

Curtain-raiser event of 'Manipur Sangai Festival 2022' held at Kolkata

IT News
Imphal, Oct 23:

Curtain-raiser event for the much-anticipated 'Manipur Sangai Festival 2022', a tourism extravaganza promoting the beauty and rich cultural legacy of Manipur, was held today at Salt Lake City of Kolkata.

The unique Manipur Sangai Festival 2022, also called the 'Festival of Oneness', organised by the Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur, is scheduled to be held from November 21 to 30 and aims to showcase the best of Manipur.

The curtain raiser event

aims to create awareness about the magnificence of Manipur, its celebrations of its rich cultural legacy and diversity of the state beyond borders, and its eco-tourism potential, the organiser said in a release.

The festival celebrating the magnificence of Manipur as the Jewel of India features 34 Traditional indigenous huts, Fashion Shows showcasing rich Manipur weaves, Sangai Run, Tourism Pavilion, Longman, Flower Shows, Indigenous Cultural Programmes, Night Tourism, Handloom and Handicrafts, Tug-of-War, Arambai Show, Mukna competition, Yubi Lakpi, Sagol Lamjei (Horse

Race), Men's International Polo Tournament at Mapal Kangjeibung, CM's Sagol Kangjei Tournament at Kangla, Film Screenings, MMA among many others, a release stated.

Manipur upholds the uniqueness of the origins of modern polo, none transplantable Shirui lily flower, only floating Loktak lake, black rice and black nungbi pottery. The curtain raiser event is therefore an attempt to share this uniqueness of Manipur beyond her borders, the release added.

Promoting the preservation and conservation of the State Animal, the brow-ant-

lered deer or Eld's deer or Sangai deer, the festival celebrates the uniqueness of its only home -Manipur. The festival attempts to spread awareness about this rare endangered deer endemic to Manipur.

The festival also promises to showcase some of the best indigenous handlooms and handicraft products. One can witness the creativity of the tribes through their unique handloom and handicrafts exhibited in the global arena along with the three GI tagged Handlooms from Manipur - Wangkhe Phee, Sa phee-lan-pee and Moirang phee, the release added.

Heavy rains to hit Northeast on October 23 and 24: IMD

Agency
Guwahati, Oct 23:

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast heavy rains to lash Mizoram and Tripura on Sunday, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura are likely to experience widespread rain with thunderstorms, according to the department.

Fairly widespread rain with thunderstorms could occur in Assam and Meghalaya. Arunachal Pradesh could experience scattered rain with thunderstorms, the report said.

A deep depression over the east-central and adjoining southeast Bay of Bengal is predicted to intensify into a cyclonic storm over the central Bay of Bengal by Monday, resulting in heavy rains over the Northeast from Sunday to Wednesday.

Very heavy rain is forecast for West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram on Monday.

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura are likely to experience widespread rain with

thunderstorms. Fairly widespread rain with thunderstorms is likely over Gangetic West Bengal, according to the IMD.

Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura are likely to experience widespread rain with thunderstorms

Fairly widespread rain with thunderstorms is likely over Gangetic West Bengal.

Isolated rain with thunderstorms is likely over Sub-Himalayan West Bengal, and Sikkim.

Assam Rifles siezes illegal cash



IT News
Imphal, Oct 23:

Shangshak Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR(South) recovered illegal cash at Mongkotchepu village, Ukhrul district on 21

Oct 2022.

During checking at Mobile Vehicle Check Post, troops of Assam Rifles recovered cash amounting Rs 6.68 lakhs from a TVS Scooty vehicle. The two wheeler with rider was moving from Imphal to Ukhrul. On

enquiring, individual failed to produce any legitimate source of cash.

The seized cash along with the apprehended individual was handed over to Litan Police Station for further investigation.

October pension distributed to aged and orphanage

IT News
Imphal, Oct 23:

In continuation of distributing Aids and Pensions to the Old Age Homes, Orphanages and Elderly persons in the different parts of the State, the Monthly Pension for the month of October has been distributed to all the inmates of Langol Old Age Home, Langol, Imphal West District Manipur in a solemn function held at the premises of the Home today. The Pension Distribution is being done under the aegis of Thounaojam Chaoba Memorial Charitable Trust, Singamei, Imphal West District Manipur.

Speaking on the Occasion, Thounaojam Romen Singh, the Managing Trustee of the Trust said that the Pension Scheme is initiated by the Trust in an aim to imparting some help and aid to the inmates and the Elderly Persons staying in the Homes and the other places. The Pension Scheme is initiated only to the Homes which do not get any benefit from the Government Side. It is also being given to the Aged persons residing in different parts of the State who do not



get any benefit of Pension Scheme of any kind initiated by the Government for the welfare of the Elderly persons. He said that Pension Distribution had earlier confined only in the Imphal areas but now it has been spread out in the other Valley Districts of the State. The Pension Distribution will be taken up in Kakching District also apart from other Valley Districts. It will also be initiated in the Hill Districts of the State

in a very short period of time. The Trust has been distributing Pensions to the needy ones only from the Fund of the Trust earned by the Trustees. It has been done not taking a single coin from the Government Side and any individuals and groups as well.

Romen Singh said that there is a mindset of the younger generations as a culture that they do not like to take care of the Elderly Persons and the Parents. They

think that the elderly persons are useless and have a burden to them. They have forgotten that they had been nurtured by those elderly persons from the beginning of their early age. Such mindset having in the younger generations of today is very unfortunate. There should be a mindset in the younger generations that the elderly persons should be cared of, he contended.

contd. on page 4

7th Ayurveda Day celebrated on a grand scale across the country

PIB
New Delhi, Oct 23:

The 7th Ayurveda Day was celebrated today on a magnificent scale in India and at international level. This year's 7th Ayurveda Day was celebrated with the theme "Har Din Har Ghar Ayurveda" so as to propagate benefits of Ayurveda to larger and grass root community. The six-week long celebration saw huge participation from across the country, more than 5000 events were organized by Ministry of Ayush institutes/ councils with support of more than 26 ministries of Government of India and Ministry of External Affairs India missions and embassies.

