

## Centre's scheme to provide tapped water remains a pipe dream in Borobekra Sub-Division

IT News  
Jiribam, Nov 28:

Under the National Jal Jeevan Mission, the government of India launched a scheme to provide every rural household tap water whereas it remains a pipe dream in the Borobekra Sub-Division of Jiribam District.

On August 2019, the Union government announced the Jal Jeevan Mission to provide a functional tap connection to every household by ensuring potable drinking water for all.

Whereas, under the project, the water supply scheme had taken up at various places in the Borobekra Sub-Division of Jiribam District.

But the irony was that the construction work for the water supply scheme at the various locations of Borobekra Sub-Division was started in the year 2020 but the supply



of tap water yet remains a dream for the people of the area.

While talking with the localities, they said the government had taken up the project for the welfare of the public but whether the construction

work of infrastructure was completed or not they were not aware of it. Whereas the constructed water reservoir are turning into a jungle and remains non-functional.

They added, the availability of tap water supply re-

mains just a dream for them.

They appealed to the government of Manipur to complete the work and make it functional at the earliest so that people of Borobekra Sub-Division of Jiribam District get tap water in their households.

## EC announces ex gratia to kin of two IRB jawans shot dead in Porbandar on poll duty

Agency  
Porbandar (Gujarat), Nov 28:

Election Commission of India on Sunday announced Rs 15 lakh ex gratia to the kin of two paramilitary jawans shot dead, following an internal clash, during election duty in Gujarat's Porbandar.

The paramilitary jawans, identified as Thobasingh Thainopon Josing, and Jiten Singh Khumanthem, Rifleman, hailing from Manipur in Indian Reserve Battalion were allegedly shot dead on Saturday with an official firearm of a colleague.

"Reserve Battalion, SAP 1445 had occurred at about 07:00 pm on November 26. In this incident, two jawans Thobasingh Thainopon Josing, Rifleman, and Jitensingh Khumanthem, Rifleman died and the other two soldiers Limapokpam Surjitsinh and Rohikanta

Mitei have been injured. The Superintendent of Police, Porbandar, and District Election Officer, Porbandar both have recommended Ex-Gratia compensation of Rs 15 lac each to heirs of deceased jawans," Election Commission statement read.

"We have agreed with the proposal made by the District Election Officer, Porbandar. The detailed order with respect to payment will be issued soon after the details of the heirs of deceased jawans are received from the State of Manipur," the statement further read.

Earlier on Saturday, two jawans of the Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) were shot dead and two sustained gun injuries after their colleague opened fire at them following a brawl, near Gujarat's Porbandar, where they were deployed for poll duty ahead of state Assembly election.

The firing between Indian Reserve Battalion (IRB) personnel occurred at a cyclone relief centre at Tukda Gosa, where they were lodged.

"One jawan died on the spot while the other injured were brought to Porbandar Bhavsinghi Hospital for treatment," officials said.

"An incident of firing was reported around 7 pm today wherein two paramilitary personnel who were deployed in Porbandar for Assembly election duty have died and the other two have been admitted to a nearby hospital. After giving primary treatment to the injured they were referred to Jammagar medical college for further treatment. The situation is under control, and forces have been deployed at the site," Ashok Sharma Porbandar DM said following the incident on Saturday.

## Book released

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 27:

A book entitled Tamthiba Ningthamtha Ama, a Manipuri translation from Dhruva Hazarika's novel A Bowstring Winter by Salam Tomba Singh was released on Monday at Manipur Press Club, Majorkhul, Imphal.

Manipuri Advisory Board Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi convenor N Kirankumar Singh, Retired dean school of humanities Manipur University Prof. P. Nabachandra Singh and original writer of the novel Dhruva Hazarika graced the occasion as chief guest, functional president and guest of honour respectively.

The cost price of the book is Rs. 400 only.

## Constitution Day celebrated

IT News  
Imphal, Nov 28:

Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, Bishnupur in association with Kwasiphai Youth Volunteer Organisation (KYVO) celebrated Constitution Day on November 26 at Kwasiphai Mamang Community Hall under the theme, "Let us Perform Fundamental Duty, not only Demanding Fundamental Rights".

Constitution Day, also known as "National Law Day", is celebrated on 26 November every year to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of India. On 26 November 1949, the Constituent Assembly of India adopted the Constitution of India, and it came into effect on 26 January 1950.

## Flight from North-East India to Myanmar and Bangladesh starting soon

Agency  
Itanagar, Nov 28:

The Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said that flights from Imphal to Mandalay and from Agartala to Chittagong will be started soon.

Flights will soon be started from two Northeastern states to Myanmar and Bangladesh as the government is working on enhancing air connectivity in the region.

On Monday, the first flight from the new airport at

Arunachal Pradesh's Itanagar was flagged off by Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia. The flight from Hollongi airport to Mumbai via Kolkata is being operated by IndiGo, which will also be increasing its services from the region.

Scindia said that air connectivity in the North East (NE) has been enhanced and more flights will be operated connecting the region with other places. Flights from Imphal to Mandalay and from Agartala to Chittagong will be started soon as part of en-

hancing international air connectivity in the region, Scindia said on Monday.

Imphal is in Manipur and Mandalay in Myanmar, Agartala in Tripura and Chittagong in Bangladesh. Now, there are 16 airports in the North East compared to 9 in 2013-14, he added. The minister also said the efforts are on to make the Northeastern states the growth engine. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had inaugurated the Donyi Polo Airport in Hollongi, Itanagar, on November 19.

## Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman concludes pre-Budget meetings for forthcoming Union Budget 2023-24

PIB  
New Delhi, Nov 28:

Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the pre-budget consultation meetings for Budget 2023-24 held in virtual mode from 21<sup>st</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2022. The pre-budget meeting were concluded here today.

