minister to take up some measures for the protection of the rare species.

Chief Minister launches Hydraulic Excavator at Sendra

IT News
Imphal, Nov 21:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh launched the Hydraulic Excavator (Long Boom) at Sendra, Loktak Lake today, in presence of Public Health Engineering Minister L. Susindro Meitei and Chairman, Loktak Development Authority Moirangthem Asnikumar. The Programme was organised by Loktak Development Authority (LDA).

Speaking on the occasion, N. Biren Singh stated that Loktak Lake is very important for the people of Manipur and as such the State Government has been taking up various initiatives to preserve the Lake. He informed that a Cabinet Sub-Committee had been formed to further initiate preservation of the lake and added that demarcation of the area of the Loktak Lake would be carried out soon.

The Chief Minister maintained that the State Government would make sure that the locals don't face any hardship during the reju-

venation work, adding that various steps had been taken up considering the necessity to save the Lake. He continued that various floating huts were removed, though they were beautiful and further stressed the need to set up huts in systematic and hygienic ways, so that the environment of the Lake is not deteriorated.

Expressing concern on the deteriorative condition of the Lake, the Chief Minister further stated the need for Government Officials to work sincerely and transparently in order to bring development in the State. He urged officials to do field visits rather than just performing table work.

Mentioning that the State Government would do whatever had been assured earlier, he appreciated the locals residing near the Loktak lake for their support and cooperation in the efforts to preserve the Loktak Lake. He further informed that the Asian Development Bank would provide financial support to the State, in developing the Loktak Lake to the

World Class Level. He also informed that representatives of G20 Countries would be visiting the State in February next year and as such it is very important to make the Lake clean before the visit.

Chairman, Loktak Development Authority M. Asnikumar stated that various development efforts had been taken up to preserve the Loktak Lake, under the initiative of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. Tourists from across the World are showing their willingness to see the beauty of the Loktak Lake, which is now known as an eco-tourism hotspot, he said. He continued that the State is coming up with a master plan to rejuvenate the Loktak Lake in a long term approach, with the support of Asian Development Bank.

He expressed hopefulness that with all the efforts of LDA, the Loktak Lake will become an iconic site in Southeast Asia.

Project Director and officials of LDA and peoples residing around the lake also attended the programme among others.

Arun Goel takes charge as Election Commissioner

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 21:

Former bureaucrat Arun Goel took over as an election commissioner on Monday two days after his appointment.

Sushil Chandra's retirement as the chief election commissioner in May 2022 left the post of one commissioner in the three-member Election Commission of India (ECI) vacant. Rajiv Kumar succeeded Chandra while Anup Chandra Pandey is the other election commissioner.

In a statement, ECI said Kumar, who is in Nepal as an observer for their ongoing national elec-



tions, called and congratulated Goel. It added Kumar said Goel's vast and diverse administrative

experience will strengthen the commission's endeavors in ensuring the electoral process is more inclusive, accessible, and participative.

Goel, a 1985 batch Punjab cadre Indian Administrative Service officer, was due to retire on December 31. But his voluntary retirement came into effect on November 18. Goel will be in line to become the next chief election commissioner after Kumar's tenure ends in February 2025.

A person can hold the office of an election commissioner or chief election commissioner for six years or till the age of 65, whichever is earlier.






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at the Sangai Ethnic Park

Moirang Khunou, Bishnupur, Manipur



N. Biren Singh
Chief Minister, Manipur

Key Highlights: Cultural shows by multiple tribes of Manipur, Exquisite Manipur's Weaves, Fashion Shows, Indigenous Sports, Adventure Sports, Hiyaang Tannaba, Iboyaima Shumang Leela Shanglein, Imphal Literature Festival, 2nd Manipur Tourism Congress 2022, Sangai Chef 2022, Flower Show, Men's International Polo Tournament, 1st Chief Minister's Sangaol Kangjei Championship 2022, MMA, Skateboard, Go-Karting, Film Screening, Handloom & Handicraft Stalls, International Stalls

Venues:

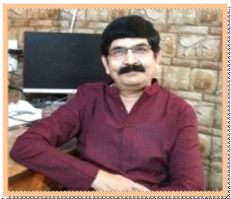
Moirang Khunou | MSFDS | BOAT & Hapta Kangjeibung | Ibudhou Marjing, Heingang | Mapal Kangjeibung & Kangla - Manung Kangjeibung | Mao & Makhel, Senapati | Khuga, Gelfang Resort, Churachandpur | City Convention Center | Koirengei | Food Park Nilakuthi | Wangkhei Thangapat



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Peacekeeping aims and Humanitarian actions are the part of our sound broadcasting system that is known as TV



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

21st November is celebrated as World Television Day which recognizes that television plays a major role in presenting different issue that affect people. It is a day to renew governments', organizations' and individuals' commitments to support the development of television media in providing unbiased information about important issues and events that affect society. Television is a symbol of communication and globalization that educates, informs, entertains and influences our decisions

and opinions.

