

131st Manipur Police Rising Day observed CM appreciates dedicated efforts of Manipur Police towards maintaining law and order



IT News
Imphal, Oct 19:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh appreciated all the Manipur Police personnel for their dedicated hard work towards maintaining proper law and order in the State. The Chief Minister was addressing the gathering at the observation of 131st Manipur Police Rising Day 2022 at the 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles Parade Ground today.

N. Biren Singh continued that the Manipur Police personnel have become smart and

active nowadays, stating their proactive roles in countering illegal drugs trafficking, rooting out poppy plantations and maintaining healthy relations between the police and public. He further stated that discipline, ethics and professionalism, which are very important for police, could be seen among the personnel. He also praised the Kangpokpi District Police for timely rescuing a person, who was abducted from Charhajare bazaar by armed miscreants.

The Chief Minister expressed his satisfaction in ev-

ery effort of Manipur Police during the last 4 to 5 years in the interest of the public. He continued that the boundaries of Manipur along the border of Myanmar, which is around 398 kms, were guarded by only Assam Rifles earlier. However, the integrity and hard work of Manipur Police had gained the trust of the Union Home Minister and as such the latter had approved setting up of 34 police outposts along the State border from Jessami to Behiang. The Union Home Minister had also approved setting up of 6 barracks along the Imphal-

Jiribam Highway. Apart from this, the State Government had also deployed GPS Enabled Highway patrol vehicles along the National Highways for providing quick response to any incidents, he added.

Deliberating the crucial role taken by police in nation building and maintaining cohesive relationships, the Chief Minister stressed the need to give classes for at least 6 to 7 dialects to Manipur Police personnel once a week at their place of posting. As Manipur is a state with diverse culture and religion, learning and understanding different dialects of the State would be helpful in reducing groupism and promoting oneness, he added.

Mentioning the contribution of the Manipuri Pony and cavalry in defending the sovereignty and independence of Manipur during the early times, N. Biren expressed the idea to introduce cavalry police personnel in and around Imphal, particularly in bazaar areas. He continued that such an initiative would help in preserving and promoting our Pony horse breed.

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Mallikarjun Kharge elected as Congress' first non-Gandhi president in over two decades



Agency
New Delhi, Oct 19:

The Congress party elected veteran leader Mallikarjun Kharge as its first non-Gandhi president in 24 years on Wednesday. Out of the 9,385 votes polled in the Congress presidential polls, Mallikarjun Kharge got 7,897 votes, Shashi Tharoor secured 1,072 votes, and 416 votes were declared invalid, the party's Central Election Authority chairman Madhusudan Mistry said.

Kharge won with eight times more votes.

Tharoor congratulated Kharge in a letter saying, "Our new President is a party colleague and senior who brings ample leadership and experience to the table."

Kharge will replace Sonia Gandhi, the longest-serving party president who has been at the helm since 1998, barring the two years between 2017 and 2019 when Rahul Gandhi had taken over.

MP Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said the president was the 'supreme authority' in the Congress and whoever got elected to the post would decide on the way forward (for

the party). "President is the supreme authority in the Congress and everyone reports to him. My role - I am very clear - Congress president will decide what my role is and how I will be deployed," he remarked as Bharat Jodo Yatra entered Andhra Pradesh.

Congress central election authority chairman Mistry on Monday expressed satisfaction with the party's presidential polls process, saying it was "free, fair and transparent". He also said it was a secret ballot and no one would get to know who voted for whom.

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Security forces rescue abducted student leader, one held

IT News
Imphal, Oct 19:

A team of security forces rescued All Manipur Gorkha Students' Union (AMGSU) Charhajare Unit president Roshan Uprety and handed him over to his family late Tuesday evening after he was found in an isolated hideout in the eastern side of Koubur range in Kangpokpi district.

Uprety, 35, was allegedly abducted by unknown armed miscreants on October 16

evening from Charhajare bazar.

According to the Kangpokpi district police, a reliable input was received about the abductors' hideout at an isolated location on the eastern side of the Koubur range.

Based on the information, a combined team of Kangpokpi district police, Assam Rifles, and commandos led by additional SP (Ops) Kangpokpi, additional SP (LO) Kangpokpi and 22 Assam Rifles

Motbung Post commander immediately launched a search operation in the area about 5 kilometres west of Mangjol Village at around 3.30 pm on Tuesday.

During the search operation, the team noticed some suspicious activities of a few persons and on reaching the hideout, found one individual. The miscreants had already fled from the scene.

The person was later identified as Roshan Uprety, son of Somnath Uprety of Charhajare. He was taken

into police custody at Gamnom Saparmeina police station and later handed over to his family members after medical examination at the PHC Gamphazol, stated the district police.

So far, one suspect in connection to the case, Letmang Tuboi of Chalbung village, Kangpokpi district, has been arrested.

The search operation to trace the other miscreants involved in the case is ongoing, according to the police.

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CM attends Seminar on Future Ready Manipur – Looking Beyond Ethnicity & Insurgency



IT News
Imphal, Oct 19:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh maintained that his Government's commitment, since its formation in 2017, was to bring bandh and blockade free in the State with improved law and order. His first priority as a Chief Minister was to bridge the gap between hill and valley and also among various communities, he added.

N. Biren Singh was speaking as chief guest at the Seminar organised by Assam Rifles at the City Convention Centre, Palace Compound under the theme "Future Ready Manipur – Looking Beyond Ethnicity & Insurgency".

The Chief Minister continued that the Go to Hills mission was introduced to know and understand the grievance of the people residing in hill areas. Interacting and meeting face to face is the need of the

hour, he said, adding that we can exchange our thoughts with civil society organisations, church leaders and village Chiefs and know their grievances for redressal. He informed that after the Go to Hills mission, the Go to Village mission was launched to take Government officials to villages and provide services to the people at their doorsteps.

