

## Driver assaulted over denial to pay illegal tax at Imphal-Moreh route

**Drivers body demand arrest of the culprit within 48 hours, warns indefinite blockade**

IT News  
Imphal Oct 5:

Unknown miscreants suspected to be cadres of armed rebel group allegedly assaulted a driver of Eco-Van passenger service along Imphal Moreh route while returning to towards Imphal over denial to pay illegal tax demanded by armed assailant yesterday evening.

Following the assault on fellow colleague driver, passenger service vehicle drivers of Imphal-Moreh route convened an emergency meeting today at Soro Keithel and warn the government of indefinite bandh if the authority fails to arrest those culprits within 48 hours.

The victim driver has been identified as Md Abdul Hakim (30 yrs) son of Abdul Aziz from Sora Keithel in Kakching district. As narrated by him, he drive back from Moreh at around 7 pm yesterday carrying some items as no passenger were available. When he reached Chamol Village also



known as Zero in Tengnoupal village. He said that at that village there is a location where the Kuki rebel group collected illegal taxes from all passenger vehicles. As he reached the location he was stopped by some people and asked him to pay Rs. 250. As he does not have any passenger in his vehicle he said that he could not pay the money as he did not have it. Later the persons suspected to be cadres of the Kuki rebel group asked him to pay Rs. 100 but that too the driver cannot pay the money as he did not have it. Later, those miscreants

allegedly assaulted him over his denial to pay the force illegal taxes.

Denouncing the barbaric activism, all passenger vehicles plying along the Imphal Moreh route have been cancelled today. A protest was also staged against the brutal assault to passenger driver by the suspected UGs. Speaking to media in state of animosity, a driver said that the location where the driver was assaulted for not giving illegal taxes to the rebel group is near a police post. He drew the attention of the government in connection

with the atrocities and harassment metted out by the driver along the Imphal Moreh route despite having so many police personnel on duty. The drivers also drew the attention of the government over the aggressive checking to the passenger vehicles along the Imphal Moreh Route at Khudengthabi by Assam Rifles.

The drivers warns the government of indefinite blockade if fails to arrest those people who assaulted the driver of Eco van passenger service within 48 hours.

## ‘Unabated extortion’ led to extension in AFSPA in North East areas

Courtesy: New Indian Express  
New Delhi, Oct 5:

Unabated extortion from businesses and state administration officials and organisations by insurgent groups in Nagaland and parts of Arunachal Pradesh is behind the Centre's decision to extend the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) by six months beginning October 1, according to Home Ministry sources.

They said the Centre continues to hold talks with the NSCN (Isak-Muivah) group, which is “deeply” involved in imposing “taxes”, a euphemism for extortion in some states of the northeast. However, the AFSPA extension is also because a splinter, armed faction of the NSCN (IM) led by the outfit's former ‘commander-in-chief’ Phunthing Shimrang, remains a threat to peace in the state.

Shimrang is suspected to be in hiding, along with many armed NSCN cadre at Ruili in China's Yunnan province. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) extended the application of AFSPA in a dozen districts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh where too the NSCN (IM) is influential in Tirap and Changlang districts.

In May this year, AFSPA was withdrawn from 15 police station areas of seven Nagaland districts, besides as many police station areas of six Manipur districts and 23 Assam districts.

Nagaland government sources said the latest decision to continue with AFSPA in parts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh was prompted by the ceaseless extortion by not only the NSCN(IM) but also the Naga National Political Groups (NNPGs), an umbrella organisation of seven former insurgent outfits. These include the GPRN-NSCN, FGN,

NNC, NPGN-NSCN, NSCN(R) and the NNC-GDRN (NA). The NNPGs is led by its convenor N Khitovi Zhimomi.

“The imposition of ‘taxes’ (read extortion) across all establishments in Nagaland and parts of Arunachal Pradesh is rampant and has been on for several years and was the single biggest consideration for the extension of AFSPA,” a senior police officer told TNIE. He said the Nagaland political dispensation was unwilling to put a stop to the practice, a said a senior police officer.

The Centre's rationale for continuing with AFSPA, the sources said, was also because of clandestine arms trafficking, weapons proliferation and the NSCN (IM)'s “avowed aim” to be a sovereign and an independent entity.

On its part, the NSCN (IM) says it collects “legitimate tax” from “its citizens”.