Today, we have smartphones, tablets to play the smart apps, social networking sites, internet, YouTube, which help us connect with people, inform us about Global events and entertain us simultaneously but it does not that mean a life without television makes not much difference. Television is one of the most influential forms of media for communication and information dissemination. It is used to broadcast freedom of expressions and to increase cultural diversity. Today, we all are aware that Television continues to be the single largest source of video consumption. Though screen sizes have changed, and people create, post, stream and consume content on different platforms, the number of households with television sets around the world continues to rise. Television is one of the single greatest technological advances of the 20th century, serving to educate, inform, entertain and influence our decisions and opinions. It is estimated that approximately 90% of homes around the world have televisions, however, with the introduction of internet broadcasting, the number is declining in favor of computers. Television creates authority. When something is shown on TV it has a particular authority about it because you know that you and millions of other people are seeing it and that professionals have produced it. Television is so influential that when an audience sees your day-in and day out there's a certain acceptance that sets in; you're on longer a threatening personality. They become more willing to accept whatever you present. There are many channels which broadcast excellent educational programs. They can help students learn many beneficial things in an easy to understand way. Our parents, or grandparents are not habitual of using the internet. For them, television is the only source they are comfortable with. This is why, the life without television will be difficult for them. The power of television is like every power: It has its good and its bad sides. It can help spreading a wonderful message, an idea, art, news, sports, movies and entertainment. There have been many success stories of using television for education in many countries which has outlined the concept that television is basically not just an entertainment oriented medium and it is hostile to thoughts.

If we look at the history of Television, In 1927, a 21 year old inventor by the name of Philo Taylor Farnsworth invented the world's first electronic television. He lived in a home without electricity until he was 14 years old. In high school, he began to think of a system that could capture moving pictures, change them into a code, and then move those images with radio waves to different devices. He was years ahead of the mechanical television system as his structure captured moving images using a beam of electrons. Farnsworth later famously transmitted the image of a dollar sign using his television after a fellow inventor asked "When are we going to see some dollars from this thing?" Neither of them knew the television would become the emblem for an international day promoting the spread of global information.

World Television Day is not so much a celebration of the tool, but rather the philosophy which it represents. Television represents a symbol for communication and globalization in the contemporary world. There is no doubt that World TV Day is perhaps best as it encourages us all to reflect on Television's history and future as more than just entertainment.

Most Famous Indian Mathematicians of All Time



By: Vijay GarG

The Republic of India is a South Asian country known for being the world's second-most populous country. India's cuisine, spices, art and literature, textiles, theatre (Bollywood), and so much more have all contributed to the world. However, their contributions in mathematics, which date from ancient times to the present, have been among their most significant. In the world of mathematics, Indian geniuses have made revolutionary changes as well as advancements and specializations. As a result, it is critical that we recognize the contributions of these 15 most famous Indian mathematicians and learn more about what they have done for us!

1. Brahmagupta

This polymath is another well-known Indian mathematician who is well-known around the world for his contributions to the fields of geometry and number theory. His most significant contribution was his recognition of zero as a number, which was a novel concept in ancient mathematics. He established all of the rules and conventions surrounding the use of zero as a number. His ground-breaking revolution resulted in the development of the current form of mathematics' number system. He proved Brahmagupta's theorem for cyclic quadrilaterals, a major discovery at the time.

2. Srinivasa Ramanujan

Ramanujan, the mathematical genius, taught himself math after failing to pass the English subject in high school. His contributions to the analytical theory of numbers, elliptic functions, continued fractions, and infinite series are well-known. On his set of 120 theorems that he sent to Cambridge, he was also invited to England. He taught a more important lesson in that failure isn't permanent because he didn't let his failure discourage him and instead continued to teach himself mathematics, which he loved. Many mathematicians, not just in

India but all over the world, have been inspired by him.

3. Aryabhata

Aryabhata is a name to remember from ancient India as an unrivaled teacher with vast knowledge. Math, astronomy, and science were just a few of the subjects that he was well-versed in. He wrote the "Aryabhatiya," a comprehensive treatise that covered a wide range of integral topics in mathematics, such as trigonometry and algebra. He was the first to give an approximation of the value of pi and to make various other mathematical deductions. His contribution to mathematics was unprecedented as the founder of the Number system, and he is thus ranked in our list of most famous Indian mathematicians.

4. Bhaskara

Bhaskara is a well-known Indian mathematician from ancient times. Bhaskara was a revered astronomer as well as a doyen of mathematics. He made significant discoveries in both fields. In order to make life easier and more scientific, he delved into the number system and devised simple formulas for squaring and multiplying numbers. His work had a significant impact on the evolution of the number system over time. Bhaskara, a creator at heart, is credited with laying the foundations of mathematics in India through his significant work.