More than 110 invitees representing 7 stakeholder groups participated in 8 meetings scheduled during this

period. The stakeholder groups include representatives and experts from Agriculture and Agro Processing Industry; Industry, Infrastructure & Climate Change; Financial Sector and Capital Markets; Services and Trade; Social Sector; Trade Unions and Labour Organisations and Economists.

Union Ministers of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary and Dr. Bhagwat Kishanrao Karad, Finance Secretary T.V. Somanathan; Secretary, DEA,

Ajay Seth; Chief Economic Advisor, Dr. V. Anantha Nageswaran; Secretary, DIPAM, Tuhin Kanta Pandey; Secretary, Financial Services, Vivek Joshi; Secretary, Corporate Affairs, Manoj Govil; OSD, Revenue, Sanjay Malhotra, and senior officers from Ministry of Finance were also present during the meetings. Secretaries of other Ministries/Departments concerned participated through online mode.

contd. on page 4

## Central Trade Unions boycott Finance Ministry's pre-budget virtual consultations

By: Dr. Gyan Pathak  
New Delhi, Nov 28:

A joint forum of ten central trade unions — including, INTUC, AITUC, TUCC, SEWA, HMS, CITU, AICTU, LPF, AIUTUC and UTUC — has decided to boycott the virtual pre-budget consultation with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman on November 28, demanding a physical meeting with reasonable time to speak. Pre-budget consultation is an annual exercise under which representatives of different sectors give suggestions and raise demands to be addressed through the Budget.

In a letter dated November 25, the forum stated: "Now your email dated November 25, 2022 under reference, makes it explicit that each central trade union will be allowed to speak

for three minutes. This is a joke and we refuse to be part of such a cheap joke. We will not participate in the proposed video conference on November 28, 2022." Earlier, the forum had jointly protested against a restricted video conference for pre-budget consultations.

"We are constrained to express our disappointment for calling this meeting on virtual mode despite complete easing of Covid restrictions, and that to for 75 minutes only for consultation involving more than 12 central trade unions, may be more as indicated by the invitation letter.

As per the labour ministry's physical verification, there are 12 central trade unions in our country. That means less than five minutes or even less for each organisation, if time for customary opening remarks is taken into account," they forum

had stated. The forum also urged the finance ministry "to seriously reconsider convening of a physical meeting with reasonable time-allotment for effective consultations in the pre-budget meeting with the trade unions."

The entire episode is indicative of the more troublesome time ahead and also the strained relationship between the Modi government and the workers of the country, the former hell bent on implementing the four controversial labour code, and the latter fighting back tooth and nail to stall those legislations. Former spending years to convince the workers that the codes are for their benefit, and the latter who find those anti-worker were not even given a reasonable time to voice their concerns. It is also indicative of a budget 2023-24, which will not have the

workers concerns included, but will have all sorts of things that would push through the government agenda which the agitating CTUs label pro-corporate. Trade Unions had initially expressed happiness at invitation to the Trade Unions on behalf of the Union Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman to participate in the consultations, even though their suggestions given in earlier consultations of 2020 and 2021, had actually fallen on deaf ears. The invitation was welcomed though CTUs told in a letter to Sitharaman that such previous consultations amounted to not having any consultations at all.

Happiness over the consultation invitations should be sympathetically understood, since the four controversial labour codes were passed in 2019 and 2020 absolutely with-

out consultation with trade unions or with the highest tripartite body in the country called Indian Labour Conference (ILC), disregarding all objections raised by the opposition in the Parliament of India, and without thorough discussions on the likely impact on industrial relations in India and on workers.

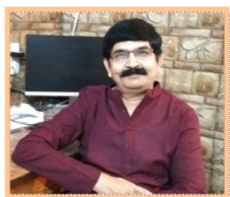
Happy CTUs over invitation should have been taken as opportunity by the Modi government to smoothen the much strained industrial relations in the country at a time when there are large scale job cuts in every sector of the economy, and workers have been restive over three years on a range of issues which included privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings, banks, insurance etc and the four labour codes against which the country had to witness sev-

eral all India strike actions.

But the Union government has something else in their mind. They actually don't want to listen to the workers representative CTUs for more than a couple of minutes each, which is nothing but manifestation of their arrogance in pursuing their own agenda against which CTUs have been agitating. That is why they allotted 75 minutes for 12 CTUs, giving even less than 5 minutes time each if routine opening remarks included. Union government knew it very well that it was too little a time for any "meaningful discussion" with trade unions in the backdrop of a recent discussions with the Union Minister of Labour, Bhupender Yadav that ended without arriving at a consensus on any of the trade union demands.

contd. on page 4

# BJP's Stronghold in Gujarat will retain its power



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

won six consecutive assembly polls in Gujarat.

Gujarat is a stronghold of the BJP. It is the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. The party has been in power in the western state for 27 years. It is reported that Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel's name is proposed as the candidate of the Ghatlodiya constituency of Ahmedabad ahead of the state Assembly polls. He belongs to the Kadva sub-caste of the influential Patidar community and holds a diploma in civil engineering. Nearly 50 BJP workers unanimously demanded to give the ticket to Bhupendra Patel for the said seat. This time it seems BJP is not fighting the Gujarat state election to avoid defeat but to increase its victory margins and win a greater number of seats in the 182-member assembly.

