

Guv', CM greet people on Guru Nanak Jayanti

IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Governor of Manipur La. Ganesan, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, among others, greet the people of the state, particularly the Sikh Community, on the occasion of the Guru Nanak Jayanti which falls on 8th November 2022.

In his greetings, Governor La. Ganesan said that Guru's universal vision and humanism have been an inspiration to people everywhere.

He appealed to unite all people to bring happiness in the lives of the suffering and strive for the betterment of humanity.

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh in his greeting said that Guru Nanak Jayanti is celebrated on the day of Kartik Purnima, which is the fifteenth lunar day in the month of Kartik according to the Hindu calendar.

He said that Guru Nanak Jayanti, also known as 'Gurpurab' is the most sacred festival for the followers of Sikhism. The day marks the birth anniversary of Sri Guru Nanak Dev, who laid the foundation of Sikhism. The festival is celebrated with great religious fervour, dedication and devotion across the country to honour his life, his teachings, and most importantly, his legacy.

The teachings of Shri Guru Nanak Dev propagate selfless service to humanity, prosperity, and social justice for all, irrespective of any differences, the Chief Minister added.

Awareness Programme on Environment held

IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Students Department of Education 3rd and 5th semester of Don Bosco College (Autonomous), Maram organised One Day Social Awareness Program on November 6, 2022 at Willong Khullen, accompanied by Langonjam Chingkeingnaba Meitei, HOD Department of Education and Mairembam Sangita Devi, Assistant Professor Department of Education and Evergreat Wanglar, Assistant Professor Department of Social Work along with two resource persons i.e. Nongmeikapam Sony, Assistant Professor of Moirang College and Sukham Premjit, Advocate gave awareness to the villagers and the students on Environmental Issues and POCOS and IT related laws respectively.

The awareness programme, benefited the villagers and students in understanding the environmental problems and its solutions, water conservation, wildlife protection, terrace farming practice, the value of girl child, rights and sexual offences issue in our society.

52 Nurses including 3 from Manipur honoured with National Florence Nightingale Awards 2021



IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Among the 52 Nurses who were honoured with the National Florence Nightingale Awards (NFNA) for the year 2021 by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, three are from Manipur.

The President of India,

presented prestigious awards to the Nursing professionals today at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The three Nurses who were presented with the NFNA by the President of India are Ms. Thaimel Sanahambi (ANM), Ms. Wairokham Hemabati Devi (LHV) and Takhellamb

Helena Devi (Nurse).

The National Florence Nightingale Awards was instituted in the year 1973 by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India as a mark of recognition for the meritorious services rendered by nurses and nursing professionals to society.

Pesticides, equipments distributed to counter pest in orange farms

IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

The Department of Horticulture and Soil Conservation distributed pesticides and plant protection equipment to orange farmers in Nungba during a field visit of orange farms recently.

The field visit by a combined team of experts from the department, Plant Health Clinic, Tamenglong and Noney districts officials was made following complaints from farmers regarding the occurrence of pest and citrus diseases.

During the visit to the villages of Padan, Noney,

Chumla, Nungba and Mukti Khullen in Nungba sub-division, the combined team confirmed the presence of pest like Citrus Stem Borer, Leaf Miner, Fruit Sucking Moth and Stink Bugs and citrus diseases like Pink Disease of Citrus, Sooty Mould, Citrus Canker, Lichens.

Pesticides and items distributed include rocker sprayer, plantomycin, fipronil, imidacloprid, chloropyrifos, Aduvan/Sticker, Copper Oxy-Chloride, Sulphur Fungicide, etc.

Tamenglong District Officer, Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Shri Chungong Pamei said an expert team vis-

ited Mukti Khullen in Nungba Sub-division, Noney district following a report from farmers on the presence of pest and citrus diseases in their farms.

After proper diagnosis, the expert team found the presence of pest and citrus diseases and conducted demonstrations for the farmers and their workers on use of pesticides to control the pests and diseases. We also educated the farmers of precautionary measures and the Integrated Nutrient Management and provided toolkits, farm equipment, insecticides, etc., he added.

contd. on page 4

Short film "Eewai" (The Ripple) got Jury Award

IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Manipuri short film "Eewai" (The Ripple) has been awarded The Honourable Jury award in the 11th Delhi Shorts International Film Festival, 2022 on the 6th November 2022 at Tivoli Grand Resort Hotel, New Delhi.

The short film is Directed by Bishwamitra, story written by Rebika, and Produced by Samir for Nongdol Mamikol banner. This Manipuri short fiction has already been officially selected for other seven International Film Festivals too, for which the Award Events are coming up shortly. The 11th Delhi Shorts International Film Festival, 2022, has 186 entries, out of which Erwai was among the 92 films got officially selected.

Eewai is about Contemporary Relevance of traditional norms and customary laws with special reference to a mother whose child died before attaining the age of 3 years in the Meitei community in Manipur. The 23.24



minutes prestigious Manipuri film is cinematographed by Roman, Edited by Mohendro, Music director Michael and

National Awardee Thonthoi and Internationally acclaimed Rashi Devi in the lead roles.

RIMS Police Picket Inaugurated, Armed Police be deploy 'Desire to open one more women Police cell' - RIMS Director



IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Prof. L. Ranjit Singh, Director, RIMS Imphal inaugurated RIMS Police Picket (Under Lamphel Police Station, Imphal West, Manipur) today i.e. 7th Nov., 2022 at RIMS Hospital, Imphal in presence of Prof. N. Sanjib Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital, Imphal, Ksh. Shivakanta Singh, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Imphal West District, N. Indrakumar Singh, DDA (Admn) and S. Sarat Singh, CAO/FA. During the inauguration program, Director stated that he is pleased to inaugurate a new improved version of Police Picket at RIMS Hospital and also desires to have separate women Police cell to strengthen number of police

personal since RIMS campus is very vast. It is very essential and necessary to have police service at RIMS Imphal. They will facilitate filing of cases and providing legal assistance to the victims of sexual assaults and other domestic violence's at RIMS Hospital, Imphal. Besides, they also have responsibilities to play vital roles at the hospital for safeguarding doctors, officials, staff and patients parties.