5. P.C Mahalanobis

Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, known as the "Father of Indian Statistics," is a well-known Indian mathematician whose contributions to the field of statistics are legendary. His contribution to statistics, which includes the development of the concept of pilot and large-scale surveys, has earned him a place among India's greatest mathematicians. The Mahalanobis model was also used in the second five-year plan, which focused on industrialization. P.C Mahalanobis, also known as the "Father of Indian Statistics," founded the Indian Institute of Statistical Science. The 29th of June is designated as National Statistics Day in his honor, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions to Statistics as a major branch of mathematics.

6. C.R. Rao

Another one of the most famous Indian mathematicians of all time is C.R. Rao. He is well-known for his work in estimation theory, biometry, statistical inference, and functional equations have all benefited from

the contributions of a living genius and one of India's most famous mathematicians. He was passionate about data analysis and statistical education, and his goal was to put India on the map in the field of statistics. He aided bright students in pursuing careers in statistics and continues to inspire them to explore uncharted territory. His life revolves around the world of statistics and its future, even at this young age.

7. Ashutosh Mukherjee

Ashutosh Mukherjee, India's greatest mathematician, broadened the scope of mathematics in the country. He discovered the talents of others like C.V. Raman and S. Radhakrishnan. He was a nobleman and one of the most eminent names in the Indian education system. He authored a number of scholarly papers in the fields of mathematics and physics. He was a member of several important mathematical societies in various countries and was a supporter of mathematical research. In the field of differential geometry, he made significant contributions. He was a mathematician on par with some of the era's most prominent figures.

8. Raj Chandra Bose

Raj Chandra Bose, an Indian mathematician, and statistician persevered in the face of adversity to pursue his passion. Despite severe financial constraints, he completed his bachelor's and master's degrees, after which Mahalanobis invited him to join ISI to conduct statistics research and take a part-time position. R.C. Bose's contributions to statistics have been and continue to be admired throughout the world.

9. K. R. Parthasarthy

K. R. Parthasarthy, a statistician, probabilist, and mathematician who made a name for himself in the fields of math and physics, comes in second on the list of the most famous Indian mathematicians. He was the creator of quantum stochastic calculus, an advanced branch of mathematics that combines statistics and calculus principles. He worked in the field for many years and dedicated his life to conducting various types of mathematical research. This man was, as is rightly said, a 'different kind of mind.'

10. Phoolan Prasad

This man has received numerous awards and is well-known throughout the country and around the world for his groundbreaking contributions to the concepts of

differential equations and fluid mechanics. He has written several books detailing his research, which is a unique and futuristic blend of mathematics and physics. He was successful in assessing the properties of equations describing various physical phenomena and applying them to the development of new physics principles.

11. Shakuntala Devi

Shakuntala Devi, one of the most famous female Indian mathematicians of all time, was also known as the human-computer. She was given this name because of her incredible ability to solve math problems without using a calculator. She even competed with a computer in Dallas to see who could give the cube root of 188138517 faster, and she won! She then went on to compete against UNIVAC, the world's fastest computer, to solve the 23rd root of a 201-digit number, which she also won! A woman with incredible talent and incredible world records!

12. D.R. Kaprekar

Dattatreya Ramchandra Kaprekar was a teacher after graduating from the prestigious University of Mumbai. He contributed to a variety of topics, including magic squares, recurring decimals, and integers with special properties, among others. Even a constant is named after this mathematicians.

13. Narendra Karmarkar

Karmarkar earned his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from IIT Bombay and went on to pursue his Ph.D. in the United States. He is best known for inventing polynomial algorithms for solving linear programming problems. Algorithms were born as a result of this brilliant mind's fusion of international technology and mathematics.

14. Harish Chandra

The infinite-dimensional group representation theory is credited to the Indian-born American physicist and mathematician. Throughout his life, he made numerous contributions and was awarded the Cole Prize by the American Mathematical Society.

15. Subbayya Sivasankaranarayana Pillai

Subbayya Sivasankaranarayana Pillai was a number theorist and Indian mathematician. K. S. Chandrasekharan described his contribution to Waring's problem as "almost certainly his best piece of work and one of the very best achievements in Indian Mathematics since Ramanujan" in 1950.

Fostering Northeast India-Bangladesh ties through Assam Assembly delegations' visit

By: Kamal Uddin Mazumder

To increase trade and communication between Bangladesh and the north-eastern states of India, a 32-member Assam parliamentary delegation landed in Bangladesh on November 19, 2022 for a five-day visit. The Assam Legislative Assembly's goodwill delegation to Bangladesh received a warm reception from Bangladesh both at the Akhaura border.

The groups being led by Assam Legislative Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimari said that India will stand by Bangladesh in any danger. At the Akhaura International Immigration Checkpost in Brahmanbaria at 10 am on Saturday (November 19), he told the media reporters that India will stand by Bangladesh in any danger as India stood by Bangladesh in the Great

War of Liberation.

Mentioning that the commercial relations between the two countries will be strengthened through the visit, the Speaker said that earlier people's livelihood in Assam was agriculture. Now business is the key. Youngsters think about business after completing their studies. The youth of Assam will get the commercial benefits of this visit.