When the BJP came to power in the state in 1995, it won 121 seats; that peaked 127 seats with Narendra Modi as chief minister in 2002, after the vicious riots earlier that year. In the second Modi-led election in 2007, the BJP got 117 seats; in 2012, it got 115 seats. The peak for the BJP was 127 seats and the lowest was 99. It never came close to the record of 149 seats won by the Congress under the leadership of Madhavsinh Solanki in the year 1985. This time, according to the opinion poll, the BJP is projected to win between 131 and 139 seats in the 182-member Gujarat Assembly. In the previous Assembly polls in 2017, the BJP had won 99 seats. The Congress' tally is expected to drop precipitously from 77 seats in 2017 to between 31 and 39 seats this time. According to the P-MARQ opinion poll, the BJP is predicted to win 127-140 seats out of the total 182 as against the 99 seats which the saffron party bagged in last assembly election. If the BJP indeed wins 127-140 seats in the Gujarat Assembly Election 2022, the saffron party may win the highest number of seats since 2002. The survey has put AAP below BJP and Congress, with Kejriwal's party expected to secure only 7-15 seats. While Arvind Kejriwal-led AAP's performance will be satisfactory, Congress, despite its 'Bharat Jodo Abhiyaan', will be left disappointed in Gujarat. No doubt, with its aggressive campaign, AAP is projecting itself as the main challenger to BJP in the state. The Congress party suffered a significant setback when one of its most influential figures, Ahmed Patel, died of complications related to a Covid infection the previous year. Hardik Patel, another important figure, announced his resignation from Congress earlier this year and joined BJP. This time the arithmetic seems tilted towards the BJP as it has roped in Patidar leader Hardik Patel and OBC leader Alpesh Thakor under its fold.

Bhupendra Patel will remain the chief minister of Gujarat if BJP secures a majority in the next month's Assembly elections. Bharatiya Janata Party leader and Ghatlodiya MLA Bhupendra Patel took oath as the 17th Chief Minister of Gujarat. It is believed that Patel holds a strong influence in the Patidar community in Gujarat which the BJP has banked upon to win the upcoming elections. The Patidars are a dominant caste in Gujarat with a sizeable control over the electoral votes. The community also dominates the political economy with a stronghold over education, realty and cooperative sectors. Patel is now the 17th Chief Minister of Gujarat. Born in Ahmedabad, Patel is a first-time MLA from the Ghatlodiya seat, a post previously held by Anandiben Patel, who is currently serving as the Governor of Uttar Pradesh with an additional charge of Madhya Pradesh.

He had won his maiden seat by a margin of 1,17,000 votes in 2017, the largest margin in that poll defeating Congress candidate Shashikant Patel. He grabbed more than 72 per cent of the vote share in the Ghatlodiya constituency during the 2017 assembly polls. There are many who think how PM Modi picked Bhupendra Patel as CM but, Patel is not a new face in politics and has served as the Ahmedabad municipal councillor. Patel, who holds a diploma in civil engineering, also served as the chairman of the Standing Committee of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation and Ahmedabad Urban Development Authority (AUDA). From 1960 until 1995 they were all from the Indian National Congress party, except for eight years when the opposition Janata Party/Janata Dal ruled. Since 1995, however, the Bharatiya Janata Party has dominated, controlling the Chief Minister for all except 18 months. Bhupendra Patel, an engineer, builder and ardent follower of the spiritual guru Dada Bhagwan, founder of the AkramVignan movement, a purification movement like what is practised in Jainism.

Patel, who rose from the ranks having won elections from the Memnagar Nagarpalika in 1990s, the area now a part of Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation limits, will also be the first chief minister from Ahmedabad-Gujarat's business capital and its largest city. Patel, who started out running a shop selling fire crackers in Dariapur in Ahmedabad's walled city area, represents Ghatlodiya, a BJP bastion. He had fought his first major election in 2010 as corporator from the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) and went on to become the standing committee chairperson, in the first term itself. In 2017, his first Assembly election, Patel defeated Congress candidate Shashikant Patel by over one lakh votes, considered to be the highest winning margin. Holding a diploma in civil engineering, Patel is in the real-estate business for the last 25 years and therefore his appointment will also be accepted by the powerful builder community. His public life has been without controversy and people describe him as not being "very ambitious".

The Gujarat contest this time will be more interesting. Gujarat has been a BJP stronghold for a long time, and the party has set its sights on returning to power with a handsome majority this time. If BJP gets a majority in Gujarat, Bhupendra Patel will be the next chief minister and Gujarat will break all records and will win with the most number of seats.



By: Er. Prabhat Kishore

Media involves not just publications, but Akashvani, Doordarshan & other private electronic channels. When an organisation or government is 'in the news', the objective of press relations may be simply to ensure that what is published is favourable or at least accurate. But for promotional purposes, the problem is more often to stimulate media interest in publishing information about specific subjects.

'Mass Media' includes Doordarshan, Akashvani, Private electronic channels, Newspaper, and large circulation magazines, as well as many more specialised publications. One's press relation work will be with the press itself, often the business press in particular.

In every industrialised country there are dozens, hundreds or even thousands of business publications, serving virtually every industry, trade or profession. The people who read these publications are seeking information useful to them in their jobs or business. A single reader often is directly responsible for, or influences, very sizeable purposes.

Because trade and industrial publications are so specialised, their circulations are smaller, choose the right ones, trade and industrial journals regularly publish news and other information that general publication would not consider. If we are trying to reach trade, we also find out several different publications to reach the right people at various levels and in different kinds of operations. One way to identify the right business publication for our purposes is to ask people who fit into the business categories you are trying to reach which publication they read.

# Media relations

Although the business press can be our most promising publicity channel, it is rarely adequate as the sole medium for a publicity campaign, trade magazines do not reach everyone in every trade; small shop owners, for example, do not read them and top executives often read general business publications in preference to many of the specialised journals serving their industries. Moreover, if we are promoting consumer goods, in many cases obviously would want to reach consumers, not just the trade.