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## CM inaugurates Open Gym at Cheirao Ching and Marjing Polo Complex



IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh inaugurated two Open Gyms for public including one at Cheirao Ching, Thangmeiband, Imphal West and another at Marjing Polo Complex, Heingang, Imphal East today. The Open Gyms were installed under the Chief Minister's Indigenous Martial Arts Akademi, Manipur with the support from the Government

of Manipur.

N. Biren Singh expressed satisfaction on seeing the equipment and machine installed at the site. Stressing the need for proper maintenance of the Open Gyms, he instructed the Superintendent of Police, Imphal West to deploy some security personnel to guard the Open Gym at Cheirao Ching and to check on damage and robbery of equipment by unknown miscreants.

Gym trainers who were

present at the site also demonstrated the uses of the gym equipment to the Chief Minister.

MLA of Thangmeiband AC Khumukcham Joykisan, Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary V. Vumlungmang and Director (Tourism) W. Ibohah were also present at the inauguration venue among others.

After inaugurating the Open Gym at Marjing Polo Complex, the Chief Minister inspected the ongoing installation work of the Statue of Sagol Kangjei Player at the Complex. He interacted with the concerned Engineer and contractor and instructed them to complete the work by 1st week of November this year.

Later, he also inspected the ongoing construction works of Manipur Police Headquarter and Civil Secretariat at Mantripukhri. He was accompanied by Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar and Additional Chief Secretary V. Vumlungmang during the inspection.

## RTI Week celebration 2022

**RTI Act, 2005 is an act to bring more transparency to the government and check corruption - H Dingo**

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

Minister for Social Welfare, Skill, Labour, Employment & Entrepreneurship and Fisheries, H. Dingo Singh today said that the Right to Information Act, 2005 is an act to bring more transparency to the government and check corruption.

Addressing the opening ceremony of the RTI Week Celebration – 2022 as Chief Guest H. Dingo said that the state government is trying to be more transparent in its functioning and bring the people closer with the government with programmes like “CM Da Haisi”. He urged the people to use RTI as a tool to bring down the level of corruption in Manipur.

The RTI Week Celebration was organized by the Manipur Information Commission as part of the all-India programme sponsored by the Department of Personnel & Training, Union



Ministry of Personnel, and Public Grievances & Pensions. The opening ceremony cum state level workshop was organized today at the Conference Hall of SCERT, Lamphel.

Speaking at the function as Guest of Honour, M. Rameshwar Singh, MLA, Kakching Assembly Constituency, called for the need to start e-filing of RTI applications in all government departments. He urged the Manipur Information Commission to bring a more citizen-friendly online portal.

Rameshwar said that RTI is a pro-people act and is a feather

in the cap of the Indian democracy.

Onam Sunil Singh, State Chief Information Commissioner, who presided over the function, highlighted the various tasks performed by the Manipur Information Commission to make RTI a people's movement. He said that the RTI act helps bring transparency in the government departments and also fights corruption.

Terming the RTI act as an anti-corruption weapon, Onam Sunil Singh urged both SPIOs and RTI activities to help the Commission in the implementa-

tion of the act. He further said that the Commission is giving more emphasis to the roles and duties of SPIOs in this year's RTI Week celebration.

Three resource persons – MD, Yasser Ahmed Khan, Deputy Secretary/Joint Director (MAHUD), Salam Shantikumar Singh, Deputy Inspector of Schools, Zone-II, Imphal East, and W. Joykumar Singh, Advocate/Co-convenor, Movement for People's Right to Information – spoke in the workshop on the topic, “RTI Act, 2005 – Issues and Challenges”.

As part of the RTI Week Celebration, the Manipur Information Commission and Kangpokpi District Administration are jointly organising a workshop at the Kangpokpi district headquarters on October 7. An essay competition on the RTI act is also being organized this month by the Commission along with the DM University, Imphal.

## 43 year old molester arrested

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

The perpetrator of the shocking molestation of a tuition-going girl, which was widely circulated on social media today, was arrested by a team of Imphal West District police led by Additional SP (Crime Against Woman) Ratana, including a team of Imphal PS led by OC IPS, a team of Cyber Cell IW under the supervision of Superintendent of Police, Imphal West.