The dignitaries present at the event included Shri Arjun Munda, Minister of Tribal Affairs; Sarbananda Sonowal, Minister of Ayush; Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State of External Affairs & Culture; Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai, MoS Ayush; Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary MoA; Anil Kumar Jha, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs; Pramod Kumar Pathak, Special Secretary, MoA and Prof.

Tanuja Manoj Nesari, Director, AIIA along with representative of foreign embassies and WHO-SEARO.

Addressing the gathering, Sarbananda Sonowal, said, that Ayurveda is a science of prevention of disease. It's an ancient knowledge and our research councils are doing some impressive research work in Ayush sector. The further said that the objective of har din har Ghar ayurvedic camping is to take Ayurveda and its potential to the masses. Ayurveda is now known globally and this is because of the continuous and untiring efforts of prime minister Narendra Modi.

On this occasion, Arjun Munda said, "Ayurveda is India's ancient tradition and wealth. Ayurveda can be nurtured in association with the people living in the forests. Ayurveda is the only medical science that talks about prevention of disease, not treatment after getting sick."

Dr. Munjpara Mahendrabhai Kalubhai said that the Ministry of Ayush has accelerated the Ayush system of health in the country and Ayurveda is now recognized in

30 countries. He further informed that the current turnover of Ayush is \$18.1 billion.

Meenakshi Lekhi said, "It's time to appreciate the science of our ancestors. A science which is more than 5000 yrs old is celebrated on the occasion of Ayurveda day in the supervision of our Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He always promoted the science of Ayurveda and in last few years it has reached to its peak."

Prof. Tanuja Nesari, informed that 'I support Ayurveda' campaign got enormous support from all, as more than 1.7 Crore people participated and more than 56 Lakh people contributed in various activities organized by different institutions based on Ayurveda Day in last 6 week long program.

A Memorandum of understanding was signed between Ministry of Ayush and Ministry of Tribal Affairs to explore the areas of collaboration, convergence and synergy between both the ministries for Tribal development while preserving the tribal culture heritage through evidence-based planning and capacity building.

ISRO's history-making rocket that placed 36 satellites in orbit

Agency
Bengaluru, Oct 23:

The Launch Vehicle Mark 3 (LVM3) is ISRO's newest medium-heavy lift launch vehicle, the heaviest rocket currently in use by the space agency. Formerly called the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk III), the rocket is designed to mainly launch satellites into geostationary orbit at 35,000km.

On Sunday, in its first commercial mission, the LVM3 launched 36 satellites belonging to OneWeb's constellation in five staggered phases into their designated orbits. The launch was facilitated through ISRO's commercial arm, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), and came about after Russia

denied launch services because of Western sanctions.

At 6 tons, this was the heaviest payload carried by an Indian launch vehicle. At 0142 hrs IST, ISRO announced that the mission was a success.

With the successful complex insertion sequence, after years of test flights and hiccups and a national lunar mission in its pocket, India's largest and heaviest rocket is now in the market to ferry international customer satellites into space.

The development for the GSLV Mk III began in the early 2000s, along with the development of the cryogenic upper stage, which ISRO has been trying to develop to reduce reliance on the currently-used Russian design. The failure of the upper stage to ignite in consecutive

flights in the GSLV MkII led to the first test flight of GSLV MkIII being delayed.

The rocket's first experimental flight (also known as developmental or test flight) was initially scheduled for the early 2010s, but was pushed to make time for the Mars Orbiter Mission which launched in 2013.

The static fire tests for the rocket and its boosters were conducted in 2010, 2011, and 2015. The human-rated variant of the rocket, which is being developed for the Gaganyaan programme, also underwent static fire tests this year.

The cryogenic upper stage was also tested successfully in 2017.

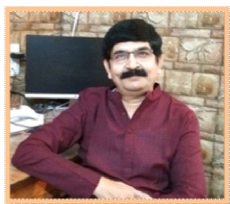
The maiden suborbital test flight of the GSLV Mk III was

on 18 December 2014 as a test flight with a dummy upper stage. It carried the Crew Module Atmospheric Re-entry Experiment (CARE), a part of the Gaganyaan mission. The first orbital test flight occurred on 5 June 2017, carrying the GSAT-19 and placing it successfully in a 170km orbit. The second orbital test flight on 14 November 2018 placed the GSAT-29 into a geostationary orbit.

The first operational flight of the launch vehicle was on 22 July 2019, carrying Chandrayaan 2. The 4-tonne payload of this mission was, at the time, the heaviest payload carried by ISRO to orbit.

This Sunday's successful mission carried a payload of 5,796kg — now ISRO's heaviest till date.

Diwali is all about celebrating life



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Diwali, the festival of lights, is a time of celebration and a time for reflection. It also coincides with the heart-warming practice of exchanging sweets with neighbours, friends and extended family. This kind act is to strengthen bonds with neighbours, friends and relatives. It brings the community together. It also inculcates in participants the sense of joy associated with giving.

And by doing it in times of joy, such as Diwali, it strengthens our inclination to give others in times of need. It brings together people of all religion to enjoy the celebration.

Diwali is not just about illuminating houses and paths. Persons must ignite the divine light within and let it radiate outward, so that it touches all those we come across.