Daily newspapers, can achieve greater audience coverage than business journals. Newspapers also have a degree of selectivity which can be very useful, particularly in terms of geographical coverage. Newspapers usually serve individual cities or rural and sub-urban areas.

Consumer magazines are another medium, one should not overlook. Women's magazines, for example, often carry articles and news items on products in the food, clothing and home furnishing areas. Travel articles are another favourite subject.

The essence of good press relations is of understanding what kind of material publications and other media want, and then supplying it to the extent possible. In all probability these will be a smaller group of publications that will be especially important for you.

Study these publications more carefully. Do they publish articles about specific companies or products? What seems to interest them about products? Are they interested in foreign statistics and trends, in personalities? Do they publish feature articles about whole industries, including those of foreign countries? Do their articles seem to be based on reporting (by their own staff or by outsiders) or on press releases? How is the publication divided up according to subject matter? Do they use photographs and if so of what subjects, and how do they treat them?

For the smaller number of magazines most important to us, it will pay to go a step further and get to know some of the editors and reporters.

An even better reason for developing personal relations with appropriate journalists is they will thereby get to know us. Editors of good pub-

lications do not decide what to print on the basis of friendship or in return for hospitality; their livelihood depends on publishing material their readers want. However, if an editor knows us and has been impressed with us as a serious source of useful information, he might well pause a bit longer over a press release coming from our organisation.

To engage in press relations on personal level successfully, one must bring two particularly important qualities to the job: Knowledge and honesty.

Be candid with journalists. If we have information which we are really not free to reveal, say so frankly and do not attempt to avoid the fact with evasive replies. Do not deny a story that is correct. Make a point of becoming a source of useful information for reporters. Be scrupulous about being fair with reporters. If we have a piece of news, release it simultaneously to all journalists.

The most common and practical way of disseminating a news-story is by sending it to the news media in the form of a press release. Publications rely heavily on press releases, sometimes like 80% or 90% of the press releases received by the better publications are almost immediately thrown into the wastepaper basket. The main reason so many press releases are rejected is what they contain is no news at all or no news of interest and that are badly prepared. Preparations of press releases should be entrusted to a professional publicity man.

To stand chance of being published, a press release must contain news. Concentrate on preparing releases that interests of a limited number of publications which are especially important to us, rather than to send out generalised releases indiscriminately.

A daily newspaper, for example, might run a short story about the visit of a high-level trade delegation but it would not be interested in the arrival of an individual businessman or the signing of a single agency agreement. For some trade magazines, printable 'news' may be nothing more than an announcement about availability of a news supplier, a large sale, a change in prices, the appointment of a news agency or sales manager or the launching of a

new promotion campaign. Whether the publication is general or specialised, the one thing it will insist on is hard facts. Vogue generalities won't do.

One technique in developing successful press releases is to give some background and interpretation to the immediate news.

The way a press release is written and set up can determine whether or not it is used by the publication. Top the release with brief head line that identifies the subject and, if possible, gives the gist of the story. Then summarise the entire story, with all the vital details, in the first short paragraph; what happened, or will happen; names of the organisation or firm, the people and the products involved, date and time if relevant, the place. Also suggest in this lead paragraph the significance of the news. Then with simple sentences and brief paragraphs, fill out the story. Use facts and factual comparisons to impress. If possible, keep the story on one page. Always indicate where and from whom the editor can get additional information. Include also the telephone number. Physical presentation is also important, observing the following points:-

(1) Use paper with a headline especially printed for your press releases. The name of your organisation should also be prominent. The paper should be full typing-page size. The long 'A4' or full scale size is best.

(2) Use only one side of the sheet.

(3) Whatever reproduction system is used, copies should be clean and legible.

(4) Double space, with wide margins on either side.

(5) Always place the date of story at the top.

(6) No underlining.

(7) Indent all paragraphs except the first.

(8) No full stops between initials.

(9) Use quotations sparingly.

(10) If the story runs over, put 'MORE' at the bottom of each pages.

(11) At the end of story indicate source for information (name, telephone, telex, cable address, post address, email address).

contd. on page 3

# Role of social media in collaborative learning



By: Vijay GarG

Participating in social media initiatives helps students imbibe a sense of leadership, empathy, positive thinking.

Evolving educational landscape and involvement of technology have created a new space for collaborative learning. This approach involves a group of two or more students working together to complete the assigned task. Students working in a group rely on each other's skills and expertise and accomplish the task. In such an ecosystem, students can go to their peers for help on specific problems, which builds social skills, creativity, and problem-solving. These skills will help students to survive and lead successful careers. The use of social media fosters a collaborative learning environment with digital tools and a large community to interact and share their thoughts. It helps teachers and students to connect irre-

spective of their geographical locations.

The NEP 2020 also emphasises embracing technology and collaborative learning to achieve foundational literacy and numeracy. Collaborative learning allows students to be more innovative and enhances communication through group discussions. Social media platforms facilitate these interactions more freely, and students share knowledge and experiences. These group activities teach students to express their ideas and thoughts while managing time. While working in groups, students harness peer strengths, address group learning needs, learn to cooperate, negotiate, resolve conflicts, and reach consensus.

In more than 40 studies of elementary, middle, and high school English classrooms, it was observed that discussion-based practices improved critical thinking, comprehension of text, etc. Interestingly, even discussions that lasted only for 10 to 15 minutes in the class, helped to improve perceived understanding of the critical points of the text and helped learners think beyond the text.