Prof. N. Sanjib Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital, Imphal mentioned that police and the doctors should co-operate each other so that proper law and order at RIMS area can control properly. He urged Superintendent of Police, Imphal West District to deploy armed

police personnel at RIMS Police Picket. He also appreciated Superintendent of Police, Imphal West District and media persons for attending the inaugural program.

Further, Ksh. Shivakanta Singh, IPS, Superintendent of Police, Imphal West District also mentioned that RIMS Police Picket keep continuously played an important role at the hospital to protect from unwanted happenings at inside and outside of RIMS campus. He also said that duties for doctors and police are same and committed for the safeguard of the public. The numbers of police for RIMS Police Picket will also increase from the existing police numbers in order to help keep RIMS campus safe from unwanted social elements.

Revenue Deficit Grant (RDG) of Rs. 7,183.42 crore released to 14 States

PIB
New Delhi, Nov 7:

The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, today released the 8th monthly instalment of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant (PDRD) of Rs. 7,183.42 crore to 14 States. The grant has been released as per the recommendations of the Fifteenth Finance Commission.

The Fifteenth Finance Commission has recommended a total Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant of Rs. 86,201 crore to 14 States for the financial year 2022-23. The recommended grant is released by the Department of Expenditure to the recommended States in 12 equated monthly instalments. With the release of 8th instalment for the month of November, 2022, the total amount of Revenue Deficit Grants released to the States in 2022-23 has gone up to Rs. 57,467.33 crore.

The Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grants are provided to the States under Article 275 of the Constitution. The grants are released to the States as per the recommendations of the successive Finance Commissions to meet the gap in Revenue Accounts of the States post devolution.

State-wise Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant (PDRD) Released (Rs in crore)

| Sl. No. | Name of State | 8th instalment released for the month of November, 2022. | Total PDRD released to States during 2022-23. |
|---------|----------------|--|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 879.08 | 7032.67 |
| 2 | Assam | 407.50 | 3260.00 |
| 3 | Kerala | 1097.83 | 8782.67 |
| 4 | Manipur | 192.50 | 1540.00 |
| 5 | Meghalaya | 86.08 | 688.67 |
| 6 | Mizoram | 134.58 | 1076.67 |
| 7 | Nagaland | 377.50 | 3020.00 |
| 8 | Punjab | 689.50 | 5516.00 |
| 9 | Rajasthan | 405.17 | 3241.33 |
| 10 | Sikkim | 36.67 | 293.33 |
| 11 | Tripura | 368.58 | 2948.67 |
| 12 | Uttarakhand | 594.75 | 4758.00 |
| 13 | West Bengal | 1132.25 | 9058.00 |

The eligibility of States to receive this grant and the quantum of grant for the period from 2020-21 to 2025-26 was decided by the Fifteenth Finance Commission based on the gap between assessment of revenue and expenditure of the State after taking into account the assessed devolution during this period.

The States that have been recommended Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant by the

Fifteenth Finance Commission during 2022-23 are: Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal.

State-wise details of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant recommended for 2022-23 and the amount released to States as 8th instalment are as under:

A Hybrid Learning Model Can Help, Not Harm, Higher Education



By: Vijay GarG

With 2022 commencement in the books and colleges and universities now turning to the upcoming school year, administrators and students alike should discount a recent New York Times piece that argued that if higher education is to thrive, "everyone involved—students, faculties, administrators and the public at large—must insist on in-person classes and high expectations for fall 2022 and beyond."

High expectations, sure. But the view that our nation's colleges and universities must return to in-person classes exclusively is shortsighted and fails to recognize the real

gains and benefits that come with virtual learning. As a professor at a liberal arts college that focuses considerable time on students, I can say resuming a complete "in person model" is a mistake. While many classes and collegiate experiences should absolutely remain in person, a hybrid model should be embraced as students and schools would be well-served by the many and often unspoken benefits that remote learning has to offer.

The many problems of virtual learning for K-12 education have been well-documented, and it's indisputable that young children need in-person instruction. But higher education is a different story, and the socio-developmental needs of students are quite different. Despite the widespread belief that collegiate life today involves the stereo-typical experience of students living in campus dormitories and apartments, going to libraries and cafes, and participating in various cultural and athletic activities, significant numbers of students simply commute to take a class or two and do not live in the so-called 24/7 living-learning environments of many schools. Moreover, those who live on campus are often subjected to over-crowded lecture halls with hundreds of students, and impersonal experiences are often the norm. As such, virtual education was already making real inroads well before the pandemic; one professor at Harvard even posted a comment that his course was "a better educational experience to watch ... online than attend them in person." Certainly many of those students who are fortunate enough to have a traditional four-year experience with residential collegiate environments benefit from the myriad social activities, clubs, sports, and resources that colleges and universities have outside the classrooms themselves, along with smaller classes and seminars. But the facts remain: So much can be learned virtually, does not require in-person instruction, and classes were moving that way already.

No one can argue that the COVID-19 global pandemic has not significantly impacted higher education. But even before the pandemic shut down most in-person learning in spring 2020, higher education was already in trouble. Tuition and other costs were rising, and administrative bloat was interfering with campus life both in and outside the classroom. Adjuncts were doing an increasing share of the teaching, and college burnout, social media addiction, and mental health concerns were greatly impacting students. Students were struggling well before the pandemic, and remote learning cannot be the scapegoat for broader failures in higher education.