Diwali is celebrated for many reasons; but the most commonly known reason is to celebrate the day Sri Rama, Sitaji, and Lakshman returned from their exile of 14 years in the forest – symbolizing a win of goodness over evil. By Hindu calendar, it also marks the start of the New Year calendar. In fact, Diwali is considered so auspicious that it is celebrated with families and friends over five days. The Sanskrit word “Deepavali” means “an array of lights” and signifies the victory of brightness over darkness. It means a row of lights and indeed illumination forms its main attraction.

Dhanteras festival has got its name from two words ‘Dhan’ meaning wealth and ‘Teras’ that means thirteenth. The auspicious occasion of Dhanteras holds an important place in Business community of India and celebrated with utmost divinity and enthusiasm. Lakshmi – the goddess of wealth, fortune, power, luxury, beauty, fertility, and auspiciousness holds the promise of material fulfillment and contentment. In many households, gold and money is worshipped with reverence; new account books are opened in business houses for the new fiscal year and old ones wound up. Many Hindus would have already cleaned their place of abode which according to tradition welcomes the goddess of wealth which is also associated with the festival.

Historically, the origin of Diwali can be traced back to ancient India, when it was probably an important harvest festival. The excitement and celebratory spirit that Diwali brings is unmatched. Celebrating Diwali with friends and family has its own charm. Diwali, the festival of lights, celebrated by Hindus, Sikhs and Jains in India and around the world, is dedicated to the triumph of goodness over evil and knowledge over ignorance. It honours the goddess of wealth, Lakshmi, and the legend of Rama and Sita. Festivities include decorating houses and public spaces with thousands of lights, candles and colourful designs. Fireworks, family gathering and gift giving also form part of the celebrations. The Hindu festival which signify the victory of good over evil. During this tenure, thousands of years ago Hindu's saw return of Lord Rama back in the princely state of Ayodhya after crushing Ravana in Sri Lanka area. The battle was iconic, mammoth and involved good forces of heavenly bodies, supernatural spirits and blessings of mother goddess – Durga over powerful demonic forces of Ravana and his associates.

The growing ethnic and cultural diversity of Hindu religion throughout the world provides the opportunity to participate in the celebrations and rituals of Diwali festival that enhances the feelings of being part of a close-knit group of Indians. Most Diwali celebrations around the world focus on family and friends and it is a time to reflect on the past and envision for a future, perhaps, in a world where people live together in harmony.

Outside India also, as Diwali approaches, people clean their home to escape bad luck in the upcoming year and families gather for a feast and stay up late, celebrating with the help of crackers and sweets. They believe that the Hindu goddess of good luck visits homes that are brightly lit. Children make “diyas” which are small clay lamps to light and bring the good luck goddess to their home so they can receive new clothes and toys. One family may have many thousand of these little diyas decorating their home.

The Hindu festival which signify the victory of good over evil. During this tenure, thousands of years ago Hindu's saw return of Lord Rama back in the princely state of Ayodhya after crushing Ravana in Sri Lanka area. The battle was iconic, mammoth and involved good forces of heavenly bodies, supernatural spirits and blessings of mother goddess – Durga over powerful demonic forces of Ravana and his associates.

Let us enjoy your life and always remember “Life comes once only. No retake/replay/rewind/once more. One should enjoy it. Be happy and keep others happy too.”

Rebirth of COVID-19

By: Sauro Dasgupta

Will the mutations in the RNA virus cannot be reverted? Can there be no breakthrough of this COVID?

Scientists are working throughout, introduction of vaccines along with precautionary doses will all fail before the high mutational rate of this virus?

We human beings have become helpless to the momentous invasive torture of this virus. A single mutation can lead to another new viral strain. And if there are mutations in multiple sites that too will lead to a new virus. Nobody can prevent this mutation from happening. Every new strain is unique and for every unique strain the symptoms too differ.

So, the question is how can this universe be free from this viral threat. Will it continue giving rebirth to its new ones on and on? Can it not be eradicated? This is where my query lies. We are hapless before these micro-meter entities.

(The author is PG 2 student, Department of International Relations, Jadavpur University)

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.

Next Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud can not be bracketed in ideological terms

The 63 year old Supreme Court Justice is an avid lover of music

By: Harihar Swarup



Next Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud

On October 16, 2019, when the Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi read out the unanimous verdict on Ayodhya case, something that aroused as much curiosity as the judgment by five-judge Constitution bench of the Supreme Court was its authorship. In a departure from convention, the judgment did not carry author's name. But as the experts found, some vital clues emerged: the language and structure of the 929-page document, broken down into chapters, bore the mark of D Y Chandrachud. Almost all its judgments, they pointed out, be it Aadhar, right to privacy or Sabrimala, followed that pattern.

Justice Chandrachud's judgments, whether dissenting or concurring aroused similar interest—from his historic dissent in the Aadhar case when he said that a person's multiple identities can't be reduced to 12-digit number; or case when he was again the sole dissenting voice as he said “dissent is a symbol of vibrant democracy”; the soaring rhetoric of the Bhima Koregaon case, he was again the sole dissenting voice as he said “dissent is the symbol of a vibrant democracy” to the Hadiya case, when he held that

a person's right to choose a religion and marry was an intrinsic part of her meaningful existence.

If Aadhar, right to privacy and Bhima Koregaon cases saw him being hailed as a liberal and progressive voice in the apex court, his stand in the Ayodhya case and Arnab Goswami case saw him being cheered by the right wing. Dhananjaya Yashwanth Chandrachud's judgments set him apart not to be slotted in an ideological bracket – and to keep his critics and backers guessing—that will make his two-year term one of the most keenly watched stints by any top judge in the Supreme Court. D Y Chandrachud takes over as the 50th CJ on November 9 this year.