Students can use various social media platforms for educational purposes, powered by multiple languages, including regional languages packed with varied content quality. Seeing the high level of students engagement through social

media, various schools adopted social media for community building, raising awareness, and establishing communication and higher-order thinking skills among students. Social media also shares positive, motivational, and educational content. For instance, schools involve students in designing social media campaigns to raise awareness of climate change, sustainability, and other social issues. Participating in such initiatives helps students imbibe a sense of leadership, empathy, positive thinking, and competitiveness. These skills further help them overcome future challenges, enhancing their critical thinking and analytical skills. Even the tiny change brought in society through these initiatives builds students' confidence and empowers them to thrive.

With students' strong inclination toward these platforms, educators can upgrade their curriculums and pedagogical practices accordingly. They use social media tools such as blogs, Reddit, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Skype, Pinterest, Canva, LinkedIn, YouTube, and many short video platforms to engage students in relevant content. Besides, healthy debates and discussions initiated by educators on these platforms can help students to enhance their formal communication skills.

**Digitally adept**

Social media can enhance student engagement, and those ad-

verse to reading can be inclined to read with eye-catching animations and entertaining presentations. Online content, open letters, articles, news, e-books, and information exchanged online make up for an endless list of avenues to nudge students towards reading and to increase their knowledge base, which might improve their higher-order thinking skills. Moreover, the need to stand out on social media by creating original or novel content will compel students to think creatively and innovatively. Educators can tap into these aspects of social media to bring out the best in students while nurturing them to become digitally adept and fluent. It can include activities like a real-world mystery on social media, where learners can solve it collaboratively. Students can also host live forum debates to develop higher-order thinking skills.

**The need to follow rules**

However, the content browsed on social media should have better governance. There is a high risk that students can be exposed to age-inappropriate content, sexual exploitation, scams, and cyberbullying. Forming new policies may help, but as the students are curious to know more, educators can teach them about the rules and the need to follow them. They should also be aware of the privacy policies of different websites for research and writing tools.

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times'

can be sent to our e-mail: [imphaltimes@gmail.com](mailto:imphaltimes@gmail.com).

For advertisement kindly contact: - 0385-3590330 (O). For time being readers can reach the office at Cell Phone No. 9862860745 for any purpose.



# Gujarat polls: Only 139 women candidates in fray out of total 1,621 contestants, 38 of them from three major parties

Agency  
Ahmedabad, Nov 28:

Even as women account for nearly 50 per cent of voters in Gujarat, the number of female candidates contesting the next month's Assembly elections is not very encouraging as only 139 of them are in the fray out of as many as 1,621 contenders for 182 seats.

The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and the opposition Congress have continued their tradition of offering tickets to only a handful of women, but still the number of such candidates fielded by them this time is more as compared to what it was in the 2017 election.

The BJP has given tickets to 18 women candidates as against 12 in 2017, while the Congress has fielded 14 women although that figure was 10 in the last Assembly election. The two parties have also accommodated more number of women candidates from Dalit and tribal communities this time.

Congress candidate from Sayajigunj seat in Vadodra Ami Ravat said the representation of women will rise when

the bill providing 33 per cent reservation to women is passed in parliament, while BJP's state women wing head Dipikaben Sarvada said her party was already doing it by giving key posts, including that of President, to women.

As per the data made available by the Election Commission, there are a total of 1,621 candidates contesting next month's Gujarat elections to be held in two phases - on December 1 and 5. Of them, 139 are women candidates, with 56 of them contesting as independents.

In 2017, there were 126 women candidates out of the total 1,828 contestants. That year, Gujarat sent 13 women candidates to the Assembly. This included nine from BJP and four from Congress. As many as 104 women contestants had their security deposit forfeited, the EC data showed.

Talking to PTI over phone, Congress's Ravat said, "Our party has tabled in Parliament the bill for 33 per cent reservation for women, which the BJP did not accept. Congress involved women in India's independence struggle at a time when they did not come out of

their homes." Even in developed countries, women had to fight for their voting rights, she said.

BJP's Sarvada said the way BJP has given representation to women at every level shows the party is serious about their welfare.

"Today, 18 of our sisters have got an opportunity to contest the election, and they will get a chance to be in the state cabinet in the coming days. One of them will become minister of women and child development," she said.

Sarvada said that it is only the BJP which will work to give more representation to women in the coming times.

She said Congress's demand for 33 per cent reservation for women in assemblies and Lok Sabha will be injustice to male party workers.

"The number of male party workers is more and they should get a proper chance. So this kind of reservation is not necessary," she said.

Among other parties, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) which fielded its candidates on all 182 - of whom one candidate withdrew from the race - has given tickets to only six

women candidates and three of them are contesting on Scheduled Tribe (ST)-reserved seats.

The All India Majlis-E-Itehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM), which is contesting on 13 seats, has given tickets to two women, including one from Muslim and another from Dalit community. It has fielded one Zainabbi Shaikh from Vejalpur and Kaushikaben Parmar from Dandimda. Both the seats are in Ahmedabad city.

The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has fielded 13 women candidates for the upcoming polls. It is fighting 101 seats.

The BJP has dropped five out of nine sitting women MLAs and repeated four of them - Malti Maheshwari from Scheduled Caste (SC)-reserved Gandhidham, Gita Jadeja from Gondal, Sangita Patil from Asarwa and Manisha Vakil from SC-reserved Vadodra City seats.

The Congress, on the other hand, has repeated two of its four women MLAs. Asha Patel, who had won as a Congress candidate from Unjha and later defected to the BJP, died due to health complications.

# Third Survey Vessel (Large)- "Ikshak" launched by Indian Navy

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Nov 28:



Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi, FOC-in-C, SNC and other officers at the launch of survey vessel "Ikshak" at Kattupalli ship yard, Chennai.