When COVID-19 suddenly hit, classes and virtual engagement were far from top-notch. But over time, schools, students, and teachers gradually adapted to and improved upon virtual learning. And thanks to data from College Pulse, we now know that classroom discussions actually improved in a number of cases. College Pulse surveyed more than 37,000 college and university students in the spring of 2021 and the data reveal that few students felt that remote learning negatively affected their ability to speak up in class. Only 17 percent of students reported that sharing their views in class was much more difficult online than in person. Meanwhile, almost six in 10 (57 percent) students stated that online class was just as an easy or an even easier space in which to share their views.

Differences between school types are non-existent: Students at liberal arts colleges—known for their small seminars and focus on classroom discussion—reported similar numbers to large research universities. Only 18 percent of liberal arts students and 16 percent of students at large research universities said that going online made classroom discussion much more difficult, with majorities of students at both stating that virtual class discussion was either easier or about the same as in-person discussion.

A word about socioeconomic status is also warranted. Throughout the pandemic, headlines regularly decried inequalities and learning outcomes among students with fewer financial resources. But among students who self-identified as part of the working class, just 8 percent reported that online learning made engagement in classes harder. Meanwhile, the overwhelming majority (70 percent) of working-class students stated that engagement was the same or easier in the virtual classroom—notably higher than the national average.

In fact, it was students in the upper-middle class—those who theoretically had the means by which to access a quiet space with reliable internet—who actually reported having a harder time in the remote setting. Sixteen percent of upper-middle-class students said that moving online made classroom discussion more challenging. Still, a majority (61 percent) felt that virtual discussion was about the same or even easier than in-person discussion. So, despite the real difficulties that working-class students face, students with lower socioeconomic status were in fact more engaged in virtual classrooms. The negative impact of online education on discussion in virtual classrooms has been greatly overstated; if anything, going virtual may even give college and university students a more level platform from which to engage in their coursework and virtual classrooms have made it easier for some students to speak and question freely—arguably a silver lining.

Also worth noting: The majority of students give high marks to virtual learning. In the fall of 2021, when many students were still taking virtual classes, College Pulse asked more than 2,500 students at 136 colleges and universities to grade their college experience. When asked how well one's spring 2021 courses met their respective educational needs, three-quarters (75 percent) of undergraduates graded their courses with either As or Bs. Seventy-three percent of students felt that faculty engagement deserved an A or B, and 76 percent gave A or B marks to the flexibility faculty gave them in terms of adapting to their needs.

contd. on page 3

Phrases To Be Avoided During Interview

By: Kaustov Kashyap

Generally when we are giving a job interview, everything that comes out of our mouth is being registered and processed by our possible employer who in turn may decide if we have a future with that company or not. There are times when we can go through a 'rejection' phase and that can be a dampener. But if we reflect on the mistakes we made, there are high chances for us having a better shot in the next interview.

Here are a few phrases that you must avoid at all costs from saying during your interviews.

'No, I'm Fine': When you are offered anything to drink, like coffee or a glass of water just don't repeat the phrase "No, I'm fine". It looks unprofessional at times. Instead, you could say, "No, thank you. I'm all set for now." This might seem a little more elongated but is more professional, respectful and polite.

'I'm A Perfectionist': When you boldly declare yourself as a perfectionist then it could make you come across as someone who is overconfident or blatantly lying. No one is

actually perfect in life and everybody has flaws. Saying the truth and admitting your flaws will only present you as an honest candidate and one who knows his weaknesses. It builds trust.

'I'm Comfortable with "X Task"': When you say you are comfortable with a certain task, your employer might assume that you are too comfortable with your job and what they have to offer you is not challenging enough. They should get to know that you are looking for growth in your career through this job.

'I Work Well with Limited Supervision': If you say so, then your potential employer may assume that you only work well and prefer when there is no supervision at all. Let them know you can work on your own, but make sure you don't sound like a lone wolf.

'I'll Try Anything': This shows that you are ready to experiment but it may also show that you are highly unfocused and not clear about what you want to do.

'I Can Work Well with Anyone': We all have different personalities and it is fair to admit what kind of

people you are comfortable working with. Just be honest with your interviewer and tell them what kind of person you work best with. Your employer also knows that sometimes personalities clash and being honest will be a good start for both the parties unless you want to go on job hunt within few months again.

'I Think I'd Fit Well with You Guys': The words "you guys" is exactly the problem here. It simply sounds unprofessional. They are here to hire professional and not buddies to pass time with. Keep a check on the words you use, as every word you utter is judged and decides your career.

'I Separate My Work and My Life': This gives your potential employer an impression that you are not ready to put in some extra hours in case your company needs you. That you are not here because your passion drives you but only due to some other reasons. It simply shows that you are not willing to work hard. Your work will constitute a huge part of your life and you should be willing to sacrifice a few extra hours for

the job you want.

'What Can I Expect In Terms Of Compensation?': An interview is a process where you and your employer intend to get to know each other better. If you mention about what you can expect in terms of compensation then you are simply giving the impression that you are only here for the money and nothing else. Keep this conversation for the HR round.

'Will I Have To Work On The Weekends?': This shows that you are not ready to go the extra mile in case your company may need you to. Why ruin your chances of getting that job you seriously want by putting up such questions? Let them know you are here looking for a challenging job and you would be ready to take on any responsibility if there comes an opportunity for growth.

'No, I Don't Have Any Questions': Not asking any questions simply implies that you have not done your homework. A single question will be enough for them to remember you and will show that you are really excited about the opportunity.

Why does Myanmar, Bangladesh pursue military diplomacy?