He expressed thankfulness to Assam Rifles, Manipur Police and other paramilitary forces for their contribution in connecting and maintaining healthy relations with the public. He expressed that the armed forces and the public need to change the mindsets and views towards each other as the law and order situation of the State had considerably improved. He continued that security personnel should ensure the safety of the people and a healthy relationship should be created between the security personnel and the public.

Continuing his speech, N. Biren Singh mentioned that the North-East region is blessed with abundant natural resources, rich cultural heritage and young dynamic population. Manipur, with its strategic location, has huge potential in the field of Trade, Tourism, IT enabled services, Hospitality, Entrepreneurship, Sports, Culture, Horticulture and Handicrafts, he added.

He stressed the need for a collective vision and coordinated response from all stakeholders to translate these into reality. He maintained that the security scenario in the State has been improving over the recent years. Disturbed area under AFSPA has reduced further. The Government has successfully rolled out numerous outreach programmes bridging developmental gaps and ensuring deeper emotional integration.

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AJUCA condole

IT Correspondent
Jiribam, Oct 9:

All Jiribam United Clubs Association (AJUCA), Jiribam paid condolence on the untimely demise of Henna Vaiphei. Henna Vaiphei was the resident of IB Leikai, Jiribam who served as an advisor of AJUCA for long time. He passed away on October 17, 2022.

AJUCA has expressed heartfelt condolences on the sad demise of late Henna Vaiphei and described him as a dynamic leader who had a vast knowledge in varied fields.

The Executive body of AJUCA observed two minute silence showing respect to the departed soul.

AJUCA has conveyed sympathy, shared pain and grief of the bereaved family and prayed to God for the peaceful rest of departed soul.

Dr. RK Ranjan attends ASEAN-India Artists' Camp 2022

IT News
Imphal, Oct 19:

The ASEAN-India Artists' Camp 2022 was organised in Udaipur, Rajasthan, from 11-19 October by the Ministry of External Affairs and the ASEAN, to celebrate the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations. The camp was earlier inaugurated in New Delhi on 10 October 2022. The objective of the camp is to strengthen people-to-people ties between India and ASEAN member states through artistic expression and celebrate civilizational and cultural connect during the ASEAN-India Friendship Year.

Twenty visual artists from ASEAN member states and India participated in the artist camp in Udaipur, during which

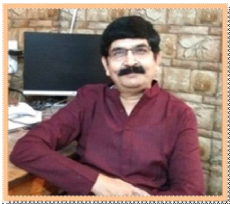


each of them created their unique work of art. The artists also participated in various other activities such as lectures and demonstrations, workshops, interaction with artists from other fields and engagement with students.

Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs and Education ad-

ressed the Concluding Ceremony of the Artists' Camp today in Udaipur during which he highlighted the importance of 3 Cs - Culture, Commerce and Connectivity in strengthening ASEAN-India relations. He also interacted with the participating artists and witnessed the artworks created by them at the camp.

Data protection is a bigger part of our lives



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

Privacy is one of the most urgent issues associated with information technology and digital media. People should protect their privacy, control their digital footprint and escalate the protection of privacy and data as priority. It serves as a timely reminder for organisations about the importance of correctly handling and safeguarding individuals' personal data. It is led by the National Cyber Security Alliance, a non-profit, public-private partnership focused on cyber security education for all online citizens.

Internet banking frauds and ways to avoid them are undoubtedly a topic that has been done to death. And yet, people across country continue to lose money in such frauds with an alarming frequency. Today computer and internet has become very common and necessary for our daily life. Back in 1990, less than 1 lakh people were able to access Internet worldwide. Now around 2.5 million people are hooked up to surf the net around the globe.

The internet brings joy to our lives but at the same time it has some negative sides too. The cyber criminals are always in a search to find out the new ways to attack the possible internet victims. New generation is growing up with computers and most important is that all the monetary transactions are moving on to the internet. So, it has become very important for us to be aware of the various Cyber Frauds being committed with the help of computers. The Cyber Frauds today are on rise and the latest & perhaps the most complicated problem in the cyber world. According to a survey, for every 500 Cyber Frauds, only 50 get reported to the police, and just one out of this 50 is registered as an FIR.

Personal data is now considered as the "black gold" of tomorrow, in particular because it enables companies to better address the market needs. There are many individuals who are generally unfamiliar about the risks related to the protection of their personal data and of their rights in this respect. It is well known fact that most of the citizens all over the world are unaware about their rights in relation to data protection while some people are breaching data protection laws unknowingly on a daily basis.

According to an Internet and Mobile Association of India report, India has around 400 million Internet users. Data protection is a bigger part of our lives. But, often we ignore its importance. We come across data protection issues at work, when browsing the internet, when dealing with public authorities, when we shop, when we book tickets online and in many other circumstances. Whether data is stored on premise or with an external private or public cloud provider, organisations should assess and reassess both employees and customers that data is collected, processed, accessed, shared, stored, transferred and secured in accordance with all laws and regulations, and that data is only being used in pre-agreed, legitimate and lawful ways.

There's no doubt that Data Protection Day serves as a timely reminder for organisations about the importance of correctly handling and safeguarding individuals' personal data.

Maintaining of data bases is not as much difficult task as maintaining its integrity, so in this era the most concerned debate is going on to innovate a perfect method of data protection. Raising awareness of, and compliance with, data protection and privacy across the organisation must not be seen as an exercise that can be satisfied once a year. It requires ongoing committed activity from everyone within the organisation, from the top down/bottom up. It is the very big headache for the business houses, financial institutions and the governmental bodies so as to give adequate protection to their huge databases.