"Ikshak", the third of the four survey vessels (Large) (SVL) Project, being built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) and L&T for Indian Navy was launched on Saturday at Kattupalli, Chennai.

She made her first contact with water of Bay of Bengal at 1040 hrs at the launch ceremony graced by the Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command.

In keeping with the Naval maritime tradition, Madhumati Hampiholi, spouse of Vice Admiral M A Hampiholi, launched the ship to the chanting of invocation from Atharva Veda. The ship has been named 'Ikshak' which means 'Guide' and it signifies the contribution of the Survey ships towards facilitating safe passage for Mariners at sea, an official statement read.

Contract for building four SVL ships was signed between Ministry of Defence and GRSE, Kolkata on October 30, 2018 for a total cost of Rs 2435 crore. As per build strategy adopted by GRSE, first ship is being built at GRSE, Kolkata and construction of balance three ships (upto outfitting stage) has been sub-contracted to M/s L&T Shipbuilding, Kattupalli.

The first of class ship "Sandhayak" was launched on December 05, 2021 at M/s GRSE, Kolkata. SVL ships will replace the existing "Sandhayak" Class survey ships fitted with new generation hydrographic equipment to collect oceanographic data. The Survey Vessel (Large) ships are 110 m long, 16 m wide with deep displacement of 3400 tons and a complement of 231 personnel. Propulsion system of the ship comprise two main engines in twin shaft configuration and is designed with cruise speed of 14 knots and maximum speed of 18 knots. Bow and Stern Thrusters have been catered for better manoeuvring at low speeds required during shallow water

survey operations. The hull of these ships is made from indigenously developed DMR 249-A steel manufactured by Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL).

With a capability to carry four survey motor boats and an integral helicopter, the primary role of the ships would be to undertake full scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic surveys of Ports and navigational channels. The ships would also be deployed for collecting oceanographic and geophysical data for defence as well as civil applications. In their secondary role,

the ships are capable of providing limited defence, besides serving as Hospital ships during emergencies.

Despite challenges due to COVID-19 pandemic, L&T and GRSE have made substantial progress and aim to deliver 'Ikshak' by October 2023. The Survey Vessels Large will have over 80% indigenous content by cost. This will also ensure that large scale defence production are executed by Indian manufacturing units thereby generating employment and capability build up within the country, the statement read.

# PEC denounces Myanmar junta for continue jailing scribes

IT Correspondent  
Geneva, Nov 28:

Press Emblem Campaign, the global media safety and rights body, denounces the Myanmar (Burma/ Brahmadesh) junta for continue jailing scribes as Yangon-based freelance journalist Ah Hla Lay Thuzar was recently sentenced to two years in prison with hard labour by a military court. PEC maintains its demand to release all detained and imprisoned journalists by the Min Aung Hlaing-led military regime in the southeast Asian nation.

Ms Thuzar was convicted by a court inside Insein prison



on 22 November for causing fear, spreading false news and agitating crimes against a government employee under section 505 (a) of the penal code, said a report by Mizzima news. She was

arrested from Yangon on 1 September last year and detained in Insein prison. Remaining in the profession for nearly 15 years, Thuzar worked for Friday Time Journal, Modern Journal, RFA News, 7 Days News Media, etc.

"We were relieved a few days back when the imprisoned Japanese journalist-filmmaker Toru Kubota along with 6,000 political prisoners were released under a mass amnesty by the military generals. But it was perhaps a trick as thousands of journalists, activists, political workers, etc are still behind the bars. Naypietaw must work sincerely to release them at the

earliest," Blaise Lempen, president of PEC (www.pressemblem.ch).

PEC's south & southeast Asia representative Nava Thakuria informed that over 140 journalists have been detained since the military coup in February 2021. Over 40 local journalists and 13,000 political prisoners are living under military custody. Moreover, the generals continued harassing the media fraternity and a large number of media outlets faced the junta crackdown. Many have already closed their offices and shifted to hideouts (including neighbouring countries) for their committed operation.

## Contd. from Page 2 Media relations

Photographs can make a story, or at least give it more prominence and interest. In fact, a good news picture published with a suitable caption can be of more publicity value than 1000-word story. So consider sending photographs with press release when appropriate. Typical subjects include news products, events at a trade show, people in the news, a visiting mission. It is important to identify and caption pictures properly.

Photographs should never be clipped or stapled to their captions or to the accompanying release. Photographs are expensive to prepare and mail. You can reduce wastage by not sending them with release; instead indicate on the release that they are available. However, publications are more likely to use photographs when they arrive with the release.

Maintain a photographic library with an index system. Keep one point of each photo-

graph, but periodically weed out those you have obviously out dated. Aim to reduce as much as possible the waste involved in sending releases to inappropriate publications. To minimize wastage, develop mailing lists according to subject matter. It is always better to address releases to specific individuals on publications.

In some countries there are public relations wire services. For an annual fee, they will transmit your releases by telex directly to publications. This is especially convenient for general releases, and can save a lot of work and even postage and preparation costs. Critically a public relations agency, to take over all the work associated with preparing and mailing out press releases.

Of necessity, disseminating press releases will be your primary means of communicating with the press. However, when the circumstances are right, staging a press conference

or reception is likely to produce more published material.

Basically a press conference is a meeting of reporters at which they receive news. Refreshments may or may not be served. A reception is a more elaborate affair, a meal may be served and the programmes include several events, such as talks, a film showing, and the presentation of an exhibit. The distinction is mainly one of the degrees. Press receptions are sometimes put on with nothing more specific in mind than to create goodwill with the press. At best this is a questionable use of funds.