By: Samina Akhter

After mortars landed in Bangladesh during attacks against the Arakan Army (AA) in Rakhine State, border soldiers from Bangladesh and Myanmar's junta promised to mend bilateral ties on Sunday.

The Rakhine region of Myanmar, which borders Bangladesh, has seen a number of airspace violations over the past few months as border guards there have fought domestic militants. Myanmar border guards have apologized to their counterparts in Bangladesh for these events.

A BGP delegation from Myanmar also promised that similar situations would not occur in the future. The commitments were made on Sunday (October 30) at a flag meeting with an eight-person team from the Border Guards Bangladesh, or BGB, in Cox's Bazar.

Because of intermittent shelling from within Myanmar's territory, residents of Bandarban's Naikkyangchhari Upazila along the Tumbur border have spent the previous three months constantly fearing for their lives.

Gunfire was frequently heard by residents close to the border, raising security worries. Multiple casualties were caused by some of the shells that crossed into Bangladesh from the other side of the border. On September 16, a mortar round exploded at a Rohingya camp near the border's Zero Point, killing one kid and injuring five others.

Another young adult from Bangladesh was seriously hurt in a landmine explosion along the border the same day. Multiple occasions, fighter jets and helicopters with Myanmar military insignia violated Bangladesh's sovereign airspace.

The Arakan Army, an insurgent group fighting for ethnic minorities' right to self-determination in Rakhine state, which is also home to over a million Rohingyas who have fled to Bangladesh, has reportedly erupted

into a full-fledged armed battle with the Tatmadaw, the country's military.

Bangladesh had strongly protested the violation of airspace and the landing of shells inside Bangladeshi territory. Bangladesh's airspace was violated, which the Myanmar border guards lament. The BGP delegation responded by expressing apologies and making a commitment that similar instances won't occur again.

Commander Lt Col Sheikh Khalid stated at a press briefing that "at the same time, the BGB and the BGP decided to collaborate on the border situation." Additionally, he claimed that a number of topics, such as stopping drug trafficking and preventing Myanmar citizens from entering Bangladesh, were discussed during the meeting.

The seven-person BGP side, led by Col. Ye Wai Soe, said during the meeting that Bangladesh is now sheltering members of Myanmar's separatist groups who have crossed the border and are committing crimes there.

The charges were vigorously refuted by the BGB side. "We told them [BGP] that no rebels had ever been permitted to exploit Bangladesh land. However, Bangladesh does not and will not encourage terrorists, according to Lt. Col. Sheikh Khalid.

In a fresh turn of events, a three-person delegation from the Myanmar army met with the Bangladesh army in Dhaka. The two sides talked about promoting regional security and stability as well as the prompt repatriation of the Rohingyas.

The Myanmar Army was reminded by the Bangladesh Army to exercise caution when undertaking any operations in the border regions.

According to media reports, the Myanmar delegation was led by Lt Gen Phin Myat, Command Bureau of Special Operations, and paid Bangladesh Army Chief Gen SM Shafuddin Ahmed a courtesy call on October 26 at the Army Headquarters (October 27, 2022).

The conference happens a few weeks after border tension erupted as a result of border violations committed by Myanmar during hostilities with the Arakan Army, an armed rebel organization in Rakhine State. Bangladesh repeatedly summoned the Myanmar ambassador in Dhaka.

Approximately 750,000 Rohingyas fled to Bangladesh in 2017 as a result of a military crackdown on them, and this occurred



more than five years later. Not one Rohingya traveled back to Myanmar.

The Myanmar delegation provided information about the situation in Myanmar and stated that they are working to keep order and peace in their nation at the meeting between the two forces.

The commander of the Bangladesh Army, SM Shafuddin, urged the Myanmar delegation to cooperate for regional security and discussed ways to strengthen ties between the two militaries, as well as collaborative discussions, training exchanges, coordinated disaster management, and information sharing.

The Rohingya crisis and their protracted presence in Bangladesh, he claimed, may pose security risks. He emphasized the need for the Rohingya to return home quickly in order to avoid similar difficulties in the future.

The Myanmar delegation expressed willingness in improving relations and communication with Bangladesh as well as resolving issues on a bilateral basis.

The team then paid Lt Gen Ataul Hakim Sarwar Hasan, the chief of general staff of the Bangladesh army, a courtesy visit. Sarwar Hasan discussed, among other things, the two militaries' training exchange, quality improvement, and collaboration on disaster management.

He urged the Myanmar army to exercise greater caution when conducting operations in the border regions. Terrorists, he continued, do not work for any nation.

The military training of the two nations was compared, and Lt Gen Ataul Hakim Sarwar Hasan predicted that the border guards of the two nations would cooperate to uphold peace. The meeting between the two forces is anticipated to help relations, according to the media re-

ports.

Myanmar is one of Bangladesh's closest neighbors, and the two countries have had a long-standing relationship dating back generations. The 271-kilometer Bangladesh-Myanmar border is strategically significant for Bangladesh, despite the fact that it is militarized due to Myanmar's continuous internal strife. Bangladesh might establish routes through Myanmar to access China to the east and other Southeast Asian countries to the south if this issue is resolved.

Relations between Bangladesh and Myanmar were formalized on January 13, 1972, when Myanmar, as the sixth state, recognized Bangladesh as an independent entity. However, due to the presence of several unresolved issues such as Rohingya refugees and maritime border demarcation, the scene has changed in an unfavorable way, and ties between these two neighbors have not always been as friendly as envisioned.