The arrest comes after a social media post was seen circulated widely, especially on Facebook and Instagram,

in which a mid-age person who came in a two-wheeler sexually assaulted a girl who was going for tuition at

Keishampat Thiyam Leikai.

After examining the videos and the CCTV footage minutely and through other sources, the person was zeroed into one Haobam Ibomcha Singh (43) of Lalabung Makhong Takhellambam Leikai. Immediately, the team of police rushed to Lalabung area and arrested the person from his house. He has confessed to having committed the crime. A suo motto case has been registered at Imphal PS for taking legal action.

## YAS takes up measures to regulate entry to Khuman Lampak Sports Complex

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

The Department of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of Manipur, has taken the initiative to regulate entry and safeguard the sanctity of Khuman Lampak Sports Complex by restricting access to the complex to registered individuals. The Complex will, however, be accessible to professional sportspersons of the state, staff of YAS, State Kala

Academy, MOA, NSU, and other offices inside the Complex, including those staying in the Government quarters.

The fee structure for entry pass inside Khuman Lampak Sports Complex would be Rs. 100 per person for one month and Rs. 1200 per person for a 1 Year/Annual Entry Pass. The time slot for entry for March to September is from 4:30 am to 9:00 am and from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, whereas for October to

February, the time slot for entry is 4:30 am to 9:00 am and from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Individuals with a valid pass for the morning would be entitled to enter the facility only in the morning and vice versa.

As per the new measure by the department, no littering would be allowed inside the complex, and plastics/food/plastic bottles are to be strictly prohibited inside the complex.

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# Neglected and Desperate Elderly Generation



By: Vijay GarG

## Importance of elders in Indian culture

In foreign countries, the condition of the elderly is even worse. But in the context of India, this situation is more worrying because in Indian society, importance has always been given to the joint family, where the place of the elderly has been paramount. In today's changing era, in the desire of small and nuclear family, the concept of joint family is getting destroyed, due to which people are getting away from their elders, while children also love grandparents, maternal grandparents. Deprived of are happening.

A nationwide survey was conducted by 'Help Age India' to understand the massive changes in the income, health, safety, lifestyle of the elderly after Corona, which revealed that the elderly in India are largely neglected and desperate. According to the survey, about seventy one percent of the elderly in the country are not doing any kind of work and sixty one percent of the elderly felt that adequate and accessible employment opportunities are not available for them in the country. Loneliness or social isolation among the elderly in the bad times of the corona epidemic.

Due to this, the symptoms of fear and despair have increased, but the cases of suicide have also increased. The 'Global Age Watch Index' of ninety-six countries was released after a survey by the 'Help Age International Network of Charities', according to which about forty-four percent of the elderly believed that they were abused in public places, while about fifty-three percent of the elderly said that society discriminates against them. According to this report, Switzerland ranks in the world ranking of the best places in the world for the elderly.

The name is recorded as the best place, while the name of India comes under the category of worst place. India was ranked seventy-one in the Global Age Watch Index of ninety-six countries, which reflects the neglect of the elderly in India. Another survey revealed that due to the misbehavior of their own family, more than seventy-five percent of the elderly are victims of loneliness despite living in the family. More than eighty percent of the elderly live with their families, but most of them share with their daughter-in-law and son. They feel victimized. Cases of neglect of the elderly, however, are not limited to India alone.

In foreign countries, the condition of the elderly is even worse. But in the context of India, this situation is more worrisome because in Indian society, importance has always been given to the joint family, where the elderly have a paramount position. In today's changing times, in the desire of small and nuclear family, the concept of joint family is getting destroyed, due to which people are getting away from their elders, while children also go to grandparents, maternal grandparents being deprived of love.

Due to living alone, crimes against the elderly have started increasing, while children in small families do not get the company of elders of the family, their working style is also affected negatively. The elderly population in India was 10.4 crore in the year 2011 and about 116 crore in 2016 and it is estimated that it will increase to 179 million in 2026. Another estimate is that by 2050, there will be a billion people around the age of sixty-five in the world, most of whom the elderly will be in developing countries like India, because the population here is very high. Women will also be outnumbered among older people, as they often live longer than men.

The 'World Population Prospects 2019' stated that while one in every eleven people in the world in 2019 was over the age of sixty-five, by the year 2050, one out of every six people in the world would be over the age of sixty-five. Will be in such a situation, being serious about the various problems of the elderly and this age. In the last step, there is a dire need to take concrete steps to give them financial support. Being isolated, at risk, anxious and alone in the Corona era, the health hazards for the elderly have also increased greatly.