From the publicity point of view, staging press gatherings can be more effective than merely dispatching press releases. But you have to offer journalists a reason to take the time to come to a press event. Food or drink is not sufficient. There must be news of real interest to the publication involved, and not merely news

that could have been sent in a press release. The people whom the journalists are called to meet should be willing and able to answer questions. A press reception should be a standard part of publicity for trade missions and exhibitions.

The programme for a press conference can be quite simple, a brief introduction by the host, a prepared announcement or statement by the main speaker (or speakers), question period, and perhaps a fairly brief referencing, the period during which the reporters can chat informally with the speakers. Always remember that reporters are busy. Start promptly, and keep talks fairly brief.

You should brief the speakers and other participants on the purpose, the programme, which publications are expected to be represented, their interest and the likely direction of questions.

The timing of press meet can affect the resulting cover-

age. You will have the best chance of drawing the journalists you want if you stage the affair during business hours (including the lunch hour) and perhaps upto one hour later. For the morning newspapers, the best time of day is around mid-day, and for the weekly and monthly journals, late afternoon. It is best to keep press reception for the press and not to invite others as well.

Invitations should be extended to individual journalists, not simply to their publications. Be sure to include the following information on the invitations: (a) The host, (b) Purpose, (c) Day and date, time and place, (d) The nature of the hospitality, (e) Signify, as with 'RSVP' that you would like a reply, and the name, telephone number and address, to be used for replying.

(Author is a technocrat and educationist. He studied Journalism and Mass Communication at Patna University)

## IN THE COURT OF SPECIAL JUDGE (ND&PS)(FTC), MANIPUR AT CHEIRAP COURT COMPLEX ANNEXURE-I

Schedule 1 VIII, Form No. 100  
High Court Criminal Process No. 4

CASE NO. :- SPECIAL TRIAL NO. 27 OF 2022-11-28  
FIR NO. 24(4) 1992 MRH P.S.  
U/S 21 ND & PS ACT.

## PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF THE ACCUSED (Section 82 of the Code of Criminal Procedure)

- Name, Description and address of the accused:  
**Mr. Lalpi Paite** (28), now age about 58 years, S/o Ginkhokam of Checkon Tribal Colony, P.S. Porompat, Imphal East, Manipur  
Whereas complaint has been made before me that Mr. Lalpi Paite has committed the offence punishable Under Section 21 ND & PS Act (FIR No. 24(4) 1992 MRH-PS) and it has been returned to a Warrant of arrest thereupon stating that Mr. Lalpi Paite cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Mr. Lalpi Paite has absconded to avoid the execution of the said warrant.
- Name of the accused:  
**Mr. Lalpi Paite**  
Proclamation is thereby made that the said Mr. Lalpi Paite is required to appear before this Court to answer the said complaint on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2022.

Place: Imphal

Dated:  
09<sup>th</sup> November 2022

Alex Muivah  
Special Judge, ND&PS(FTC)  
Manipur

## Trade License Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my Trade License, bearing No. 9/2013/TL-PP, issued in the name of M/S Jas Gas Station, Uripok, Imphal in the way from Jas Gas Station to D.C. Office, Lamphel on November 24, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
L. Manoranjan Singh  
Proprietor  
M/S Jas Gas Station

## Marks Sheet Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my Marks Sheet of B.Sc. (Honours) 5th Semester Examination 2015 (November), bearing Roll No. 3103457, issued by Manipur University in the way from Sawbong to Khurai on November 21, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
Usham Joshila Devi

# FOC-in-C Reviews Annual Parade by Cadets of the Sea Cadet Corps

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, Nov 28:

Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command reviewed the Annual Parade by cadets of the Sea Cadet Corps (SCC) at Training Ship - TS Jawahar in Colaba in South Mumbai on Sunday.

Commodore (SCC) Rabi Ahuja conducted the parade, which included 600 SCC cadets and a 50 men Ceremonial Guard, a 46 strong "military" band and a "Nishan Toli" that proudly carried the "CNS Standard" (Chief of Naval Staff standard). The "CNS Standard" was presented to the Sea Cadet Corps in 2006 by the then CNS Admiral Arun Prakash.

Addressing the cadets on parade, Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh complimented



them for their immaculate turnout and smart drill. He also highlighted various contributions of SCC leadership towards building teamwork, discipline and leadership qualities among young children for a better India, an official statement said.

Charu Singh, President, Navy Wives Welfare Association (NWWA) Western Region was the Guest of Honour on the occasion.

**School Children Visit**

**Warships in Naval Dockyard**

In another development, the ships of the Western Fleet hosted over 4,000 school children from over 20 schools across the country on Saturday and Sunday as part of ongoing Navy Week 2022 activities, in Mumbai.

Students from the NCC, Sainik Schools, Rotary Schools, other private and government schools, and the National Association for the Blind, India, visited the ships

over two days. They were conducted onboard and familiarised with the operational capabilities as well as roles played by Indian Navy in ensuring maritime security of the nation.

During the visit, the students also saw a static display of various weapons in Indian Navy's inventory including surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missiles, and torpedoes launched by ships, submarines and aircraft. The display also included small calibre weapons used in the Navy. Movies on various operations undertaken by Navy and on life at sea were also screened for them.

The aim of such visits is to expose the next generation to the operations, activities, roles and relevance of the Indian Navy as an instrument of national policy, the statement read.

## Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission reaches milestone of 1 crore digitally linked health records

Agency  
New Delhi, Nov 28:

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya announced that the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) has reached the 1 crore digitally linked health records milestone, with over 27 lakh records linked in a single day.