Annie Ernaux : A Woman with Courage and Clinical Acuity

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh

French author **Annie Ernaux** won the Nobel Prize in Literature on Thursday the 6 October 2022. Ernaux, who has written about class, sex and abortion, strongly defended women's rights to contraception and abortion. Ernaux, who writes novels about daily life in France as well as non-fiction and is one of her country's most acclaimed authors, had been among the favourites to win the prize. Ernaux is the first French writer to win the Nobel since Patrick Modiano in 2014. She becomes the 16th French writer to have won the Nobel to date. The academy praised her "for the courage and clinical acuity with which she uncovers the roots, estrangements and collective restraints of personal memory". From her first book **Cleaned Out** in 1973; Ernaux's work has been closely informed by her own life experiences. She has continued to surprise and inspire readers with coverage of daring topics and her innovative approach to genres. Her body of work includes discussions on the act and art of writing, texts incorporating personal photographs, intimate and public diaries, and life-writing that refuses to be contained by categories.

Born in 1940, Ernaux was brought up in Yvetot in Normandy. She is the only daughter of working-class parents who ran a cafe-cum-grocers, and her childhood was underpinned by class tensions within the family home and outside it. Ernaux attended a private Catholic girls' school for her secondary education, which fuelled social divisions between her and her parents – in particular her father, which she explores in her fourth publication **A Man's Place**. Growing up in a socially divided environment meant Ernaux felt ashamed of the supposedly distasteful aspects of her upbringing, such as the working-class environment of her father's cafe or her mother's shirking of the norms of middle-class housewifery and femininity, which she writes about in **A Frozen Woman**. Her childhood was immersed in working-class culture, popular songs and the romantic novels her mother consumed. But from an early age, she was also an avid reader of "classic" French texts. She then studied literature at Rouen University and went on to teach it at

secondary school before becoming a full-time writer in the 1970s. This experience gave Ernaux knowledge of French theories and practices of writing, which is evident in her references to authors such as **Honore de Balzac**, **Marcel Proust** and **Simone de Beauvoir** and her self-reflexive comments on the act of writing.

As a writer, she realised that her daily life was not represented in either the French literature she read at home or in the classrooms she learnt and later taught in. It was at school that she became aware of a "familiarity, a subtle complicity" as her teachers avidly listened to the stories of her middle-class schoolmates but silenced her attempts to speak about her home life. These experiences permeate her work, which repeatedly touches on the conflict between what she calls "the dominant class" and "the dominated class", referencing the French sociologist **Pierre Bourdieu**. Her first three novels, **Cleaned Out**, **Do What They Say or Else** and **A Frozen Woman**, form a trilogy of autobiographical novels. These works broadly detail the socialisation of a working-class girl who has a middle-class education and then marriage. Her protagonist is a woman who, like so many of Ernaux's readers, identifies as a 'Class defector'. In subsequent works, Ernaux considered fictionalised accounts of her origins a form of betrayal because they ran the risk of exoticising her family and class origin. Ernaux's acute awareness of the formative influence of class underpins her entire body of work and in the wake of her win; many in France praised her work for its ongoing focus on the French Working-Class experience. Following this trilogy, Ernaux adopted the writing style for which she has since become well-known, typically referred to as "l'écriture plate" (literally "flat writing"). This pared-down, understated style is coupled with a fluid approach to genre that incorporates elements of ethnography, autobiography and sociology. As she comments in **A Man's Place**.

Her work is uncompromising and written in plain language, and scraped clean. "And when she with great courage and clinical acuity reveals the agony of the experience of class, describing shame, humiliation,



French author Annie Ernaux won the Nobel Prize in Literature

jealousy or inability to see who you are, she has achieved something admirable and enduring." Ernaux's work was first published in English by Seven Stories Press in the US, which was founded in 1995 by Dan Simon. The press is named for the seven authors Simon first published at Seven Stories Press; among them was Ernaux. In the UK, independent publisher Fitzcarrald Editions has published eight of Ernaux's books, with another two on the way. Shame will be released next year, as will Ernaux's latest book **Le jeune homme**. Publisher Jacques Testard described Ernaux as a very important feminist writer, and said "The Years", the first book of hers he read, was "an absolutely phenomenal book, undoubtedly a masterpiece". With **The Years**, Testard said Ernaux "invents a form, does something genuinely new with literature; it's an intersection of the novel and autobiography and non-fiction".

This neutral way of writing comes to me naturally; it is the very same style I used when I wrote home telling my parents the latest news. The chairman of the Nobel Literature committee, Anders Olsson, described Ernaux's work as "uncompromising and written in plain language, scraped clean". This approach to writing is underpinned by a mission. Ernaux believes that writing about the self inevitably involves writing about a socio-political context, and thereby extends the representativeness of her own experience. By writing simply about her own experiences, she also wants to write into literature the collective experience of the French working-class. That desire to give voice to marginalised experiences is further illustrated in two of her "external dia-

ries", **Extérieurs** and **Things Seen**, which record the everyday exchanges of people in outside spaces such as the supermarket or when commuting on the Paris metro.

She has also published more intimate diaries composed during significant stages of her life. **I Remain in darkness** was written during her mother's decline from Alzheimer's. **Getting Lost** is a diary she kept during a passionate affair with a married man – a love affair she also described in her work **Simple Passion**. The honesty with which she details her obsession with this man struck a chord with many of her female readers. Her literary approach typically incorporates self-reflexive remarks where she comments on the challenges she faces in turning lived experiences into literary form. It is that openness and sense of writer-reader intimacy that partly explains her popularity. Her courage in exploring and exploding generic expectations is also reflected in the content of her work. She writes about a range of taboo subjects including her backstreet abortion (**Cleaned Out** and **Happening**, which was recently made into a film), sexual intimacy and issues of consent, breast cancer and her dead sister (L'Autre Fille).