The delegation will pay a visit to the tomb of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Tungipara, Gopalganj, then meet with Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen and take part in a dinner hosted by the minister. They will go to the Pran Industrial Park on November 22 before traveling to Assam that same day through Akhaura.

"The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Assam organized this informative visit. It is a study tour, he claims. They are curious about Bangladesh's development "Ac-

cording to media reports.

In order to further boost connectivity and trade with the Seven Sister States and with India as a whole, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina invited the seven chief ministers of India's northeast to visit Bangladesh during her visit to Delhi in September.

This visit may be a part of a larger initiative to increase connectivity and trade with northeast India. The Indian government has been improving the northeast's communication infrastructure as part of its Look East program.

Recently, Indian politicians have praised Bangladesh for helping to maintain peace and security in the region by enforcing a zero-tolerance policy against militants. India also connects the Asean nations, including Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam, through the Seven Sisters.

Bangladesh has many potentials to increase commerce with north-eastern India and subsequently open up access to the Asean nations because both India and Bangladesh

have made progress in establishing connectivity through roads and railways.

Bangladesh also permits India to transfer commodities between different parts of India by using the Chattogram and Mongla ports, which lowers the cost and speed of shipping.

Undoubtedly, there are tremendous opportunities for trade and connection between Bangladesh and northeast India. However, people from Bangladesh and Northeast India must raise awareness among businesses and the general public.

The Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly Biswajit Daimari paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister at Ganabhaban on Sunday. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that the import of fuel oil from India will start through the pipeline next year. She said, Bangladesh wants to import oil through pipeline. Hopefully this process can be started next year. The 130 km long India-Bangladesh Friendship Pipeline (IBFPL) project aims to export oil

products from India to Bangladesh.

Apart from this, the Prime Minister also said that the border huts between Bangladesh and India will be reopened in different parts of the border region due to the closure during the Corona period.

The relationship developed due to the visit of the representatives of the neighboring Indian states of Bangladesh is beneficial for our national interest. The 32 MLAs Dhaka visit will definitely speak in favor of Bangladesh in India.

It will benefit Bangladesh. Parliamentarians from both India and Bangladesh should also visit the neighboring states continuously. It develops various relationships including trade. Which is very positive.

Work is going on to increase the bilateral relations between Assam and Bangladesh through various means. Apart from the visit of the delegation of the Legislative Assembly to Dhaka, the north-eastern state of India is going to open new doors of relations with Assam through Sylhet-Silchar festival. In an attempt to celebrate the age-old people-to-

people connect of the region, India Foundation proposes to organise the 1st Silchar-Sylhet Festival on December 2-4, 2022 in the city of Silchar, Assam. There will be cultural & literary festival apart from business interaction during the three days.

The aim of the festival is to revisit the common values and shared heritage of the twin cities and their people separated by international borders. The festival will also bring together eminent people from public and social life, industrialists, artists, scholars, and practitioners from both sides to discuss and deliberate on issues of mutual growth and opportunity. In addition, the Festival will also provide a platform to explore multi-disciplinary trade opportunities in sectors such as healthcare, tourism, education, and digital infrastructure. The festival will improve interpersonal relationships and explore various business opportunities, including those involving borders and rivers. We are all excited about making the event a success.

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CoP27 draft agreement shows clear divide on options to meet climate goals

By Dr. Gyan Pathak
New Delhi, Nov 21:

The draft text on CoP27 agreement released on Monday, November 14, clearly shows the division. Countries are still fighting on the most contentious issue of agreement on "funding arrangements for loss and damage". The UN climate conference is still swinging between hope and despair. At one point of time, the head of cabinet for EU executive vice-president Frans Timmermans, even warned delegates that "progress at this CoP won't be great."

Howsoever slippery the ground may seem on the issue of some binding agreement for all the countries, there is still hope, for greater commitments and actions on adaptation measures to achieve net-zero. EU executive vice-president has reiterated that the EU stands ready to work on loss and damage, "but that's only the beginning... this CoP will need a commitment from the global north (ie from the developed countries)."

In the beginning of the summit, a group of island countries tried to corner India and China demanding that they should also pay for the "damage and loss" on account of climate change because

they are third and the second largest polluter of the world. India's stand is that it is a developing country and has historically contributed only around 4 per cent of global cumulative emissions since 1850, while the greater part of the climate damage has been done by developed countries.

The demand from India to pay for loss and damage was made for the first time. To date, climate vulnerable countries have called only on historical emitters like the United States, United Kingdom and the EU to pay climate reparations. Until now, India has been in the forefront in demanding climate justice from the developed countries especially after the Paris Agreement on Climate Change in 2015. India has thwarted the efforts against the country to be included among the historical polluters, and now trying for a suitable agreement that suits its energy needs.

It should be recalled that at the start of the summit, and for the first time since the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) entered into force in 1994, loss and damage funding was put on the CoP agenda. However, countries views differ on the issue whether should be tackled with a new fund or with existing mechanisms. While

some developing and vulnerable countries wanted a new funding facility to be established at CoP27 itself, the developed countries such as the US and EU are opposed to it.