Some time ago, a study on more than five thousand elderly people in a month was conducted by a non-governmental organization 'Age well Foundation' regarding the problems of the elderly battling the Corona crisis. Health concerns, insomnia, fear, frustration, irritability, stress, nightmares were common among the elderly, the researchers said. Problems such as feelings of emptiness, fear of viral infection, loss of appetite and anxiety related to an uncertain future have increased. IIT Madras also conducted a survey on the health of the elderly, the report of which was published in the journal 'Globalization and Health'. According to this survey report, diabetes, blood pressure and cardiovascular diseases were found to be more common in the elderly. The shocking fact also came to the fore that only 18.9 percent of the elderly had access to health insurance and were spending more on health did not have the capacity.

In the era of corona epidemic, loneliness among the elderly has increased, which is proving to be very harmful for their health. Long-term isolation from society can cause many health problems in the elderly, such as depression and anxiety, excessive drinking or impaired brain function, dementia, etc., which can damage their immune system as well as their cardiovascular system. Experts worry about the fact that people die early due to loneliness, of the elderly. According to a report by IIT Madras on the situation, 27.5 percent of the population in India aged eighty years and above is sedentary and about seventy percent of the elderly are partially or completely financially dependent on others.

Although the Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme was started to some extent to overcome the financial problems of the elderly in the country and the Central Government would give two hundred rupees to every elderly person above the age of sixty years and the elderly above the age of ninety nine. Five hundred rupees to Monthly pension provision was made. Surprisingly, there has been no major change in the pension amount despite the continuous skyrocketing inflation. Although it was increased slightly by some states by adding some funds on their behalf in this central scheme, but in a report of the Pension Council, it has been told that even today about 5.8 crore people are not getting pension.

However, the society needs to be serious about the various problems of the elderly and help them to live a better life by becoming their support in adversity. There is a need to provide a positive environment. Even if the elderly become physically weak in old age, it is the duty of the family members to take care of them with full respect. Apart from various diseases in old age, it is normal for physical condition to change including problems like knee and joint pain and twisting of the spine. For the elderly to get relief from such problems, it is very important for them to get proper nutrition.

# The transformation of Education begins with Teachers

By: Sanjenbam Jugeshwor Singh

## World Teachers' Day is held on 5 October

To celebrate all teachers around the globe. It commemorates the anniversary of adoption of 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the status of Teachers, which sets benchmark regarding the rights and responsibilities of teachers and standards for their initial preparation and further education, recruitment, employment and teaching learning conditions. The Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher Education Teaching personnel was adopted in 1997 to complement the 1966 Recommendation by covering teaching personnel in higher education. World Teachers' Day has been celebrated since 1994. It is a day to celebrate how teachers are transforming education but also to reflect on the support they need to fully deploy their talent and vocation and to rethink the way ahead of for profession globally. World Teachers Day is co-convened in partnership with the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UBICEF and Education International (EI). Today, on World Teachers Day, we celebrate the critical role of teachers in transforming learners' potential by ensuring they have the tools they need to take responsibility for themselves, for others and for the planet. We call on countries to ensure that teachers are trusted and recognized as knowledge producers, reflective practitioners and policy partners.

The theme for World Teachers Day 2022 is "The transformation of education begins with teachers". Celebration will address the commitments and calls for action made at the Transforming Education Summit in September 2022 and analyses the implication they have for teachers and teaching. The three day celebration at UNESCO Headquarters will include the awarding ceremony of the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development and a series of events showcasing how guaranteeing teachers' decent working conditions, access to professional development opportunities and a recognized professional status is a first step towards more resilient education system. UNESCO is working to leverage the vital role of these primary change-agents.

**Mahatma Gandhi once said "I have always felt that the true textbook for the pupil is his teacher."** We interact and learn from various teachers from the moment we are born until the day we develop into

remarkable personalities and well-known leaders. Our parents are our primary teachers, followed by the teachers we encounter at school and the strangers we come across in life. World teacher's day is celebrated in appreciation of teachers globally. All teachers have something to teach us. Guru, coach, master, teacher, trainer, pandit, or instructor, these are some of the few titles we address our teachers with after our family teachers lay the foundation of our knowledge and perspective on life. Our school and college life's major highlights are the teachers and professors. Even famous people believe that instructors serve as our outside-the-home parents, role models, and sources of inspiration. They cheer for world teachers' day. They would not have accomplished so much in their life without their priceless lessons.