"India achieves another milestone in its digital health journey. Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission crosses the landmark of 1 crore digitally linked

health records with over 27 lakh records linked in a day," the Health Minister said in a tweet.

The Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) aims to build the backbone required to support the country's integrated digital health infrastructure. It will use digital highways to bridge the existing gap between the various stakeholders in the Healthcare ecosystem.

Citizens will be able to create their ABHA (Ayushman Bharat Health Account) numbers under the ABDM, to

which their digital health records will be linked. This will enable the creation of longitudinal health records for individuals across multiple healthcare providers, as well as improve clinical decision-making by providers. According to the ministry, the mission will improve equitable access to quality healthcare by encouraging the use of technologies such as telemedicine and enabling national portability of health services.

The ABDM pilot was completed in the six Union Territories

of Ladakh, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, and Lakshadweep, with a successful demonstration of the NHA's technology platform. During the pilot test, a digital sandbox was created in which more than 774 partner solutions are being integrated. As of February 24, 2022, 17,33,69,087 Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts had been created, with 10,114 doctors and 17,319 health facilities registered in ABDM.

## Sports

### FIFA World Cup 2022:

## Costa Rica scores late to beat Japan 1-0; Morocco beat Belgium 2-0; Kramaric scores twice as Croatia send Canada out of the World Cup; Germany score late to snatch 1-1 draw with Spain

Agency  
Doha, Nov 28:

Keysher Fuller scored in the 81st minute to lift Costa Rica to a 1-0 victory over Japan on Sunday, leaving both teams with three points after two games in Group E of the World Cup.

Fuller took advantage of a defensive error when Japan failed to clear the ball and hit the net from 18 meters just off the fingertips of leaping Japan goalkeeper Shuichi Gonda.

The match at Ahmad Bin Ali stadium was tactical and largely lackluster, particularly in a first half that did not yield a single shot on goal. The second half was slightly better with Japan pressing throughout until Costa Rica broke through.

Costa Rica keeper Keyser Navas came up with several rapid fire saves in the final minutes to ensure the victory.

Japan has one Group E game remaining with Spain, and Costa Rica faces Germany in its final group match. With a victory, Japan could have all but wrapped up a place in the knockout stage after a 2-1 up-

set of Germany in its opener. Costa Rica was pounded by Spain 7-0 in its first game and just trying to survive.

Japan had the edge in corners, shots, and possession but could not find the net.

In the second match, Substitutes Abdelhamid Sabiri and Zakaria Aboukhail earned Morocco their first World Cup victory in 24 years as they upset a hugely disappointing Belgium side 2-0 in World Cup Group 'F' on Sunday.

Abdelhamid Sabiri had been on the pitch for a mere five minutes when Morocco won a free kick wide on the left, pretty close to the corner flag, against Belgium here at the Al Thumama Stadium on Sunday afternoon. The goal was at the acute of angles but no one was stopping him from having a go.

Sabiri wrapped his right foot around the ball, curling it at pace and catching Thibaut Courtois out of surprise. The Belgium goalkeeper saw the shot go under him and into the back of the net. Sabiri's teammates gathered around him and sank to the ground in prostration, the largely pro-Moroccan at the 44,000-capacity



Niclas Fullkrug's late equaliser has given some hope to the German team.

venue, its circular design reflecting the traditional woven cap worn by Arab men and boys, wild with joy.

Morocco have won just twice at the World Cup; their last victory came in 1998.

In another match, Croatia overcame a spirited Canada on Sunday evening to register an impressive 4-1 victory, sending themselves top of Group F and eliminating the North American underdogs from the

World Cup.

The 2018 runners-up had fallen behind after 68 seconds at the Khalifa International Stadium when the scintillating Alphonso Davies thumped a header into the net. It was the earliest goal of the tournament so far and a historic moment for Canada - their first-ever goal at a World Cup.

Despite the early setback, Croatia soon asserted themselves in the match, with

Chelsea midfielder Mateo Kovacic pulling the strings in midfield. In the 36th minute, they drew level when Ivan Perisic, a growing influence on the left wing, slid the ball through to Andrej Kramaric, who shot the first time into the far corner of the goal.

Croatia were buoyant and took the lead eight minutes later, when a lovely build-up from the back ended with Marko Livaja firing right-

footed low into the net from the edge of the area after being fed by Kovacic.

Canada's coach John Herdman rang the changes at halftime in an effort to claw back the initiative, and substitute Jonathan Osorio curled an effort just wide shortly after the restart.

In the last match, Substitute Niclas Fullkrug's close-range strike late in the second half rescued Germany with a valuable 1-1 draw against Spain in a World Cup Group E showdown, a result which left the group still wide open.

Billed as a heavyweight battle between two giants of

European football, this was a pacy, exciting, end-to-end 90 minutes which probably deserved more goals for two teams who have both previously lifted the World Cup.

Spain had the better of the first half on Sunday evening, looking the more likely to break the deadlock with the flair and style of their youngsters. A powerful seventh-minute effort from Dani Olmo was forced onto the crossbar by Germany's Manuel Neuer.

Antonio Rudiger did find the net for Germany with a powerful headed free-kick conversion - but the goal was ruled offside by VAR.

## Address Correction

I, the undersigned, Yumkhaibam Khoiba Singh, serving as Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI/ GD), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), Govt. of India, do hereby declare that my residential address Samaram Mayai Leikai, Thoubal District has been wrongly recorded as Moirang Thangming Mamang Leikai, Bishnupur District in my service book.

I, do hereby declare that my residential address be change as address Samaram Mayai Leikai, Thoubal district.

Sd/-  
Yumkhaibam Khoiba Singh  
Samaram Mayai Leikai,  
Thoubal District, Manipur