The draft text indicate the clear divide with two option - the first is a new funding arrangement "as agreed at CoP27... to be operationalized no later than by CoP29 (2024)" and the second is "a mosaic of funding arrangements for responding to loss and damage."

Dutch energy minister Rob Jetten's statement that too much focus on loss and damage will harm everything is just an example how slippery is the ground for agreement on new funding option. He even said that private funding is needed, but arrangement for funding in the draft text does not mention private funding, though it included a wide range of financial options.

The US and the EU while opposing the move for establishment of a new fund at this summit itself have argued that parties do not yet know what shape it would take. US climate envoy John Kerry has said that there is no full definition on "what a facility is or what shape it might take." In fact, the US does not want to have talks on loss and damage giving argument that it would

weigh on the rest of negotiations.

EU negotiator Jacob Weikmans said, "We don't think this process is ready to agree in principle that a fund or facility is the only way forward, but we are not excluding that and could not exclude that as a significant part of the conversation."

Officials from the US and other developed countries have categorically said that there are already existing funding mechanisms, including the Adaptation Fund established in 2001, the Green Climate Fund established in 2010, of the Global Shield backed by G7. The Global Shield against Climate Risks was launched with initial funding of more than \$200 million to provide "pre-arranged financial support designed to be quickly deployed in times of climate disasters".

CoP27 president says time is running out and urges negotiators to step up their efforts amid a growing concern whether this climate conference in Egypt would live up to its billing as the "implementation summit."

The draft text, which could still be changed, included a reference to the establishment of a UN-administered fund. Other options included a fit-for-purpose fund under the

UN and the strengthening of existing entities and public finance, including grants.

It is still not clear whether the developed and industrialised nations would agree to the draft text agreement, or parts of it. Still there is a hope of a breakthrough that can be worked out at last.

Scheduled end of the talks are just four days away, and there are great anxieties on account of the negotiations entangled around the most controversial issues, preventing representatives from reaching agreement by Friday. And if it happens, there would be delay by a full year until CoP28 next year. There is also a talk doing round that the summit might not wrap up by Friday as scheduled and could extend into the weekend to give more time to negotiators.

Now, the focus of the ongoing talks have been shifted from "liability or compensation" to "co-operation and facilitation". Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, the president of CoP27, has said that compromise is necessary to reach a "conclusive decision". "This could be the CoP where we lose 1.5 degree Celsius," said Alok Sharma, the former UK cabinet minister who presided over CoP26 summit in Glasgow last year. (IPA Service)

Active Covid cases in country decline to 6,402

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 21:

India logged 406 new coronavirus infections taking the total tally of COVID-19 cases to 4,46,69,421, while the active cases dipped to 6,402, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday.

The death toll climbed to 5,30,586 with 12 fatalities which includes 11 deaths reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated. One death has been reported from Rajasthan in a span of 24 hours.

The active cases comprise 0.01 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate increased to 98.80 per cent, according to the ministry website.

A decrease of 87 cases has been recorded in the active COVID-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,32,433, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 219.86 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide vaccination drive.

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

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

Modi govt weakening laws framed by UPA to empower tribals: Rahul Gandhi

Agency
Buldhana, Nov 21:

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday accused the Narendra Modi-led central government of weakening laws framed by the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) to empower tribals, and said his party will strengthen them further after coming to power again.

Addressing the Adivasi Mahila Workers' Sammelan at Jalgaon-Jamod in Maharashtra's Buldhana district, Gandhi said tribals are the "first owners" of the country and have equal rights like other citizens.

The Modi government was weakening laws like the Panchayats (Extension to

Scheduled Areas) Act, Forest Rights Act, Land Rights, Panchayat Raj Act and the reservation for women in local bodies, Gandhi said.

He said PM Modi calls tribals as 'vanvasis'. There are different meanings of the words 'adivasi' and 'vanvasi', he said.

"Vanvasi means you can live only in jungles, not in cities, you can't become doctor and engineer and can't travel by plane," he said.

Gandhi alleged that the PM wanted to take away the tribal land and give to his industrial friends.

"When we come to power, we will strengthen these laws and frame new legislations for your welfare," he said.

Under Rozgar Mela, PM to distribute about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits on 22nd November

PIB
New Delhi, Nov 21:

Under Rozgar Mela, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will distribute about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits on 22nd November at 10:30 AM via video conferencing. Prime Minister will also address these appointees on the occasion.

The Rozgar Mela is a step

towards fulfilment of the commitment of the Prime Minister to accord highest priority to employment generation. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development directly. Earlier in October, appointment letters were handed over to 75,000

newly inducted appointees under Rozgar Mela.

The physical copies of the appointment letters to the new appointees will be handed over at 45 locations across the country (except Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh). In addition to the categories of posts filled earlier, posts of teachers, lecturers, nurses, nursing officers, doctors, pharmacists, Radiographers and other

technical and paramedical posts are also being filled. A significant number of posts are being filled by the Ministry of Home Affairs in various Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF).