Her most famous work, **The Years**, is considered to be her magnum opus. It can be read as a further example of a "public diary" in that it covers the socio-cultural history of France, mixing her own story (replayed through the representative "she") with the collective story of her generation. Nominated for the International Booker Prize in 2019, **The Years** made English-speaking audiences aware of her work – and that attention has now happily been extended by the jury of the Nobel Prize in literature. Like many of the women prizewinners who have preceded her, including Toni Morrison and Alice Munro, Ernaux has spent her writing life giving voice to the experiences of those who remain under- or unrepresented in literature. This award will allow these voices to ring out all the more clearly. In a speech at a news conference in Paris, she said "I will fight to my last breath so that women can choose to be a mother, or not to be, it's a fundamental right".

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Crisis on Oxygen and Water sources due to Rise in Temperature



By: Vijay Garg

Global warming poses a serious threat to the Earth's sources of oxygen and water. The smallest organisms living in the oceans play a big role in the life cycle of the Earth. Our biological and environmental systems are dependent on these organisms. You will be surprised to know that many of these organisms also produce oxygen on a large scale for the earth. But the increasing acidification of the oceans due to climate change has made it difficult for these microbes. A crisis has arisen. These

organisms that swim in the oceans are called 'diatoms'. These are actually single celled algae that perform photosynthesis. About 20 percent of the world's oxygen comes from this algae.

Researchers say that due to the acidification of the oceans, these organisms will face the crisis of silica (compounds of silicon and oxygen). They require silica to make their outer protective shell. They discovered that by the end of the next century, the acidification of the oceans would cause 26 percent of their numbers. It may be less. Jan Toscher, a marine biologist at the Geomar Marine Research Center in Kiel, Germany, said diatoms are one of the most important algae groups in the ocean. A decline in their numbers could lead to changes in the marine food cycle. This can also affect the carbon absorption capacity of the oceans. About 40 percent of the photosynthetic organisms in the ocean are diatoms. These are the main parts of the bio-

logical pump that takes carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and stores it in the depths of the ocean. Huh. This is the reason why these oceans have been successful in storing the excessive carbon dioxide generated by humans. But as our excess carbon dioxide dissolves in the ocean, it reacts to form more hydrogen ions (electrically charged molecules). This increases the acidity of the water. This changed chemical composition of the group has reduced the amount of carbonate in the ocean by 10 percent since industrialization.

The low carbonate content means that calcium carbonate will hardly form which is most is an extremely important compound for marine organisms. Organisms need calcium carbonate for their outer shell. If the amount of carbonate is too low, calcium carbonate will dissolve. At this time, the shells of some living beings have started dissolving. Diatoms were previously thought to be unaffected by ocean acidification because these bacteria use a completely different material for their unique transparent shells. It was also believed that increasing the amount of carbon

dioxide would benefit them. This algae has its shell Silica particles floating on the surface of the ocean are used to make the new study brings to light something that had not been noticed in previous studies. That is, the dissolution of silica slows down as the acidity increases. Silica particles sink to the depths of the ocean. Silica deposited on the ocean floor is removed from the reach of diatoms. This affects the ability of these organisms to make shells.

A bad effect of increasing the temperature of the earth is also having a bad effect on the sources of clean water of the world. A new study has revealed Earth's fresh water sources are evaporating faster and this rate is much higher than previous estimates. Evaporation of lakes plays a large role in Earth's water cycle. This process has a great impact on our climate and weather models. Natural and artificial lakes with their shimmering waters adorn an area of about 5 million square kilometers of the Earth's surface. They contain about 90 percent of our planet's fresh liquid surface water. Gang Jao, an ecologist involved in this study, told that increased solar ra-

diation due to warmer temperatures and changes in cloud cover has made the skies thirstier than ever. Go was at Texas A&M University during this study. Large areas of exposed water due to reduced ice cover have also provided an opportunity for the sky to trap water molecules. All these factors contribute to the rapid release of water stored on land into the atmosphere. Previous estimates of this water transfer depended on the evaporation rate, but these figures were based on the weight of the lake's water do not represent a reduction in quantity.

Other factors, such as the freezing and melting cycles of lakes, also affect this rate. Because of this dependence on local environmental conditions, a reliable measure of evaporation must be calculated independently for each lake. Jao and his colleagues did the same for some 1.4 million lakes around the world. They used information from satellites about monthly water losses from 1985 to 2018 and for each of these lakes, the evaporation rate, surface Collected data on changes in area, ice duration and heat storage. They found that

the evaporation of the lake over the long term is 150 cubic kilometers per year, which is 15.4 percent higher than previous estimates. So the sky is drinking 3 trillion (one trillion = 1000 billion) liters more water every year than before.

The researchers also found that the contribution of artificial reservoirs to this evaporation is proportionally more. Huilin Gao, an environmentalist involved in the study, said that from the global perspective, the total evaporation from water sources can be more than the combined use of domestic and industrial water. However, very few lakes and reservoirs have reliable data on evaporation. Gao and team have produced a dataset about global lake evaporation volume. He urged the water management bodies and the scientific community to make use of it after making it public. This dataset can help decision making in reservoir management in the context of increasing drought events worldwide. With the help of this dataset The scientific community can better understand the role of reservoirs in all of Earth's systems, including global weather forecasting, floods and droughts.