Apart from India, Myanmar is the only other country on our border. It has the potential to provide Bangladesh with strategic benefits. It could be the starting point for a land-based alternative to the maritime route to China and Southeast Asia. Such a road link has the potential to expand Bangladesh's communication network with Southeast Asian countries such as Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore. Myanmar is also a country with a lot of promise, thanks to its abundant natural resources. Myanmar's forests and natural resources, such as gas, oil, and stones, are vast, and Bangladesh can considerably benefit from them. As a result, maintaining good relations with Myanmar is more in Bangladesh's interest for reasons of national security.

contd. on page 3

Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times'

can be sent to our e-mail: 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.

PM yet to acknowledge 'epic failure' of demonetisation move: Kharage



Agency
New Delhi, Nov 7:

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday over his government's 2016 demonetisation move, saying the PM is yet to acknowledge

this "epic failure" that led to the "fall of the economy".

Kharage's remarks, a day before demonetisation's sixth anniversary, came over a media report which said that the currency with the public has jumped to a new high of Rs 30.88 lakh crore as of October 21.

"Demonetisation was promised to free the country of black money. But it destroyed businesses and ruined jobs. 6 years after the 'masterstroke' the cash available in public is 72% higher than that in 2016," Kharage said in a tweet.

"PM is yet to acknowledge this epic failure that led to fall

of economy," the Congress president said.

According to the fortnightly data on money supply released by the RBI on Friday, the currency with the public increased to Rs 30.88 lakh crore as on October 21. The central bank data for Reserve Money had put the currency in circulation at Rs 17.7 lakh crore on November 4, 2016.

Currency with the public refers to notes and coins used by people to transact, settle trades, and for buying goods and services. The figure is arrived at after deducting cash with banks from the currency in circulation.

On November 8, 2016, Prime Minister Modi announced the decision to withdraw Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 denomination notes with the ultimate aim of reducing corruption and black money in the economy.

AR provides renewable lighting system in New Nunngang Village



IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Due to the remoteness of the Noney district combined with harsh hilly terrain, the power infrastructure in the region is unreliable and vulnerable to frequent outage, which affects the daily lives of the villagers who reside in this cut off region of Manipur.

Tamenglong Battalion under the aegis of 22 Sector/

IGAR (East) initiated a project in New Nunngang village in Khoupum Sub division in Noney district, with an aim of providing a renewable, perennial and eco friendly means of power in the remote village. Under AR Civic Action Program, solar lights have been provisioned which will provide constant energy free of cost to the remote village.

The project was handed over to the villagers by the

Officer Commanding of Awangkhum post of Tamenglong Battalion on 06 Nov 22. The secretary and village authorities expressed their gratitude to the unit for providing means of renewable energy, while at the same time ensuring safety and security in the region. A similar civic action project was handed over by the unit in Katang village of Tamenglong district last week.

India logs less than 1,000 Covid cases in last 24 hours; active cases below 15K

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 7:

India's COVID-19 case tally rose by 937 in a day to reach 4,46,61,516, while active cases declined to 14,515, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Monday.

The death toll has climbed to 5,30,509 with nine more fatalities, including seven deaths reconciled by Kerala,

the data updated at 8 am stated.

Of the other two deaths, one each has been recorded in Delhi and Odisha.

The active caseload declined by 324 in 24 hours and now comprise 0.03 per cent of the total infections. The national COVID-19 recovery rate has increased to 98.78 per cent, according to the ministry website.

The number of people who

have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,41,16,492 while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry's website, 219.73 crore doses of Covid vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

India's COVID-19 tally crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on

August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16. It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 70 lakh on October 11, crossed 80 lakh on October 29, 90 lakh on November 20 and surpassed the one-crore mark on December 19.

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

Assam Rifles organises Medical Camp and Raises Awareness in Border Villages of Manipur

IT News
Imphal, Nov 7:

Khuga Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (South) organised a Medical Camp & a Lecture of Cancer Awareness at border villages of HiangtamKhunou & Zou Khunou in Churachandpur district yesterday.

In continuation to its efforts

to improve mutual trust and to maintain peace and harmony in the region while simultaneously addressing the medical requirements in the underdeveloped border villages in Churachandpur district, a medical camp was organised for the locals of HiangtamKhunou & Zou Khunou villages. This opportunity was utilised to raise awareness amongst the locals

on Type, Causes, Prevention of Cancer including the Palliative Care. The lecture also focussed on effects of Cancer on physical as well as emotional & psychological wellbeing of patients, families & caregivers.

A total of 150 villagers attended the event. They were examined by the Assam Rifle Medical Team and were also given essential medicines.

Contd. from Page 2

A Hybrid Learning Model Can Help, Not Harm, Higher....

In the spring of 2022, well after colleges and universities reopened for in-person instruction, College Pulse interviewed more than 2,300 students and found that three-quarters (75 percent) of students said they would like the option to take some of their courses in a fully online format. These data are nowhere near as bad as the New York Times piece suggests, and show a clear demand for virtual learning options among students.

In short, in-person educa-

tion is certainly valuable. And of course, particular courses such as chemistry, music, and photography, must be done in person as so much learning there is done with hands-on instruction and direct interaction. But as the nation moves beyond the pandemic, it would be foolish to simply ignore online education and its virtues and real benefits to students. Students clearly want some online education, and colleges and universities should be responsive to this demand.

What is critical to remember is that as COVID-19 becomes endemic and students grapple with the lockdowns and socio-political madness over the past few years, students have not lost the desire to learn whatsoever. Many of my students and countless students nationwide were triggered and deeply motivated to learn during the lockdowns. These Gen Z students witnessed and were frustrated by the world around them, which included living through chaotic government dysfunction,

questions about the environment and sustainability, and issues of economic and corporal safety and equity. Collegiate students want to learn more, recognize the power of education and mobility in terms of having a voice and political agency.