Prime Minister will also launch the Karmayogi Praramb module. The module is an online orientation course for all new appointees in various Government departments. It will include code

of conduct for Government servants, workplace ethics & integrity, human resource policies and other benefits and allowances that will help them to get acclimatized to the policies and transition smoothly into the new roles. They will also get an opportunity to explore other courses on igotkarmayogi.gov.in platform to enhance their knowledge, skills and competencies.

Contd. from Page 2

Fostering Northeast India-Bangladesh ties.....

This will benefit both Bangladesh and India. It will be attended by the Chief Ministers of Assam, Manipur and Meghalaya besides several ministers of Bangladesh and India. Members of Parliament and senior officials will also be present. As a result of the festival, the connectivity of Dhaka with the north-eastern region of India will increase. Speed will come in business and investment.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited New Delhi in the first week of last September and invited the Chief Ministers of seven states of North-Eastern India to visit Dhaka. Although the chief ministers have not visited Dhaka so far, various issues of relations will be discussed through the Sylhet-Silchar festival and the Dhaka visit of 37 MLAs of the Assam Assembly. The seven states in the northeastern region of India are Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh. It has a large border with Assam, Meghalaya and

Greater Sylhet Division. Before 1947 Assam-Sylhet were together. After partition the two cities became separated. The Hasina and Modi governments are looking to create new areas for business and investment, including increasing connectivity between the two cities.

According to Media Reports, due to some steps taken by the present government, along with the central government of India, the North-Eastern states are quite relieved. It is being accepted by India. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sharma praised Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's 'zero tolerance policy' against terrorism and separatism and said that Bangladesh has played an important role in countering terrorism in the region. This will usher in a new chapter in Bangladesh's bilateral relations with Northeast India.

Earlier, Jayant Narayan Chowdhury, former director general of India's NSG (National Security Guard), said the

security challenges India faced in its northeastern region had been contained.

According to stakeholders, Bangladesh and India have a cordial, complex and extensive relationship and partnership. Assam is one of the partners in this partnership. Assam, the largest state in the northeastern region of India, shares a 263-km river and land border with Bangladesh. Trade with Bangladesh is very important for both sides considering its size, population and location. India's foreign minister. When S Jaishankar visited Dhaka in May 2020, Sheikh Hasina offered India the use of Chittagong port. But India has not yet started using Pura Dasu.

Once it starts, the connectivity of Bangladesh and North-Eastern region of India will be expanded. The policy makers of the two countries are of the opinion that most of the Bangladesh-India border is connected with the state of West Bengal. In terms of commercial activities, the people of

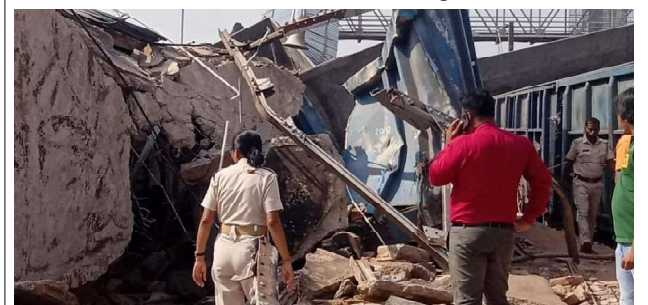
Bangladesh have a special attraction with this Bengali-speaking region of India. Similarly, if bilateral relations and trade between Bangladesh and Northeast India improve, the picture of the entire region will change.

Meanwhile, in a joint venture between Numaligarh Refinery Limited and Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation, construction of a diesel pipeline from Numaligarh in Assam, Bangladesh and India to Parvatipur in Bangladesh is nearing completion. In the meantime, diesel is coming from West Bengal's Siliguri to Parvatipur by wagon.

Overall, both countries will benefit from improved communication and trade relations between Bangladesh and Assam through diplomatic and political understanding. Besides, there is a lot of potential to increase the export of products from Sylhet, Bangladesh to Assam in Northeast India.

(The author is a Researcher and Strategic affairs analyst, Dhaka, Bangladesh)

Goods train crashes into Odisha's Korai station; three killed, several injured



Agency
Jaipur, Nov 21:

At least three persons were killed and some others were seriously injured when a goods train derailed at Korei railway station in Odisha's Jaipur district on Monday, Railway officials said.

A speeding goods train

derailed at Korai station in Jaipur district and crashed into waiting passengers killing at least three of them.

Seven people who suffered injuries are now under treatment. Search for more people possibly under the derailed bogies and debris is underway as more casualties are not ruled out since the coaches are believed to have

crushed more people.

The derailment occurred with such great impact that a coach of the goods train ran on top of the foot over the bridge at the station. The derailed coaches rammed into the station where passengers were waiting and knocked down the waiting room, ticket counter and station master's office.