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New airbase near India-Pakistan border will be crucial for security: PM Modi

Agency
Gandhinagar, Oct 19:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday inaugurated the Defence Expo 2022 in Gandhinagar, laid the foundation stone of a new airbase at Deesa and said the new airbase will emerge as an effective centre for the country's security. Gujarat will become a centre of defence in India and will play a crucial role in India's security. "I was seeing on the screen that the people of Deesa were excited over the construction of the new airfield. This airfield will play a major role. Deesa is only 130km away from the International Border. If our forces, especially our air forces, remain in Deesa, then we will be able to give better response to any threat coming from the Western

side," PM Modi said addressing Deesa's 'brothers and sisters' in Gujarat.

"When I was the chief minister, I worked towards the construction of the airfield. The land was allotted in 2000 only. I repeatedly urged the then Central government to start the construction as it is at a vantage point. But 14 years went on and nothing happened," PM Modi said.

"And the files were created in such a way that even after I reached the centre, it took time to finally push the project. And now the dream of my defence personnel is coming true. I congratulate my Airforce soldiers. This will now play an important role in the country's security," PM Modi said.

On Mission Defence Space which is a new mission to be launched, PM Modi said all

three defence forces identified several threats in this sector. And the benefits of India's Mission Defence Space will not only be confined within India, but it will reach to many other countries.

"Eight years ago, India was identified as the world's largest importer. But Make-in-India changed this. Our defence export increased eight times in the last eight years," PM Modi said adding that the defence sector is following 3-Is: Intent, innovation and implementation.

"This export is not limited to only a few companies. Indian companies are now part of the global supply chain. Many countries are now showing interest in Tejas and our companies are supplying defence equipment parts to countries like the US, Italy and Is-

rael," PM Modi said.

Every Indian feels proud that India-made Brahmos is now considered the most advanced and the most dangerous missile in its category, PM Modi said. "The world is relying on India's technology because India's soldiers have established in front of the world the success of India-made missiles," PM Modi added.

Crediting the soldiers for all the revolution in the defence sector, PM Modi said there is no political reason behind this; only soldiers made this possible. Defence forces have added 101 new items to the list which will be barred for import, PM Modi said, adding: "I was told today that this will take the number of items to 411 which can only be produced locally."

COVID-19: India reports 1,946 new infections

Agency
New Delhi, Oct 19:

India saw a single day rise of 1,946 coronavirus infections, taking the tally of cases to 4,46,34,376, while the active cases declined to 25,968, according to government data updated on Wednesday.

The death toll climbed to 5,28,923 with 10 fatalities, which include six deaths reconciled by Kerala. Of the four new fatalities, two are from Maharashtra and one each from Haryana and West Bengal, the data updated by the Union health ministry at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.06 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has increased to 98.76 per cent, it said.

There has been a decrease of 481 cases in the active caseload in 24 hours.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.75 per cent, while the weekly positivity rate was 1.01 per cent, the health ministry said.

The number of recoveries climbed to 4,40,79,485, while the case fatality rate was 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry, 219.41 crore doses of vaccines

have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive.

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

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

Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya holds meeting to review XBB, other new Covid-19 variants

Agency
New Delhi, Oct 19:

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Tuesday held a meeting with his department's top officials to discuss the new emerging variants of the coronavirus disease.

Although the fresh load of Covid-19 remains low, India's daily new cases have shown a haphazard trend over the last one week, rising from 1,900 on October 11 to over 2,600 by October 14 and falling down to 1,500 on October 18.

Few states have begun identifying newer variants as they witness a simultaneous rise in cases. The symptoms, doctors said, include flu-like illness, with cough, cold, fever, body ache and weakness most common.

The high-level meeting on Tuesday was to discuss preparedness and whether a fresh set of guidelines are required for states to curb the spread

of new Covid-19 variants.

Niti Aayog member VK Paul, head of national expert group on vaccination Dr NK Arora, Indian Council of Medical Research Director-General Rajiv Bahl, members of National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for Covid-19, and health officials attended this meeting.

Across India, Kerala has seen a steep spike in Covid-19 cases - from 510 cases recorded between October 3-10 to 3,727 cases between October 11-18 week. The southern state has issued an alert over XBB and XBB.1 variants of Omicron.

XBB and XBB.1 have witnessed a surge globally. Countries like Singapore, Australia, Japan, Bangladesh, Denmark, USA have also reported this variant.

On Monday, Kerala Health Minister Veena George held a high-level meeting and directed all districts to remain on alert about new variants. Kerala is also noting influenza-like illnesses similar to Covid-19.

Maharashtra too has reported a rise in daily Covid-19 cases. On Tuesday, it reported 358 Covid-19 cases, up from 201 on Monday. Weekly comparison from October 3-9 and October 10-16 showed cases rose from 2,502 to 2,945, a 17.7% rise.

The state also released data stating XBB variant had a growth advantage over its parent lineage, the BA.2.75, and had far greater immune evasive nature. Whether it is more severe than existing Omicron variants in circulation is yet to be known.

India has responsibility to shape global human rights including minority communities: UN chief Guterres

Agency
Mumbai, Oct 19:

India's voice on the global stage can only gain authority and credibility from a strong commitment to inclusivity and respect for human rights at home, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said on Wednesday.

Addressing students of the IIT Bombay here, Guterres said, "As an elected member of the Human Rights Council, India has a responsibility to shape global human rights, and to protect and promote the rights of all individuals, including members of minority communities."

"The Indian model of plurality is based on a simple but profound understanding: diversity is a richness that makes



your country stronger. That understanding is the birthright of every Indian, but it is not a guarantee. It must be nurtured, strengthened and renewed every day," Guterres said.

"This could be done by practising the values of Mahatma Gandhi, by securing

and upholding the rights and dignity of all people, especially the most vulnerable, by taking concrete action for inclusion, recognizing the enormous value and contributions of multi-cultural, multi-religious and multi-ethnic societies, and by condemning hate speech

unequivocally," he said.