Students now are looking for multiple pathways to learn and engage; having virtual options for some courses can help students manage work with other responsibilities, save on commute times and transportation costs, and

could allow students to take courses outside of usual hours. From a teaching perspective, having some courses go virtual means that schools can draw on talent from around the nation without asking instructors to relocate and many schools can offer a broader set of courses. My own institution has very small departments, and students would benefit greatly from having an expert virtually teach a course about Russia and geopolitics—something that we currently do not have

available to our students. Schools could now fairly easily partner with peers and other varied institutions to expand offerings and opportunities to learn and experience other ideas outside the physical boundaries of their leafy campuses and as opposed to looking inward with virtual learning. This is a challenge and an opportunity boards, faculty, and administrators should seize; the is question whether or not they are forward thinking enough to do so.

Thus, schools should wel-

come and students demand a hybrid model of higher education. The higher education world has changed because of the pandemic and students are not going to ignore the possibility of some form of virtual education. Students do not dislike virtual education as much as many schools would like the average American to think, and this mode of teaching should be harnessed to provide unique and expanded learning opportunities alongside traditional in-person learning.

Why does Myanmar, Bangladesh pursue military....

Unfriendly relations between Bangladesh-Myanmar can cause instability in the region and posing a severe national security threat for both Myanmar and Bangladesh. So, for ensuring greater regional and bilateral interest, Myanmar and Bangladesh must engage militarily through defense cooperation.

Military diplomacy in the twenty-first century goes beyond traditional notions of war and peace. As previously said, as members of multilateral forums, Bangladesh and Myanmar have opportunities to strengthen military ties in the face of common dangers.

Myanmar and Bangladesh have a lot of potential in their bilateral relationship. There are a lot of areas where the two countries may collaborate and work together, the most important of which is the upgrading of existing military and commercial connections, which are now

in poor form. But military diplomacy in the perspective of defense cooperation can help strengthen the bilateral ties with a neighborly spirit and solve the bilateral problems such as Rohingya refugee crisis.

Terrorism and transnational crime are two of BIMSTEC's key concerns, both of which are impossible for member governments to combat on their own. Over time, the nature of terrorism and militancy has also changed. Cyber risks are more important than ever before in the digital age. This type of fighting in the sovereign space necessitates strong intelligence exchange and capacity building, which can be eased by combining the two countries' military skills.

Cross-border arms trade, as well as unlawful human and drug trafficking, will be hampered by institutional collaboration in this area. Furthermore, high-level delegations would encourage bilat-

eral negotiations aimed at overcoming previous impasses and providing UN peacekeeping deployments with capacity-building opportunities.

The military cooperation between Myanmar and Bangladesh has a lot of promise. There are several areas where the two countries may engage and work together, with the most essential being the improvement of relations.

Myanmar's military-to-military ties with other countries are critical for the country's long-term survival. Bangladesh's military should also strengthen ties with the Tatmadaw. To protect mutual bilateral interests, Myanmar's military (Tatmadaw) should develop ties with Bangladesh's military.

Bangladesh and Myanmar have exchanged military delegations, which could pave the path for the two nations to address their bilateral issues. To address certain common bilat-

eral concerns, both sides might collaborate and share their knowledge and expertise. Military training exchanges between the two-armed forces can benefit both sides in terms of improving operational capabilities. Combined military exercises, UN peacekeeping operation (UNPKO) training, and disaster management cooperation, as well as exchanging programs, senior-level visits, and medical cooperation, sports events, adventure activities, military tourism, joint cycling expeditions, and adventure training, are some examples of sectors of cooperation.

The united efforts of the two states may pave the way for closer connections between the two neighbors. Improved military ties between Bangladesh and Myanmar can aid in the smoothing of ties and the resolution of long-standing issues such as the Rohingya crisis, maritime disputes, and

border-related trans-border crimes. Both forces from Myanmar and Bangladesh should exchange visits, training, and joint exercises on a regular basis. These will aid in the reduction of mistrust and the promotion of trust and understanding.

This could also help to resolve the region's long-standing Rohingya refugee crisis.

On the environmental front, the Tatmadaw and Bangladesh military may collaborate to lessen the risk of regional environmental degradation through coordinated disaster management systems, operations, and projects. Cyclonic Storm Sitrang was a tropical cyclone that affected India and Bangladesh on 25 October 2022. Bangladesh, India, Myanmar could work together. Cyclone Nargis in 2008 was the best illustration of it. This natural calamity wreaked havoc on both countries' coastlines. Both

Myanmar and Bangladesh have several opportunities to work in order to lessen the risk of environmental degradation and loss.

The two countries' relations are based on cross-border dialogue between ordinary people on both sides of the border between Bangladesh and Myanmar. The most effective strategy to progress together and maintain a peaceful relationship between the concerned countries is to establish a people-to-people connection between two sovereign countries. This is especially essential when the countries in question are neighbors. The people of Bangladesh and Myanmar must have a harmonious and thriving relationship. Both militaries can essentially promote trade and commerce with one another.

As one of Myanmar's closest neighbors, both countries should maintain a good relation-

ship. Bangladesh's armed forces must take significant steps to enhance relations with Myanmar's armed forces, ensuring the Bangladesh government's zero-tolerance stance against terrorists, people traffickers, and illegal drug dealers.

Myanmar's military should do everything possible to strengthen ties. It must recognize Bangladesh as a peaceful country with friendly neighbors. Bangladesh adheres to the concept of peaceful coexistence.

As a result, engaging with Bangladesh would benefit Myanmar as well. Military relations between the two neighboring countries can provide peace, harmony, regional stability, increased regional interest, and other benefits throughout the region (South Asia and Southeast Asia).

(The author is a Dhaka, Bangladesh based author and columnist)

Tsuknungkakum and Vici from Nagaland, Rahul from Assam & Manipur's Vikas declared 'strongest men' in Northeast



Courtesy: NorthEast Now Kohima, Nov 7:

Two from Nagaland, one from Assam and one from Manipur were declared as the "strongest men" in the Northeast region of India.