The single most significant element influencing how much kids learn is their teachers. Children are given the tools to analyze, solve problems, and apply information efficiently, thus they are given more than simply information. Nearly 85 million teachers are employed globally, with 9.4 million working in primary, 30.3 million in primary, 18.1 in lower secondary, 14.0 in upper secondary, and 12.5 in university education. Just for primary and secondary education, an extra 68.8 million teachers will be needed to be hired by 2030: 20 million are needed to increase access to primary and secondary education, and 49 million are needed to replace those who leave the job. In order to close the childcare gap, the global childcare workforce must grow by 32 million. According to research, a significant factor influencing children's learning and well-being is the caliber of their teachers. An increase in pupil learning over many school years can result from switching from a subpar instructor to a fantastic one. Additionally, excellent instructors have a significant effect on students' overall well-being throughout their life, influencing not only their academic performance but also other long-term social and occupational results. However, a sizable portion of kids lacks access to qualified teachers. A survey conducted in six Sub-Saharan African nations revealed three alarming truths. First, because of frequent teacher absences, kids only receive 2.5 hours and 50 minutes of instruction each day, or

slightly over half the allotted time. The most obvious sign that a teacher does not value student-teacher interaction for learning is when they are absent from class. Second, just 84% of grade 4 instructors have attained the required level of curriculum understanding. Third, less than one in ten teachers engage in effective teaching techniques like routinely assessing for comprehension and giving feedback. Similar quality difficulties are found in studies conducted in Afghanistan, India, Pakistan, Peru, and Tanzania in various contexts.

*It is substantial for countries to focus on efficient teaching strategies. An innovative learning environment needs to be urgently created for students to get attracted to learning concepts.* On this world teachers day, it is important to highlight that the poor education system and lack of facilities are not the faults of teachers. Poor teaching is not the responsibility of the teachers; rather, it is the outcome of system-level policies that fail to properly manage, support, recruit, prepare, and encourage teachers. Several nations, like Finland, Japan, and Singapore, have a strong teacher population. Most other nations lack internal consistency or have poor teacher policies. Entry requirements for teacher preparation programs may not be very selective, and they may be significantly less stringent than those for other professions. It's possible that good teacher performance won't be praised or rewarded. Politics or clientelism may taint the employment or promotion of teachers. Teachers who are ill-equipped and undertrained may be expected to teach a challenging subject that they themselves find difficult to understand. Covid-19 changed the discussion that happened every year about teachers' day. Since Covid-19, every world teachers day, its effects are discussed and highlighted. The crisis has been worse with Covid-19. The pandemic has made it difficult for educational systems to maintain learning continuity, significantly raising the expectations of teachers. More than ever, education systems need effective teachers who support and facilitate learning rather than simply imparting information; who combine in-person and digital methods to deliver lessons; who encourage creative thinking, communication, and collaboration; and who in-

still a love of learning as well as the ability to persevere and exercise self-control.

Teachers will face the difficulty of quickly assessing pupils' understanding as schools progressively reopen in order to spot any gaps in their knowledge and adjust their instruction to meet the needs of each individual student. In addition, as students will be returning to school after a particularly stressful period, they will need to offer psychological support and manage their own stress. Being a good teacher is extremely challenging and demanding, especially today. World Teachers Day, commonly referred to as International Teachers Day, is today. Families from all across the world will join together today i.e. the 5<sup>th</sup> October to express their gratitude for the teachers who have impacted their lives. This year on world teachers' day 2022, let's appreciate that teachers have gone above and beyond to ensure that their pupils enjoy a safe and educational environment at school. Our lives are greatly impacted by our teachers. Their contribution is incomparable to words. They've always been there to guide students in the proper direction. The only appropriate way to honour them is to observe Teachers Day. The importance of world teachers' day is recognized globally. India has its own teacher's day along with world teachers' day. In India, teachers' day is commemorated on September 5, which marks the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. The illustrious teacher also served as India's first Vice President and second President. We commemorate September 5 as a day to honour Dr. Radhakrishnan and all of the teachers across the country who work hard to support kids' learning. Reminding us of the significance of teachers and educators in our lives is what makes Teachers' Day so important. It's a day to give thanks for all we have learned and to honour the role teachers have played in our lives. The holiday provides an opportunity to express gratitude to the educators and teachers who help mould the futures of their students. Teachers not only provide knowledge and ideals but also help us overcome obstacles and build a solid foundation. Teachers inspire many of us and help to mould our future.