An alumnus of Delhi's University's Stephen's College and its Faculty of Law and later Harvard University, where he did his LLM in 1983, followed by a doctorate in juridical Sciences in 1986, Chandrachud practiced as an advocate in the Bombay High Court and Supreme Court. He also served as additional Solicitor General of India from 1998 to 2000, until he was appointed additional judge of the Bombay High Court on March 29, 2000.

After serving Bombay High Court for over 13 years, he was elevated as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court on October 31, 2013 and later appointed a judge of Supreme Court on May 13, 2016.

The Chandrachuds, who hailed from Pune — his grandfather Vishnu B Chandrachud served as Diwan of the princely state of Sawantwadi (in present day Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra) later moved to then Bombay.

As a young boy growing in Bombay, Chandrachud was surrounded by music. While his father, the late former CJI Y V Chandrachud, was a trained musician, his mother sang for All India Radio. Chandrachud is known to be an avid fan of his mother Prabha's music teacher, the renowned Kishori Amonkar, who was regular visitor to their house. Family sources say an autograph of young Chandrachud sought from Amonkar read: “Music musically leads to silence”—a message that is known to have left a lasting influence on him.

At the age of 12, Chandrachud moved to Delhi to join his father when the latter was appointed the 13th Chief Justice of India. The move to the CJI bungalow meant the boy to know now had friends, among them K M Joseph, who lived a few feet away from the Chandrachuds. The friend, with whom he played football and cricket, the son of the then Supreme Court judge K K Mathew, is now justice Joseph, part of the SC's top decision—making body, the collegium, along with Chandrachud. (IPA Service)

Centre's Hindi Push: A threat to the minorities

By: Jayanta Sharanangthem

Contd. from yesterday

The ruling DMK's youth and student wings organised protests all over the state opposing the Union Government's alleged move to impose Hindi on non-Hindi-speaking states and making it the medium of instruction in elite institutions like IITs, IIMs, and AIIMS, as recommended by the parliamentary committee headed by the Union Home Minister. The argument of those opposing Hindi has been that all Indian languages should have an equal status.

It's not just Tamil. Any mother tongue which is different from Hindi has its own unique beauty and so much history associated with it. Imposing something which is not familiar with is not the solution to unity. And the people of India will never let this imposition happen. Picking Hindi as a national language would provide an unfair advantage to those for whom it is a mother tongue. There is no demand for having a link language for all states of India. Because the link language differs according to the people's needs in terms of their routine life, place of living, business etc., English, which has been there for over two centuries, alone can be the link language. The intention of imposing Hindi as a link language on itself is wrong.

Many of the minority tongues have already been under attack from English and other dominant languages, and with the new education policy advocacy, may drive them to a dire situation close to extinction. It has already been recorded that some of the minority languages are losing their membership and are almost at the brink of being extinct due to several social, cultural, political, and economic pressures that act upon them from time to time. Any attempt at diluting the importance of regional language is viewed as an attempt at homogenisation of culture. The idea of “one country, one language” is not only fallacious but also dangerous to the unity & integrity of India itself. Language is a crucial component of one's identity and engagement with one's community. Actively engaging with one's mother tongue is a necessary facet of design thinking and comprehension, as well as promoting the holistic development of an individual.

Thus, it is important to give primacy to the opinions of those non-Hindi speakers who believe that a compulsion of learning Hindi strikes at their right to promote their mother tongues. One of the underlying factors for the birth of Bangladesh was the imposition of Urdu from West Pakistan. The unrest in Sri Lanka can be attributed to not giving adequate protection to the Tamil-speaking minority population. It is evident that the current government has harboured a long-standing agenda of promoting Hindi even among non-native speakers, in spite of the vehement opposition it has faced from different quarters each time it has made efforts to further that agenda. I remember Darwin's theory of evolution: “The extinction of those (like dinosaurs) is because they can't fight or adapt or survive in the undue circumstances of a changing environment with time”. It means we, the minority, should fight the challenges, else we will be abolished from the surface of this Earth.

Hindi does not have the capacity like English, why do you impose forcefully on educational institutions? So, we should not be bound and put in a box like a bird in a cage. If we are to live together in harmony, you should not force us to adopt your languages, culture, and religions. At the same time, we will not force you to adopt our mother tongue either. Coexistence will be impossible otherwise. Still, if you try to push for a particular language or religion, it is called a dictatorship form or majoritarianism, which has no place in the federalism form of democracy. If the majority of Indians are non-vegetarians, it is possible that everyone should be non-vegetarian? If so, it will not be called “willingness” but “dictatorship”. You should not try to dominate and rule over us, and we will not try to dominate and rule over you either. Respecting each other, we should try to rule for the welfare of us all together. Give respect to get respect. Hindi is also, as they claimed, not the mother tongue of many north, south, and central Indians. They speak Myithli, Bhojpuri, Marwari, Mewari, Avadhi, Brij, Gujarati, Rajsthani, Marathi, Bengali, Santhali, Haryanvi, Punjabi, Oriya, Malayalam, Telugu, Kannada, etc.

Hindi supremacists have been suppressing the northern Indian languages for a long time. They are now planning to suppress other old South Indian languages as well. It is a ridiculous thought to have one language to unite. We have already united as a union of states, making one nation, India. Each person addresses his or her native language, as do we. We are proud of our language, our identity, and our culture like you. The people of North and central India should also stop humiliating and torturing the NE people by calling them Chinese, insect eaters, or jangly. If this continues, how can the so-called “Unity in Diversity” be maintained? The politicians should also stop adopting the new versions of Divide and Rule policies like North vs. South, Hindu vs. Muslim, Veg vs. Non-veg, our food vs. their food, our dress vs. their dress, our language vs. their language, our religion vs. their religion, hilly people vs. city people, etc. Or are you playing a different game in order to divert attention from the national issues such as unemployment, price increases, inflation, and the rupee's depreciation against the dollar?