In the 95+ kg category, Tsuknungkakum from Nagaland

won the Northeast Strongman India title.

On the other hand, in the same category, Siddharth Saikia and Mukti Shyam from Assam were announced as first and second runners-up respectively.

Another Nagaland man, Vici Bu was declared as the

strongest man in the Northeast in the 75 kg category.

Two other men from Nagaland—Imsunungkum and Manyang Sashi—were announced as first and second runners-up in the same category.

In the 60kg category, Rahul Teran from Assam was ad-

judged as the strongest man in Northeast India.

Sumon Chetry and Gautam Teron, also from Assam, were announced as the first and second runners-up in the 60 kg category.

Vikas Vsham from Manipur emerged as the strongest man in the Northeast in the 90 kg category.

In the same category, Lakhindra from Assam and Petevituo Livi from Nagaland were declared as first and second runners-up respectively.

Meanwhile, among the women, Tamhidi from Assam was declared as the strongest woman in the Northeast in the 65+ kg category.

In the 65 kg category, Binita Borah was adjudged as the strongest woman in the Northeast.

The first edition of the Northeast Strongman India was held at Dimapur in Nagaland on November 5.

Pre-Recruitment Training for Agniveer aspirants in Ukhrul District held

IT News Imphal, Nov 7:

Somsai Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR(South), recommenced the training for Agniveer aspirants of Ukhrul district at Ukhrul COB today. Earlier these aspirants were trained for eight weeks during Jul-Aug 2022.

Now, the training shall be

undertaken for two weeks as a refresher training for the Agniveer aspirants under the Agnipath scheme. 108 aspirants from Ukhrul district are part of the pre-recruitment training. The training will assist the aspirants in building confidence & honing the skills for the recruitment rally scheduled on 24 Nov 2022 in Manipur state. The youth & their parents have extended

their gratitude to Somsai Bn Assam Rifles for organising the pre-recruitment training and have urged to undertake more such initiatives.

The parents of children & faculty members of respective Schools appreciated the efforts of Assam Rifles in maintaining peace and tranquillity in the region and requested to organise such sports events in future also.

Contd. from Page 1

Pesticides, equipments distributed....

He stated that the team will continue to closely monitor for another week after spraying the pesticides and insecticides to check for results.

Further adding that the Tamenglong Orange has already been GI Tagged, he said that orange farmers facing any issues regarding pest or diseases can contact the department and that the department is ever ready to provide rapid response.

During the inspection, the team visited three villages where there are about 3000 orange trees, he said, adding that production this year would not be less than 30 metric tons.

He also said that orange plantation will help in improving the economy and livelihood of the farmers and that the department will provide all possible assistance to the farmers.

Horticulture and Soil Conservation department is promoting the Tamenglong Orange which has already been granted Geographical Indication, he said, adding that under the Chief Minister and the Minister Horticulture, the department is also implementing Citrus Rejuvenation and Area Expansion and that anyone interested may come to the department.

An orange farmer guiding



the expert team, Joyson Kamei said that we had taken up orange plantation in the village falling under Nungba in Noney District since 2015-16.

Since the beginning of this year, we witnessed certain issues including pest attacks and citrus diseases and so we submitted a report from the farmers to the Director of Horticulture and Soil Testing through the Plant Health Clinic and sought expert assistance and remedial action.

Expressing concern that without timely control the pest and disease could spread to other areas and that it would be an unproductive season, the farmer also thanked the

State government, Director, officials and teams of the Plant Health Clinic and district officials for their fast and timely intervention.

The team has provided rapid action, pesticides, pumps, technical know-how to the farmers and helpers, he said further thanking the Chief Minister under whose watch swift action has been taken up by the expert team to allay fears of an unproductive season and spread of pest and disease to other plantations.

Plant Health Clinic, Officer-in-charge, Dr. Roshan Damgei was also among the experts who conducted the field visit.

SC upholds 10 per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections with 3:2 verdict

Agency New Delhi, Nov 7:

The Supreme Court on Monday by 3:2 majority upheld the validity of the 103rd Constitutional Amendment that granted 10% reservation to Economically Weaker Sections in admission to central government and private educational institutions and recruitment in central government jobs.

The validity of the amendment has been upheld by Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, Bela Trivedi, and JB Pardiwala. CJU UU Lalit and Justice SR Bhat have however dissented.

"The 103rd cannot be said to

breach the basic structure of the constitution. The 103rd cannot be said to breach the basic structure of the Constitution in exclusion of SEBC, OBC, SC/ST from the scope of EWS," Justice Dinesh Maheshwari said.

Justice Bela M Trivedi while upholding the validity of the amendment said, "The Constitutional amendment cannot be said to be discriminatory. At the end of 75 years of Independence, we need to revisit the system of reservation in the larger interest of the society."

Also ruling in favour, Justice JB Pardiwala said, "While upholding the validity of the amendment, I quote and observe

that reservation is a means to secure economic justice and it should not be allowed to permit vested interests." The judge also said that reservations cannot go on for an indefinite period.

Terming the amendment as discriminatory, Justice SR Bhat in his dissenting opinion said that leaving out the poor from SC/ST/OBCs from availing the reservation benefit under EWS is discriminatory. The judge further added that the amendment strikes at the heart of the equality code.

Agreeing with Justice Bhat's view, CJU UU Lalit said, "I concur with the views of Justice Bhat." A five-judge bench of CJU UU

Lalit, Justices Dinesh Maheshwari, SR Bhat, Bela M Trivedi and JB Pardiwala had reserved the verdict on September 27, 2022 after an extensive hearing of seven days on the issue of whether EWS quota violated the basic structure of the Constitution by permitting states to make a special reservation.