At least 46 dead as earthquake shakes Indonesia's Java island



Agency
Jakarta, Nov 21:

An earthquake shook Indonesia's main island of Java on Monday, killing at least 46 people, damaging dozens of buildings and sending residents into the capital's streets for safety.

"There are 46 dead people at the Cianjur regional hospital and around 700 injured people. Many were hurt because they were hit by collapsed buildings," National Disaster Mitigation Agency chief Suharyanto said.

Several landslides were reported around Cianjur. Dozens of buildings were damaged, including an Islamic boarding school, a hospital and other public facilities, the agency said.

High rises in the capital swayed and some were evacuated.

"The quake felt so strong. My colleagues and I decided to get out of our office on the ninth floor using the emergency stairs," said Vidi Primadhandia, an employee in South Jakarta.

Earthquakes occur frequently across the sprawling archipelago nation, but it is uncommon for them to be felt in Jakarta.

The country of more than 270 million people is frequently struck by earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and tsunamis because of its location on the "Ring of Fire", an arc of volcanoes and fault lines in the Pacific Basin.

In February, a magnitude 6.2 earthquake killed at least 25 people and injured more than 460 in West Sumatra province.

Training on scientific poultry farming held at Purum Chumbang Village, Chandel

IT News
Chandel, Nov 21:

In continuation of the ongoing state-wide training on scientific poultry farming and distribution of chicks to Agri and allied farmers of Manipur, Humanism Foundation in collaboration with Extension Education, Central Agricultural University (CAU), Imphal has conducted a training on scientific poultry farming today at Purum Chumbang Village here.

Dr. N. Keinatombi Devi, Livestock Assistant, CAU, who attended the training as subject expert demonstrated the various categories of chicken and aspects of scientific poultry farming.

While encouraging to adopt scientific poultry farming, she stated that one can successfully become a poultry entrepreneur and the poultry farming is one of the best options to earn one's livelihood.

While expressing to maintain a fruitful long-term relation-



ship with CAU and Humanism Foundation, Dr. Wahengbam Rorkyachand Singh, Managing Trustee of Humanism Foundation said that the foundation will support farmers in all possible ways to become an agri-entrepreneur.

While extending gratitude to CAU and Humanism Foundation for organizing the training at the village, Chief of Purum Chumbang village, MK Smell said that such a training would benefit the farmers and enable them to uplift their economy.

In the first phase of program, Humanism Foundation

and Directorate of Extension Education, CAU has also jointly conducted trainings on scientific poultry farming at Laiching Kangshang village under Tengnoupal district on Saturday (19 November 2022) and Kalikolok Village under Kachhing district in Friday (18 November 2022).

With 30 farmers of Purum Chumbang, who participated at the training, around 100 farmers of hill areas of Kakching, Tengnoupal and Chandel districts have received 1000 chickens and benefited from the scientific training on poultry farming.

Dental College RIMS organized Oral Health Awareness & Screening Camp

IT News
Imphal, Nov 21:

The Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry in collaboration with the Department of Public Health Dentistry, Dental College, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal conducted a "Oral Health Awareness and Screening camp" on 20th November 2022, as part of National Pedodontist Day celebration 2022 at Blessings Academy, Yaesom village in Kamjong district. Dr. Bhoomika, Assistant Prof, Dr. Sharda and Dr. Gargi, tutor in Department of Pediatric and Preventive Dentistry wel-



comed the gathering and briefed about the activities to the children. The programme

was coordinated and guided by Dr. Nandita Kshetrimayum, Associate Professor, Depart-

ment of Public Health Dentistry, Dental College, RIMS, Imphal.

A total of one hundred and forty three children and elders were screened for oral health conditions by the faculty and students. And they also gave referrals for further treatment and follow-up. Oral health awareness talk was given and toothbrush, tooth paste, mouthwash, medicines, IEC materials and toys were distributed.

The effort of staff and students from Dental College, RIMS in organizing this camp was appreciated by the staff of the school.

Nagaland churches vow to work for honourable political solution

Agency
Kohima, Nov 21:

Celebrating 150 years of Christianity among the Nagas, the churches in Nagaland on Sunday resolved to work towards overcoming the differences within the people in the collective search for a non-violent, just and honourable Nagaland political solution.

The resolution was adopted during the closing worship service of the two-day sesquicentennial celebrations under the aegis of the Nagaland Baptist Church Council

(NBCC).

The celebrations held on the theme 'His Story' commenced on Saturday. Delegates representing 20 associations and four associate members of the tribal churches in the state participated in the programmes.

Representatives of Assam Baptist Convention, Manipur Baptist Convention, Arunachal Baptist Churches Convention, North East India Christian Council, Council of Baptist Churches in North East India, Asia Pacific Baptist Federation, Baptist World Alliance, India Mission Coordination Commit-

tee, Assemblies of God and Christian Revival Churches also participated.

Adopting the 10-point resolution, the congregation resolved "to work for greater unity and better understanding among various groups of people through cessation of selfish pursuits and conflicts that divide and damage the historical harmony of the Nagas."