Today, you try to impose a language on us, and tomorrow, you will almost certainly try to impose a religion on us. If the people of central India like UP and Bihar are willing to learn Manipuri or any other South Indian language, why should we not learn your language, Hindi? So, what you don't want to do should not try to be done by others. Shame on the people who brought this issue to the national table. You are destroying unity rather than attempting to repair it. We will not bow to imposition. This big burning topic, if continued, will lead to a civil war in India. This type of debate about imposing only one language over others, in my opinion, will further increase the demand for a separate state from various perspectives, destroying the so-called unity that has been maintained since Independence. Our country's pluralistic identity should not be destroyed. It is very sad to impose Hindi for political gains in order to extend Hindi-majority-national parties to the South after wiping out strong regional parties like DMK, AIADMK, and TMC. This

may also suppress other ethnic groups. But on the contrary, this issue of languages will even strengthen the regional political parties in due course of time. And also, non-Hindi-speaking people can't compete with Hindi-speaking people in exams and competitions.

Language is the carrier of society's culture. It is through one's own language that people are able to express effectively. The disappearance of language due to imposition of non-native language will eventually lead to sublimation of native culture & the traditional knowledge. A language is much more than just something we use to communicate. A language has hope; a language has imagination; a language has history; a language has culture and tradition in it. As the country has many languages, Hindi cannot be imposed as the main language of instruction in the higher centres of learning and a single language cannot be termed as the country's language. Language shares geographical features and is closely related to the culture, customs, and identity of people and things. It is the method of human communication, either spoken or written, consisting of the use of words in a structured and conventional way. Language is also a statement of relationships among the thoughts and expressions of a human being. India is a country of different languages, and every language has its own importance. The language question is not just about imposition but about the distortion of an individual's cultural identity. After the annexation of India, the British then tried to promote English for better governance. Even after India got independence, there were always two major language-related issues: (i) the dispute over the official language of the union and (ii) the linguistic reorganisation of the states. If India is to exist as a country under unity in diversity, as an Indian, one should be given the option and choice to learn any language as one wants, not forcefully imposed. Its imposition will pose a threat to the unity of India. For more than 70 years, we have been brainwashed into thinking that Hindi/Sanskrit will be the national language.

to be continued

1,994 new Covid Cases In India, 4 virus-related deaths in 24 hours

Agency
New Delhi, Oct 23:

With 1,994 fresh cases, India's COVID-19 tally has climbed to 4,46,42,742, while the number of active cases of the infection has declined to 23,432, the Union health ministry said on Sunday.

The death count due to the viral disease has gone up to 5,28,961 with four more fatalities, according to the ministry's data updated at 8 am. The active cases account for 0.05 per cent of the total caseload, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has increased to 98.76 per cent, the ministry said.

A decrease of 611 cases

was recorded in the active Covid caseload in a span of 24 hours, it added.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.24 per cent and the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 0.99 per cent, according to the health ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease has gone up to 4,40,90,349, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.18 per cent.

According to the ministry, 219.55 crore doses of Covid vaccines have so far been administered to the beneficiaries across the country.

India's Covid tally crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7,

2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 2020, 40 lakh on September 5, 2020 and 50 lakh on September 16, 2020.

It went past 60 lakh on September 28, 2020, 70 lakh on October 11, 2020, 80 lakh on October 29, 2020, 90 lakh on November 20, 2020 and the one-crore mark on December 19, 2020.

The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore Covid cases on May 4, 2021, the three-crore mark on June 23, 2021 and four crore cases on January 25 this year.

Of the four fatalities recorded in the 24-hour period, one each was reported from Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Maharashtra and Nagaland.

Passing Out Parade at NCC, Officers Training Academy at Kamptee, Nagpur



Major General Kapil Jeet Singh Rathore, Commandant NCC OTA, Kamptee handing over a baton at passing out parade of ANOs on Saturday.

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Oct 23:

480 Associate NCC Officers (ANOs) passed out from the NCC, Officers Training Academy (OTA) in a parade held at Chunilal Ground, at Kamptee in Nagpur in Maharashtra on Saturday.

The Passing Out Parade commanded by Cadet Training Officer Rishu Rai was reviewed by Major General Kapil Jeet Singh Rathore, Commandant NCCOTA, Kamptee.

The ANOs went through rigorous training programme of seventy five days which included physical training, yoga, drill, leadership and personality development and a host of other Military, social awareness and disaster management subjects.

The Reviewing Officer in his

address urged the passing out ANOs to uphold the aims and objectives of NCC and work towards effective Nation Building, through shaping the young minds and serve as role models for the NCC cadets in particular and to the society at large.

Volunteer and willing professors and teachers are appointed as part-time NCC officers. These NCC officers are called ANOs. Schools and colleges having NCC troops/platoons/companies are under the command of a Teacher/Lecturer, who has got formal NCC training and is known as an ANO. If the same person has not gone for formal training and holds charge of a troop/company at the institution he is called a Care-taker. The ANOs are not the same as commissioned Indian army officers.

A lecturer in a college having received the Army Training at OTA Kamptee is considered as Officer Commanding. In schools, a Troop Commander is a teacher who teaches in that school. They also receive three months training at OTA, Kamptee.

Permanent Teacher in the grade of Teacher/Lecturer teaching students in school/college are eligible for appointment as ANO. Workshop instructors and Assistant Lecturers of Technical Institutions are also eligible, provided they are teaching/imparting Technical Education to students. Physical Training Instructors, Yoga Teachers, Director of Physical Education and Demonstrators are also eligible for the appointment as ANO.