By the 103rd Amendment Act, Articles 15(6) and 16(6) were introduced in the Constitution, providing 10% reservation in jobs and admissions to EWS, who were to be persons other than SC, ST and OBC and whose annual family income was below Rs. 8 lakh.

Sports

Shiva Thapa secures record sixth Asian Championships medal

Agency New Delhi, Nov 7:

India's Shiva Thapa on Sunday became the first-ever male boxer in the history of Asian Championships to win six medals after he out-punched Minsu Choi of South Korea to progress to the semifinals in Amman, Jordan.

The seasoned Thapa (63.5kg) prevailed 4-1 over Choi in the light welterweight quarterfinal to secure his sixth consecutive medal.

The 28-year-old dominated from the start to the end, using his jabs to great effect.

With the win, Thapa is assured of at least a bronze medal in the ongoing edition, bettering his own position as the most successful Indian boxer in the tournament.

His haul includes a gold (2013), two silvers (2017 and 2021) and as many bronze medals (2015 and 2019).

He overtook Kazakh legend Vassiliy Levit, an Olympic silver medalist and two-time world bronze medal winner, who was the only other male pugilist with five Asian championship medals.

Women's boxing legends



M.C. Mary Kom (7) and L Sarita Devi (8) have more Asian medals than Thapa, with the latter having the distinction of claiming six successive, five of them gold, at the peak of her prowess.

Two-time Commonwealth Games bronze medalist Mohammad Hussamuddin (57kg) and Govind Kumar Sahani (48kg) also progressed to the semifinals as India's medal count continued to swell.

Up against South Korea's Haengseok Lee in the quarterfinal bout, Hussamuddin (57kg) fell behind early with his rival landing clean punches in the opening round.

With the prospects of an upset looming, Hussamuddin

utilised his experience to make a comeback. He went all out in the next two rounds to dominate his way to a 5-0 win and guarantee yet another medal for India.

Hussamuddin will face the 2021 World Championships silver medalist Serik Temirzha in his semifinals bout on November 10.

In the other quarterfinal, Thailand Open gold medalist Ananta Chopade (54kg) bowed out of the competition after suffering a 0-4 loss to Seidekmatov Sanzhai of Kyrgyzstan.

On Saturday night, Anikushita Boro (56kg) and Lovlina Borgohain (75 kg) prevailed over Tsubata Arisa of Japan and Valentina Khalzova of Kazakhstan, respectively, to progress to the semifinals.

Olympic bronze medalist Lovlina, who was contesting in the 75kg weight category for the first time at an international tournament, had to work hard to earn a 3-2 split decision victory against the 2016 world champion Khalzova.

The Assam boxer, who won the bronze medal in 69kg at the Tokyo Olympics, has moved up to 75kg division as her former weight class doesn't feature in the Paris Olympics.

However, it was the end of the road for Pooja (70kg), who suffered a 0-5 defeat at the hands of Kazakhstan's Dariga Shakimova in her last eight bouts.

Earlier on Saturday, debutants Minakshi (52kg) and Preeti (57kg) and world championships bronze medalist Parveen had sealed semifinals berths.

Five Indian male pugilists — Narendar (+92kg), Naveen Kumar (92kg), Lakshya Chahar (80kg), Sumit (75kg) and Sachin (71kg) — will take to the ring on Monday to compete in the quarterfinals stage.

The competition is witnessing participation of 267 boxers from 27 top boxing nations.

T20 World Cup semis line-up confirmed: India to face England in Adelaide, Pakistan vs New Zealand in Sydney

Agency Sydney, Nov 7:

After a whirlwind ride in the Super 12 and Round 1 stages of T20 World Cup 2022, the four semi-finalists were confirmed on Sunday, November 5. The race to the last four lasted until the final match day in both the groups of the Super 12 and there were plenty of upsets as well. India, New Zealand, England and Pakistan were the four teams that survived at the end of the thrilling Super 12 stage and make it to the semi-finals.

India defeated Zimbabwe in their final Super 12 match to top Group 2 Super 12 table. Notably, India were assured of their semi-final berth even before their final Super 12 match in Melbourne on Sunday. Pakistan, on the other hand, stormed back from nowhere to progress to the semi-finals.

Pakistan were hugely helped by the Netherlands on Sunday morning as the Dutch

shocked South Africa and knocked them out of the T20 World Cup semi-final race. Pakistan defeated Bangladesh in Adelaide on Sunday to book their spot, completing a stunning comeback after beginning the tournament with losses to India and Zimbabwe.

On the other hand, New Zealand clinched the top spot in Group 1, which was labelled the Group of Death. The BlackCaps finished with 7 points after beating Ireland in their final game.

England and Australia also had 7 points each but England pipped the defending champions to move into the semi-final, breaking the hearts of millions of home fans.

India vs England in Adelaide on Thursday, November 10 (B 1 vs A 2)

India's road to semi-finals beat Pakistan in Melbourne beat Netherlands in Sydney lost to South Africa in Perth

beat Bangladesh in Adelaide beat Zimbabwe in Melbourne

Pakistan's road to semi-finals

lost to India in Melbourne lost to Zimbabwe in Perth beat Netherlands in Perth beat South Africa in Sydney beat Bangladesh in Adelaide

New Zealand's road to semi-finals

beat Australia in Sydney match abandoned vs Afghanistan in Melbourne beat Sri Lanka in Sydney lost to England in Brisbane beat Ireland in Adelaide

England's road to semi-finals

beat Afghanistan in Perth lost to Ireland in Melbourne match abandoned vs Australia in Melbourne beat New Zealand in Brisbane beat Sri Lanka in Sydney.