"To this end, we affirm our shared oneness and resolve to stand in the gap in our collective search for a political solution that is non-violent, just, and honourable," it added.

Sports

Qatar first World Cup hosts to lose opener with Ecuador defeat

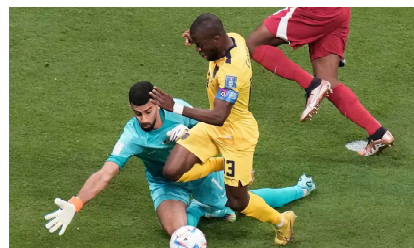
Agency
Doha, Nov 21:

Qatar became the first home team to lose their opening World Cup match as Ecuador cruised to a 2-0 victory over the hosts, with Enner Valencia scoring twice in the tournament curtain-raiser on Sunday.

Asian champions Qatar enjoyed the backing of the majority of the crowd at the 60,000-capacity Al Bayt Stadium, but could not follow a glitzy opening ceremony with a statement performance.

Ecuador thought they had made a dream start when they silenced the home fans as Valencia headed in, only for the goal to be ruled out by VAR for an offside in the build-up.

Valencia did break the deadlock with a penalty in the 16th minute and doubled his tally just after the half-hour mark.



Felix Sanchez's Qatar will likely need a positive result in their second Group A match against Senegal on Friday just to avoid the ignominy of becoming only the second hosts, after South Africa in 2010, to be dumped out in the first round.

Hopes were high among the crowd that Qatar could make a winning start, but the deficiencies of the World Cup debutants were ruthlessly exposed by an impressive Ecuador.

Qatar failed to even muster a shot on target in the game, with spectators filing out of the stands long before the final whistle.

The South Americans had the ball in the net inside three minutes when captain Valencia nodded home from Felix Torres' miscued overhead kick. VAR officials spotted an offside against Michael Estrada in the build-up after Torres challenged for the ball with Qatar goalkeeper Saad Al Sheeb.

Ecuador were completely dominant in the early exchanges, though, and were awarded a penalty after Valencia was tripped by Al Sheeb when through on goal.

The former West Ham forward coolly sent Al Sheeb the wrong way from the spot and stroked the ball into the bottom corner to score his 36th international goal.

Ecuador did not have to wait long to double their advantage as, after a surging run from Moises Caicedo, right-back Angelo Preciado swung in a cross which Valencia met with a thumping header.

Even the small section of noticeably enthusiastic Qatari fans situated behind the goal, who arrived together after the majority of the crowd and wore matching t-shirts, briefly fell silent.

Almoez Ali, the hero of Qatar's 2019 Asian Cup success, should have pulled one back on the stroke of half-time but could only steer a free header wide from eight yards out.

Ecuador allowed Qatar more of the ball after the break but still looked the more dangerous side, with Romario Ibarra bringing a diving save from Al Sheeb.

Valencia hobbled off in the 77th minute after being on the wrong end of a series of heavy challenges, although that would only have taken some of the shine off a famous night for Ecuador.

By the time an official attendance of 67,372 was read out over the tannoy, the stadium was barely half full.

India's Devika, Preeti cruise into quarters at Youth World Boxing Championships

10 Indians to play their Last-8 matches on Day 7

IT Correspondent
New Delhi, Nov 21:

Indian women boxers Devika Ghorpade and Preeti Dahiya posted emphatic victories to enter the quarter-finals while three others suffered defeats in the Last-16 stage on sixth day of the IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Boxing Championships 2022 in La Nucia, Spain.

The Pune-based pugilist, Devika made light work of Ireland's Margaret Lambe in the 52kg bout. Her impressive attacking display right from the word go eventually forced referees to stop the contest in the third round and declare Indian the winner by RSC verdict.

Preeti, who hails from Haryana, also put up an equally dominant show in the 57kg bout and hardly allowed her opponent Benediceta Maekinen of Finland to score any point before winning it comprehensively by unanimous decision.

Meanwhile, it was heart-



break for Mahak Sharma (66kg), Sahil Chauhan (71kg) and Bharat Joon (92kg)—whose challenge ended with losses in their respective bouts.

Mahak lost to Kazakhstan's Bakyt Seidish by 0-5 margin in the women's section while Sahil and Bharat were defeated by Uzbekistan's Fazliddin Erkinboev and England's Damar Thomas by 0-5 and 2-3 respectively in the men's category.

Seventh day of the prestigious tournament will see 10

Indians, including five women, fighting in the quarter-finals.

Kunjarani Devi Thongam (60kg), Lashu Yadav (70kg), Griviya Devi Huidrom (54kg), Ravina (63kg) and Bhawna Sharma (48kg) will play in the women's section whereas Vanshaj (63.5kg), Deepak (75kg), Mohit (86kg), Vishwanath Suresh (48kg) and Ashish (54kg) are the country's male pugilists to be in action.

Semi-finals will take place on Wednesday while finals on Friday and Saturday.