The Temporary Lecturer/Teacher working in the grades mentioned above are also eligible for appointment as ANOs in the respective Division/Wing provided a certificate from the Principal of the institution is enclosed along with the application stating that the candidate is expected to continue for more than three years and is likely to be made permanent. The candidates applying for ANO should not be below 21 years of age and should not be above 42 years of age. But the upper age limit is extended up to 45 years.

UNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL 2022 - on 5th and 6th November, 2022

By: Sanjoo Thangiam

This festival will be LILIAE'S 1st international performance out of the USA. And as for ABOUT US - they are one of the finest upcoming Rock Artists from Nagaland in the North East, India - band of the North East with international standards.



The 'First Family of Rock', a 5-piece siblings hard rock band from Los Angeles, USA.

Have you, head bangers of Manipur ever heard of the well renowned band called "LILIAE", which literally means "bat" in Romanian - a 5-piece family Rock / Metal band from Los Angeles USA?

What is so unique and intriguing about "LILIAE"?

It is the bond that the siblings share; they, the talented siblings grew up with one musical instrument each, and started from street plays where they occupied themselves and played at Santa Monica pier every weekend.

Yes! This band is very empowering as it is a female fronted band that brought live and subsists to a unique genre of music - "Vamp Metal".



places and social media platforms. They also made it to National Television on a competition show called "World's Best" on CBS and the famous America's Got Talent on NBC.

From covering popular rock and metal songs to writing their own hook-heavy original lyrics and material, the band has ignited the light and spark in every youngsters of today and this is evident when the band's first EP "Chain of Thorns" (2019) hit #1 on Amazon's best seller for rock music charts.

Sold out shows along with diehard fans made their first North American tours a grand success.

The band is currently working for their first ever original album, which consists of 13 breath-taking masterpieces. The good news is that LILIAE is going to be

Unity through Music by LILIAE from USA and ABOUT US from India for REVIVAL OF CLASSIC Rock will be performing LIVE in Manipur, India

Their hard work along with the constant support of their father Florin Cristea took them to great

here in Imphal, Manipur, India to set the stage on fire predominantly to inspire, to empower and to show their enthusiasm to the lovers of heavy metal music inclusive of the youths and the aged, on the road to fly high like them, the "LILIAE".

ABOUT US

The members of "ABOUT US" came together in the winter of 2019. The members, after spending the preceding 15 years in various bands and projects came together and launched to set off on to embark on immense achievement in their journey.

Their debut album captures the diversity of their

(June 23, 2021) and the Music Awards of Nagaland (October 16, 2021).

By 2021, ABOUT US have released their own self-titled debut album in their native terra firma and yet again released their second music video titled "Right Now."

Subsequently, the band eventually made their way to Frontiers Music Srl, who was left with no other choice but to admire and show consideration for the band for their avant-garde approach to the melodic rock genre.

When "ABOUT US" self-titled first album arrives later this year with a grand global release, gear up and fasten



combined musical tastes, which range from AOR to hard rock to metal and more.

Later in December 2020, the band released its first single, "Loaded Love," and in April 2021, their debut music video, "Gimme Gimme."

Within a short period of time, their music video attracted close to 500,000 viewers and this marked the beginning of their flourishing singing career.

The song thrived and subsequently won two consecutive awards in the Best Rock category, at the MG Nagaland Music Honors

your seatbelts for "ABOUT US" is about to steal the show.

DATE: 5th of November: Phase 1 headliner - "ABOUT US" from Nagaland, India

DATE: 6th of November: Phase 2 headliner - "LILIAE," from Los Angeles, USA

VENUE: Luwangpokpa Multi Sports Complex, Luwangpokpa, Imphal, Manipur

Online ticket available at maylos.in

Event By: NOS Groups
(The writer is a Vocalist of a Heavy Metal band called "No Name")

Career Guidance

Internet Addiction



By: Vijay GarG

There is a teacher, who can only be considered as an example of the story, but who can be seen by anyone around him. Well, his family consists of husband, wife and two children. Children are studying and working abroad. Now both are alone. He has a regular routine. Wife is edu-

cated till PhD. She takes care of the house. Under his right guidance, acumen children went ahead. The daily routine of the teacher remains the same, but he is feeling lonely as at that stage of age where they need is felt.

After retiring, he is still busy. His wife is still engaged in household chores. Overall a perfect family. Sometime back, one day after having tea in an early morning meeting, they suddenly erupted. He first wanted to be sure whether he, being dear friends, could speak his heart out. Then taking care of himself, he said that this situation can happen to anyone. Actually, for the last few months, there has been a change in the behavior of the spouse

and their reaction to something. He had registered a rapid change. Getting angry for no strong reason and getting into a fight was ingrained in his behavior. Until recently, he had a very good circle of friends. She was closely related to him and also actively participated in and conducted interaction programs.

But when the complete ban took place, since then they were cut off the most. His only support became his smartphone. It happened gradually in this sequence that all the other work started getting disturbed, but his attention in mobile started becoming more focused than necessary. However, this mobile addiction is no longer an individual problem and has

become a complex psychological challenge. There is a story of the churning of the ocean. Both poison and nectar came out from the ocean. Smartphones are also such an ocean. There is Halahal in it as well as nectar. It is useful like nectar and deadly like poison. But the matter of ease or convenience is something that people assume ever first. The teacher was worried that how will the attention be diverted from the mobile... Today it is in the hands of the child. It's like a drug, who only knows how to press a button. He too has become a fan of it.