Guterres also stressed the need for protecting the rights and freedoms of journalists, human rights activists, students and academics, and by ensuring the continued independence of India's judiciary.

"This is the India that the world has celebrated. I urge Indians to be vigilant and to increase their investments in inclusive, pluralistic, diverse communities and societies. In India, as across the world, much more needs to be done to advance gender equality and women's rights. This is a moral imperative, and it is also a multiplier for prosperity and sustainability. No society can reach its full potential without equal rights and freedoms for women, men, girls and boys," he said.

Ravi Shankar inaugurates India's first IoT-enabled mobile medical oxygen plant

IT Correspondent
Bangalore, Oct 19:

Global humanitarian leader and peacemaker, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar inaugurated India's first IoT-enabled mobile medical oxygen plant with a cylinder filling station at The Art of Living International Center, as part of the launch of national Medical Oxygen Grid project. The basic premise for the project is to create a robust mechanism for captive source of oxygen generation, cylinder filling stations and a functional distribution network to ensure last mile delivery and availability of Medical Oxygen. As part of the project, first ever IoT-Enabled Containerized Oxygen Generator Truck was flagged off.

"This initiative will empower rural and urban India with easily accessible and affordable medical-grade oxygen," Gurudev said at the launch. "This is a much needed solution which has been developed with many scientists on board. This low cost solution can aid the supply of medical oxygen in rural and urban areas. Art of Living will fully support their introduction and dis-



tribution this in villages."

Given that, in India majority of the population continues to be concentrated in villages and many of the villages are still not well connected with bigger towns and cities, the rural-India centric design will make the last mile delivery and availability of medical oxygen in rural areas possible and viable.

"Let us make it clear that this concept was not envisioned due to the covid-19 pandemic, though this phase saw a sudden spurt of demand for medical oxygen throughout our na-

tion," said Mr. Mallikarjun Dandinawar, founder, OxyAid, "Creating of this National Medical Oxygen Grid is an exercise of laying a strong foundation of Rural Healthcare Infrastructure with the basic premise of arresting the migration of patients from villages to cities. This will ensure accountability, skilling and empowerment of our government hospitals by leveraging IOT technology."

The objective of the project is to address the five main challenges: availability, accessibility, affordability, accountability

and infrastructure. This is how the challenges will be addressed:

1) Availability: At the door step!!

This will solve the problem of poor since the oxygen plants are usually located far in Industrial Zones and the dealers are only in cities and not in Talukas, who work on fixed hours.

2) Accessibility: Will make oxygen cylinder Banks available in Taluka and Community health Centres and leverage IOT technology for Inventory control.

3) Affordability: We need to spend Rs 60 per hour on a patient in Government hospitals and 3-5 times more in a private Hospital. The project will work on a cross subsidising mechanism to ensure free Oxygen to the needy.

4) Accountability: Arresting pilferage of oxygen in Government Hospitals. Deploying IoT in Oxygen Generation Plants will ensure correct volume, purity, pressure, and duration of operation.

5) Infrastructure: a) Converting fire brigade stations also into oxygen cylinder filling stations by leveraging the existing infrastructure (highly accessible within city limits).

b) Training the existing manpower, thus ensuring door-step delivery and services of 24 x 7 x 365 days of Oxygen to Government and Private Hospitals and Patients at Home.

c) This Plan is envisioned with a rural-India centric design ensuring last mile delivery in a big and populous country.

d) This is a national mission that ensures the first fundamental right enshrined in our constitution: "Right to Life".

Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, have lost my original Certificate of Class XII Examination, 1996, bearing Roll No. 17118, issued by the Council of Higher Secondary Education, Manipur on the way between Uripok Haobam Devan Leikai to Thangal Bazar on 11th October, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Keithellakpam Lakshimbala
D/o (L) K. Binod Singh
Uripok Haobam Devan Leikai

Form No. 4 IN THE COURT OF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS, KANGPOKPI

Case No. Cril(P) 7 of 2016
Ref: FIR No. 40(7)2002 KPI-PS
u/s 121-A IPC & 25(1-B) A Act

PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF A PERSON ACCUSED (Section 82 of the code of Criminal Procedure)

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused **George Jojo (22)**, S/o **Sebastien Jojo** (of description and address committed) the offence of **above noted FIR case** punishable under section **121-A** of the Indian Penal Code and **25(1-B) A Act** and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said (name) **George Jojo** cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said (name) **George Jojo** has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that the said (name) **George Jojo** of (address) **Chingmeirong, Imphal East District, Manipur** is required to appear at Kangpokpi before this Court of answer the said complaint on the day of.

Dated, this 23rd day of September, 2022.

Sd/
Judicial Magistrate First Class
Kangpokpi

Memo No. JMFC/KPI/2022/225
Dt. 23/9/2022

Naga political issue: Matter deserves response from Centre, says Mizoram minister



Agency
Dimapur, Oct 19:

Mizoram sports minister Robert Romawia Royte has said the efforts made by Nagaland government headed by chief minister Neiphiu Rio and other organisations towards finding permanent solution to the Naga issue deserves reciprocal response from the Centre.

Addressing the inaugural session of All Naga College Students' Union (ANCSU) at Dimapur in Nagaland Royte lauded the early political consciousness of the Nagas and said the distinct tribal group began its political movement during the British raj with a memorandum to the Simon Commission expressing their

aspiration for independence, person closed to the minister said.

The declaration of Naga independence came day ahead of India's independence, he said.

He said that early political consciousness of the Naga people showed their pioneering in the field.