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# Myanmar can't violate its neighbour Bangladesh's sovereignty

By: Mehjabin Bhanu

Despite strong protests, Myanmar continues to violate the border. A week after firing mortar shells on the Bangladesh border, the Myanmar forces again fired from warplanes on the Bangladesh border. Yesterday (On September 03), two shells fired by the Myanmar army exploded in Bangladesh territory near the zero line of the Naikshyongchari border in Bandarban. Although it exploded within 120 meters of the terrain, no one was injured or injured in the incident. In the morning, the place where the two bullets fell is an uninhabited area. 6 days before this incident, on August 28, mortar shells landed in the populated area of Ghumdhumpara, north of Naikshyongchari. But it did not explode. With two such incidents in a row and ongoing fighting between Myanmar's insurgent group Arakan Army (AA) and Myanmar's security forces, the local residents of the Bangladesh border are suffering from fear and insecurity. Those who cultivate jum (One kind of cultivation method in the hilly area) in the

hills adjacent to the border are staying at home instead of farming. Security analysts said that such incidents are disrupting the normal life of the residents of the border areas.

According to the information published in the international media, recently, fierce clashes are going on between the Myanmar army and the Arakan Army, a separatist organization of Rakhine, in the area adjacent to the border post No. 38 of Mangu, Myanmar, on the Bangladesh-Myanmar border.

On August 28, a mortar shell fired by the Myanmar army hit the Bandarban border with Bangladesh, causing panic among the local residents of the border area and the Rohingyas who had taken shelter.

Apart from the burning of two trees, no one was harmed, but in the ongoing conflict between the Myanmar army and the country's separatist group, the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (Arsa), the Myanmar army fired from a helicopter on the border. On August 29, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh strongly protested this.

They are a security risk. The government needs to send a strong message to the Myanmar government to protest this diplomatically.

According to media reports, local residents said that for the past few weeks, firing has been going on at Walidong Hills near the RejuAmtili border in Ghumdhum Union of Naikshyongchari Upazila. At around 9 am yesterday, heavy gunfire was heard across border pillars 40 and 41 (in Myanmar territory). At this time, two war planes and two war helicopters dropped bombs in the Walidong hilly area. Residents of No Man's Land (Rohingya) have reported that they have been hearing sporadic gunfire across the border in Myanmar for the past few days. Ghumdhum Union Parishad chairman of Naikshyongchari.

Since yesterday morning (September 03), Myanmar army helicopters are seen flying in Tumbru border area. Gunshots are heard. Local residents are in panic. There is panic among the local residents. It is very hard to make them aware so that they don't get scared. However, being a

border area, BGB takes care of everything.

Two shells fired by them landed within Bangladesh about 120 meters of the zero line near border pillar number 40. Apart from this, heavy gunfire was heard in the territory of Myanmar from Tumbru area of border pillars 34 and 35 of Ward No. 1 of Ghumdhum Union. The Myanmar Border Guard Police (BGP) Tumbru Right Camp is located there. Basically, the firing is going on around that camp of BGP. Gunshots are also heard from Muringajhiri BGP border post. Meanwhile, on August 28, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. AK Abdul Momen said, we have come here with lost purpose. We also asked them about this. They said that they will be careful so that such incidents do not happen in the future. At that time, Foreign Secretary Masud Bin Momen told reporters that the incident of the unexploded mortar shell falling on the Bangladesh border will be investigated whether it was an accident or intentional.

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Letters, Feedback and Suggestions to 'Imphal Times'

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# Election Commission asks parties to explain how they plan to finance poll promises, draws Opposition fire

Agency  
New Delhi, Oct 5:

Amid a raging debate on the financial implication of freebies promised by political parties during elections — or the revdi culture referred to by Prime Minister Narendra Modi — the Election Commission of India Tuesday wrote to parties proposing that they spell out ways and means of raising additional resources to finance the promises, and the impact it would have on the fiscal sustainability of the state or the Central government.