Of course the queues are over, so the man is reduced to it. Nowadays, such incidents are also heard that mobile has become the reason of quarrel

between husband and wife or even children. Sometimes it seems that like opium and tea, it is also an intoxicant. Today the situation is that a significant number of the world's population has become addicted to the Internet. The proportion of victims of this addiction is more than the population of drug users in the world. Internet addiction is on the rise. It is slowly coming to the world in the future emerging as a universal problem. However, the geographical landscape varies.

Smartphones, cell phones have replaced cameras, calendars, alarm clocks, notepads, books and 'music systems', mathematical ability, dictionaries, the habit of writing, the activities of playing games

outside the home in the streets or in the fields. Thus, the lives of many families are still left to be substituted. Currently, the number of Internet users around the world is increasing rapidly and now it is the fifth generation. It has moved towards technology. The question is how much their utility will be in improving the life equipped with human sensibility? Or that all this would be possible at the cost of human sensibilities? It is meant to say that social media is at the root of the problem of 'Internet addiction'. This leads to addiction, social media and video game addiction.

The combined effect of all this is causing mental and physical side effects. As a re-

sult, mental illness such as depression, restlessness and other physical ailments, such as memory loss, neck and spine weakness and illness, Stiffness in fingers, rapid loss of creativity ability and bone related diseases are affecting the entire society. Just as people using drugs to deny reality go further into a virtual world. But the reality will stand in front of you tomorrow if not today. It is being seen that the eyes of young people are wearing glasses with more power. Young people working on computers day and night are going to the hospital for physiotherapy after suffering from diseases of the body. The question is, which world are we headed towards? Are looking!

Centre decided to remove all obsolete, archaic laws: Law Minister Kiren Rijiju

Agency
Shillong, Oct 23:

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday announced that the Central government has decided to remove all obsolete and archaic laws of the Indian judiciary from the statute book stating that they have no relevance in today's time.

The Law Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi desires to reduce the compliance burden of the people and wants a lesser government role in people's lives.

While speaking to media persons here, the Law Minister said, "Some old laws work as impediments in the normal life of common people and we have to reduce the compliance burden on people. It is the Prime Minister's desire to reduce the compliance burden of the people, to ensure that they can live as peacefully as possible and there should be a minimum presence of government in their lives."

Rijiju said that laws are designed to simplify justice for ordinary people rather than cause them trouble.

"We have decided to remove all obsolete and archaic laws from the statute as unnecessary laws are a burden to the common man. Laws are meant to bring something good about the common people and not to trouble them. Laws are meant to facilitate justice or to prescribe certain mechanisms to ensure the life of the common people as normal as possible. So, the burden of the common people must be reduced," he said.

He further said that over



1500 laws have been removed and in the coming Winter Session of Parliament many more repealment acts will be introduced.

"All those unnecessary laws which were enacted a long time back, which do not have any relevance in today's time, do not deserve to be in the statute books. So we have already removed more than 1500 laws. In the coming Winter Session, I am also getting ready to introduce many more repealment acts in Parliament," the Union Minister added.

The Law Minister was in Shillong to participate in the 'Rozgar Mela' programme.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Rozgar Mela, the recruitment drive for 10 lakh personnel via video conferencing on Saturday.

During the ceremony, ap-

pointment letters were handed over to 75,000 newly inducted appointees.

The Prime Minister said that the central government is working simultaneously on many fronts to create more and more jobs in the country.

"As per the directions of the Prime Minister, all Ministries and Departments are working towards filling up existing vacancies against sanctioned posts in Mission Mode," the PMO said in a statement.

The new recruits from across the country will join 38 Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

The PMO statement said this will be a significant step forward towards fulfilling the continuous commitment of the Prime Minister to providing job opportunities for the youth

and ensuring the welfare of citizens.

"The appointees will join the government at various levels viz Group - A, Group - B (Gazetted), Group - B (Non-Gazetted) and Group - C. The posts on which appointments are being made include Central Armed Force Personnel, Sub Inspector, Constable, LDC, Steno, PA, Income Tax Inspectors, MTS, among others," the PMO statement said.

These recruitments are being done in mission mode by Ministries and Departments either by themselves or through recruiting agencies such as UPSC, SSC, and Railway Recruitment Board.

"For expeditious recruitment, selection processes have been simplified and made tech-enabled," the statement concluded.

Centre cancels Rajiv Gandhi Foundation's FCRA licence over 2020 inquiry into illegal Foreign Funding

Agency
New Delhi, Oct 23:

The Central government has cancelled the registration licence of two key foundations — Rajiv Gandhi Foundation and Rajiv Gandhi Charitable Trust under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, a senior home ministry official has confirmed.

Following this move, the two organisations will not be able to receive any fund from foreign entities.

The Rajiv Gandhi Foundation (RGF) was set up on June

21, 1991 to realise the vision of Rajiv Gandhi. At present, Congress' Sonia Gandhi is the chairperson of the Rajiv Gandhi Foundation.

According to sources, an inquiry was initiated in 2020 after allegations were levelled against these organisations for receiving illegal foreign funding.

An inquiry headed by additional director level officer jointly done by income tax and home ministry officials was initiated. Later, it was found that the organisations have illegally

received funding from few foreign entities.

In 2020, when India and China had a face-off in Ladakh, BJP chairperson JP Nadda had alleged when the Congress was in power, the Prime Minister's relief fund was diverted to the Gandhi family's trust.

Nadda also alleged that the RGF continuously received donations from the Chinese embassy between 2005 and 2009, from the "tax haven" of Luxembourg between 2006 and 2009 and NGOs with commercial interests.

Moreh Battalion Assam Rifles organised a Medical Camp

IT News
Imphal, Oct 23:

Moreh Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a

medical camp at H Mongjang village, Moreh (Manipur).