Citing the example of Mizoram, Royte also emphasised on innumerable benefits of peace in the state.

"Mizoram was one of the most dangerous and disturbed states during the Mizo National Front (MNF)'s independence movement. However, after signing of the Mizo accord in 1986, Mizoram became the most peaceful state in the country," Royte said.

Notably, the Government of India has been holding talks with both the NSCN-IM and NNPGs separately.

While talks with the NSCN-IM have been taking place since 1997, NNPGs and the Government of India have been in talks since 2017.

The Government of India had signed the "framework agreement" with NSCN-IM on August 3, 2015 and "Agreed Position" with the NNPGs on November 17, 2017.

Meanwhile, separate flag and constitution continue to be the bone of contention between the NSCN-IM and government of India (GoI) in regards to reaching a solution to the Naga political issue.

CM appreciates dedicated efforts of Manipur....

Mentioning the role of police personnel in ensuring the safety of the public and gaining their trust, he urged all police personnel not to get involved in illegal drugs related activities and to join hands to totally root out drug menace from the State. He also asked police personnel not to lobby or give bribes for their transfer and postings and appealed to be transparent in carrying out their duties to make a disciplined society.

He informed that the State Cabinet had also earlier decided to increase the honorarium of Village Defence Force (VDF) and to grant 15 days compensatory leave in a year. Further, the Government had given commitment to provide 10 percent reservation for VDF personnel in recruitment of Riflemen and constables, he added. Informing that notification for recruitment

of various in Police Department and Health Department had been issued, he also appealed to the youths of the State to join the Agniveer Recruitment Rally to be held at Leimakhong from November 23 to December 5.

During the observation, the Chief Minister handed over the DGP Running Trophy for the Best Battalion 2022 to 2nd Battalion Manipur Rifles, Second Best Battalion 2022 to 9th Indian Reserve (Mahila) Battalion and that of Third Best Battalion to 6th Battalion Manipur Rifles. DGP Manipur Running Trophy for the Best Police Station 2022 was awarded to Bishnupur Police Station, Second and Third Best Police Station 2022 to Litan Police Station, Ukhrul District and Lamphel Police Station, Imphal West District respectively. The

Chief Minister also handed over the DGP Commendation Roll and Discs for different units for the year 2022.

The Chief Minister also felicitated Rahul Laishram, topper of the High School Leaving Certificate Examinations 2022 conducted by Board of Secondary Education Manipur.

The main highlights of the observation were the Nishan Toli and March Past comprising 16 contingents from Combined Manipur Rifles Male, Combined Indian Reserve Battalion Male Contingent No. 1, Combined Indian Reserve Battalion Male Contingent No. 2, Civil Police Imphal West Male, Civil Police Imphal East Male, Civil Police Bishnupur Male, Combined Civil Police Male (Kakching and Thoubal Districts), Combined Civil Police Contingent Hill District No. 1,

Combined Civil Police Contingent Hill District No. 2, Combined Commando Contingent, 9th India Reserve (Mahila) Battalion, Combined Civil Police Female, Home Guard Male, Combined VDF Male, Traffic Police Women Contingent and Manipur police Dog squad Imphal East & Imphal West and K-9 centre, Lamphel. The Combined Band Platoon comprised of 1st MR Band, 2nd MR Band, IRB Band, MPTC Band, 9 IRB Band, Home Guard (Male) Band and VDF Band. The Commander of today's parade was Rahul Gupta, IPS.

The Raising Day observation was also attended by Cabinet Ministers of State, Members of Parliament, Members of Legislative Assembly, Chief Secretary, Director General of Police and high ranking civil and police officials among others.

Mallikarjun Kharge elected as Congress'....

Of the total 9,915 Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) delegates that formed the electoral college to pick the party chief in a secret ballot, over 9,500 cast their ballot at PCC offices and the AICC headquarters, Mistry had said at a press conference

after the polling ended on Monday.

Electorates in the Congress presidential polls had been asked to put a tick mark against their candidate in the ballot paper after Tharoor's team took up with the party's top poll body the issue of its earlier di-

rective that voters write "1" to reflect their preference. This, the team said, might lead to confusion.

Ahead of the polling, Kharge had said he would have no shame in taking the advice and support of the Gandhi family in running the party affairs,

if he becomes its president.

Tharoor, on his part, took a veiled dig at some senior leaders supporting Kharge, saying that some colleagues were "indulging in 'netagiri' and telling party workers that they know who Sonia Gandhi wants elected".

Security forces rescue abducted student....

A complaint was received by officer in-charge Gannom Saparmeina at around 6.30 pm on October 16 that Roshan Uprety was abducted by three to four unknown miscreants from Charhajare Bazar. The abductors fired a round of

blank shots and fled in a white car, the complaint said.

The search operation was conducted after cutting off all possible escape routes with special focus on the western side of Motbung-Charhajare (eastern foothills of the Koubru

Range).

Meanwhile, the Kuki National Front-Neihlun (KNF-N), the non-So Kuki militant outfit, claimed responsibility for Uprety's abduction saying in a statement that it had released him safe and sound.

The outfit also stated that Uprety was abducted in connection with the July 10, 2022 incident at Charhajare where two of its cadres were caught by the Charhajare's Nepali community and handed over to the police along with their weapons.

CM attends Seminar on Future Ready Manipur – Looking Beyond Ethnicity....

He observed that Manipur had lost opportunities in the past due to problems of insurgency and polarisation on ethnic lines and added resolving identity based issues requires a comprehensive approach, based on mutual respect and a collective aspiration of a shared and united future.

The Chief Minister further stated that being a border state, problems of drugs and illegal immigration not only present a socio-economic problem but also has security dimensions. He added that the State Government had been making all efforts under its initiative of War on Drugs 2.0 to tackle the problem of drugs in the State. Simultaneously, programmes to provide alternative livelihood for poppy planters are being taken up.