Moreh Battalion Assam Rifles conducted a medical camp at H Mongjang, Moreh (Manipur) today. Medical

team of the Battalion lead by the Chief Medical Officer treated and gave free medicines to a total of 119 individuals including 23 male, 44 female and 52 children.

Contd. from Page 1

October pension distributed to aged....

Romen Singh further said that the Trust, not only distributes Pension and Aid to the inmates of Homes and Aged Persons, but also helps in the treatments in hospitals. In their treatment, the Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) takes a big role. The Trust earlier had requested the then Director of RIMS to help in the treatment of such persons. The then bonafide Director agreed the Proposal of

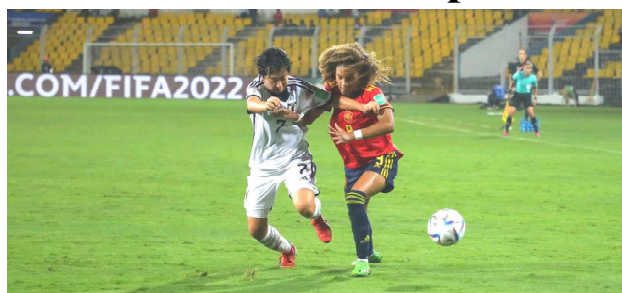
the Trust and had given free treatment to those needy persons proposed by the Trust. Not only giving free treatment, not a single coin had been made spent in the patient party and the Trust in taking different Tests in the hospital laboratories also. The Trust will ever remain owed to such former Director of RIMS, Prof. A. Santa Singh for the kind and sympathetic actions rendered to the needy and the down

trodden persons for the time being. Romen Singh said that he will approach the new Director, Dr. L. Ranjit Singh to continue the Service to such needy persons. The new Director will also accept the Proposal of the Trust, he assured.

In today's function, Oinam Mangi Singh, the Founder and Chairman of Langol Old Age Home, Social Activist, Oinam Sagar Singh attended among others.

Sports

FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup: Colombia, Spain enter semifinals after wins against Tanzania and Japan



Vicky Lopez (R) of Spain scored both the goal, with the winner coming in the last moments of second-half injury time.

Agency
Margao, Oct 23:

Colombia defeated a nine-member Tanzania 3-0 in the quarterfinals of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium here on Saturday. With the win, the South Americans entered the semifinals of the showcase following four successive group stage exits, including in 2018. Colombia made the first breakthrough within three minutes, with captain Linda Caicedo finding the back of the net.

The second goal came 13

minutes later, as Cristina Motta's cross from the left was headed into the goal by Yesica Munoz. Colombia added to Tanzania's misery with a spot-kick in the 32nd minute.

In the day's other quarterfinal, Spain rallied to beat Japan 2-1 and make the semifinals of the tournament. Momoko Tanikawa put Japan ahead with his 66th minute strike, but Vicky Lopez (87' and 90+3') scored twice to seal the issue in his team's favour.

The competition now enters the business end as the likes of Spain and Colombia look to underline their creden-

tials. It is worth noting that Spain are the defending champions of the U-17 Women's World Cup and will look to retain the crown. The beat Mexico in the 2018 final which was hosted by Uruguay.

A win for Spain in the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup will see them go level with North Korea for most titles at the junior level. Korea lead the tally with two titles while a win for Spain will see them go level with the Asian side. It now remains to be seen who gets the nod and wins the latest edition of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.

Sultan of Johor Cup: Indian Junior Men Trounce Hosts Malaysia 5-2 in Opener

Agency
Johor, Malaysia, Oct 23:

The Indian junior men's hockey team started its campaign in the 10th Sultan of Johor Cup, defeating Malaysia 5-2 in its opening game on Saturday.

Amandeep (62'), Arajeet Singh Hundal (102'), Bobby Singh Dhami (202'), Sudeep Chirmako (262'), and Sharda Nand Tiwari (562') scored for India in the match. Malaysia's goals were scored by Shahmie Irfan Suhaimi (132') and Muhammad Mamat (522').

India showed intent right away in the match, with captain Uttam Singh pressing deep inside the circle in the first minute. Malaysia, on the other hand, maintained a strong defensive line and averted the threat. A few minutes later, Amandeep hit a reverse hit into the net to give India the lead.

Arajeet Singh Hundal deflected the ball into the net from a penalty corner attempt, giving India a 2-0 lead. Malaysia's Shahmie Irfan Suhaimi pulled one back with a couple of minutes left in the first quarter.

At the start of the second quarter, India continued to press deep inside Malaysia's circle, putting pressure on the opposition's defence. Hockey India informed in a release on Saturday.

Bobby Singh Dhami extended India's lead by striking



his way past the Malaysian defence and then hitting a reverse hit into the net. Sudeep Chirmako scored India's fourth goal from a counter-attack just before halftime.

The second half began with Malaysia earning an early pen-

alty corner, but an error by Malaysian captain Abd Razak Syawal quickly ended the threat. Bobby Singh Dhami sent a blistering pass to Uttam Singh in the centre, but the Indian captain was unable to get his stick on the ball.

Malaysia maintained possession for the majority of the third quarter in the hopes of covering the deficit but were unable to convert it into a goal.

Malaysia began to show urgency with 15 minutes remaining on the clock as Danish Aiman Muhammad struck a reverse hit that just missed the target.

Minutes later, India earned their second penalty corner of the game, but Malaysia goalkeeper Mohamad Rafaizul saved it. Muhammad Mamat scored a late goal to give Malaysia hope. However, Sharda Nand Tiwari scored from a penalty corner as India won the match 5-2.

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: imphaltimesessaycompt@gmail.com in MS Word or PDF format.

Team Imphal Times