Regarding connectivity, he stated that connectivity infrastructure air, helicopter services and rail connectivity in the State has also been strengthened. Steps are also being taken to improve connectivity infrastructure along the border, he added.

N. Biren Singh expressed satisfaction to learn that the Assam Rifles has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Manipur University for organising such Seminars to brainstorm ideas for a prosperous and peaceful Manipur. He also requested Lt. Gen. P.C. Nair, Director General Assam Rifles to ini-

tiate the process of vacating the Assam Rifles camp from the Manipur University Campus. He also expressed hope that the seminar would provide tools to chart a way towards a prosperous and peaceful Manipur.

The seminar was attended by Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution L. Susindro Meitei, Education Minister Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, MLA of Lamai Ak Kh. Ibomcha Singh, Director General of Assam Rifles Lt. Gen. P.C. Nair, Vice-Chancellor of Universities, senior officials of Assam Rifles and other paramilitary forces and students among others.

Lt Gen P C Nair, AVSM, YSM, DG Assam Rifles while welcoming civil dignitaries and senior officers of Secu-

rity Forces and Police, highlighted the complex dynamics of Manipur and challenges for all stakeholders in Government machineries and delivered the Keynote address.

The North East Seminar is an initiative of Assam Rifles undertaken annually to exchange ideas, views and share the perspective of diverse stakeholders in the region. The initiative was undertaken in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding signed by Manipur University and Assam Rifles for restoring peace & ushering in prosperity in the North East.

The event was conducted in two Sessions. The first plenary session was chaired by Mr Jaideep Saikia on the topic "The Troubled Neighbour - Turbulent

Myanmar: Implications and Impact" wherein the esteemed panelists analysed recent developments and trends in Myanmar on the ethnic, diplomatic, strategic and economic fronts. The panelists of the first session included Gautam Mukhopadhyaya, former Ambassador to Myanmar, H K Jain, a Myanmar expert and Yudhvir Shahrawat, former Chairman of Land Ports Authority of India.

A virtual talk was also delivered by Dr. Alex Waterman of Leeds University, United Kingdom on the impact of the "Naga Peace Process in Manipur". The second plenary session was chaired by veteran Lt Gen K H Singh (Retd) on the topic "Past v/s Future: Shedding the Historical Baggage in Manipur".

Sports

India beat Kuwait 2-1 win but could not qualify for next year's AFC U-20 Asian Cup



Agency
Kuwait City, Oct 19:

Skipper Taison Singh and Gurkirat Singh struck in either half as India edged past hosts Kuwait 2-1 in their final qualification match but the third-place finish in Group H was not good enough to qualify for the next year's AFC U-20 Asian Cup.

India finished ahead of Kuwait but behind topners Australia and second-placed Iraq qualification event, which identified participants for next year's tournament in Uzbekistan. Top teams from all the 10 groups and the five best runners-up qualified for the final tournament, with Uzbekistan getting a direct entry as hosts in the 16-team continental event to be held from March 1 to 18 in 2023.

India had lost 2-4 and 1-4 to Iraq and Australia respectively in their previous group matches. In the match against Kuwait on

Tuesday night, Taison Singh and Gurkirat Singh scored for India while Saleh Almehtab pulled one back for the hosts at the Ali Sabah Al-Salem Stadium.

India started on the front foot, and in the very first minute, a long throw hurled into the box caused some confusion in the Kuwait defence, resting in an Indian corner. Himanshu Jangra made a fine run at the near post onto a Vibin cross, but his effort went over the cross-bar.

India goalkeeper Zahid Bukhari had to make a crucial save a minute later off a shot by Fahad Alazmi.

However, Taison gave India the early lead in the eighth minute when he burst into the box, skipped past his marker and laced a powerful shot into the top corner.

Kuwait pounced on the attack soon and Jarah Alheleli struck the Indian cross-bar from a free-kick.

Kuwait continued to attack in search of the equaliser, while the Indians tried to hit their opponents on the break.

Jangra broke free on the left, cut in and tried his luck but his shot was blocked.

Jangra had another opportunity in the 19th minute when a Vibin corner found the former, who nodded it into the ground but Kuwait goalkeeper Bader Alajmi was equal to the task. With around five minutes from half-time, Abhishek Tekcham was released down the right by Taison, as the former beat his marker, entered the box, and sent in a low cross but nobody could get onto the end of it.

With under 20 minutes to go, it was a tale of two free-kicks. Kuwait captain Saleh Almehtab curled a free-kick into the Indian goal to equalise for the hosts, while the goal which took a deflection before going into the net.

Online Essay Competition

Commemorating the 126th Birth Anniversary of Lamyamba Hijam Irabot, Team Imphal Times is organizing an Online Essay Competition. This is the 2nd time that the Team Imphal Times is organizing an Essay Competition. This year theme is - "Manipur's Socio-Economic Problems: System Failure or Individual False."

All submitted essays will be published in the Imphal Times newspaper and the name of the winners will also be published. The word count for the essay must be between 1000 and 1200 words.

1st prize Rs 5000, 2nd prize Rs 3000, and 3rd prize Rs 2000 with certificates. The competition is opened to all individuals and every submission must be accompanied by a photo/image of the candidate. The last date of submission will be 6 pm on October 30.

All participants should enclose details of their identity. Father's or Mother's name, Address, Qualification, Contact No. (Cell Phone or Landline) should be enclosed at the of submitting the write up. Language medium : English.

Participant can be sent by e-mail to: imphaltimesessaycomp@gmail.com in MS Word or PDF format.

Team Imphal Times