Floating a consultation paper, the EC, in its letter to all recognised national and state parties, has prescribed a standardised disclosure proforma for them to declare quantification of the physical coverage of the schemes promised, financial implications of the promise and availability of the financial resources. The EC has

asked the parties to furnish their views by October 19.

The proforma seeks details of the extent and expanse of the coverage of the promised scheme (for instance whether it would be universal, for below the poverty line families or community specific) quantification of physical coverage and financial implications, availability of financial resources, and ways and means of raising resources for meeting the additional expenditure to be incurred in fulfilling the promises.

The parties will have to detail how they propose to raise the additional resources to finance the scheme or schemes if voted to power — like whether they plan an increase in tax and non-tax revenues, rationalise expenditure, go for additional borrowings or do it in any other manner.

The impact of the additional resource raising plan for fulfilling the promises on fiscal

sustainability of the State or the Union Government will also have to be specified.

The debate on freebies has already divided the political spectrum. The EC's move drew a sharp reaction from the main Opposition Congress which said "this is simply not the business of the EC. It goes against the very essence and spirit of competitive politics and will be yet another nail on the coffin of democracy in India".

The RJD, DMK and Shiv Sena too criticised the move. While the AIADMK took a cautious stand, the CPM said it will wait for the EC communication before it formulates its view.

The EC said that disclosure of the promises in a prescribed format will bring in standardisation in the nature of information and help voters compare and make an informed decision. To make these steps mandatory, the EC plans to pro-

pose an amendment to the relevant clauses in the Model Code of Conduct.

In its letter, the EC said that while the existing guidelines under the Model Code of Conduct require the political parties and candidates to "explain the rationale for promises" made as well as "possible ways and means to finance such promises," it has found that the declarations are "quite routine, ambiguous and do not provide adequate information to voters to exercise informed choice in an election".

The EC recalled that the Supreme Court had examined the issue in the Subramaniam Balaji case and, in 2013, had directed it to frame guidelines in consultation with the political parties to explore the possibility of including the election manifestoes released by the parties to be included in the MCC. Following the court directive, the EC had issued fresh guidelines in 2015.

# India logs 2,468 new Covid cases, 17 deaths in last 24 hours

Agency  
New Delhi, Oct 5:

India recorded 2,468 new coronavirus infections, raising the tally to 4,46,01,934, while the active cases declined to 33,318, the Union Health Ministry said on Wednesday.

The death toll climbed to 5,28,733 with 17 more fatalities, which included nine deaths reconciled by Kerala, data updated by the ministry at 8 am stated.

The active cases comprise 0.07 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate increased to 98.74 per cent, the ministry said.

A decline of 1,280 cases

has been recorded in the active COVID-19 case count in a span of 24 hours, it said.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.32 per cent and the weekly positivity rate at 1.32 per cent, according to the ministry.

The number of people who have recuperated from the disease surged to 4,40,39,883, while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry, 218.83 crore doses of coronavirus vaccine have been administered in the country so far under the nationwide COVID-19 inoculation 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, 2020. The country crossed the grim milestone of two crore cases on May 4, three crore cases on June 23 last year and four crore cases on January 25 this year.

The eight fatalities reported in the past 24 hours included two from Maharashtra, and one each from Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal, the data showed.

# RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat cites imbalance, calls for 'comprehensive population control policy'

Agency  
Nagpur, Oct 5:

Speaking at a Dussehra rally in Nagpur Wednesday, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat flagged the need for a "comprehensive population control policy" that applies to all "equally", and added it was in national interest to keep an eye on "population imbalance".

"There should be a comprehensive population control policy, which should apply to all equally, and once it is put in motion, no one should get any concessions," Bhagwat said.

On why such a policy was needed, Bhagwat said, "A few years ago, the fertility rate was 2.1. We did better than the world expected and we have come down to 2. But coming further down could be detrimental. Children learn social behaviour from the family, and for that, you need numbers in the family. You need people of your age, you need those older to you, and also those younger. When population stops increasing, societies dis-

appear, and languages disappear."

The RSS chief also spoke about the need for balance in the population, stating it was in national interest to keep an eye on population imbalance, which creates a divide in the country.

"When there was imbalance (in the population) 50 odd years ago, we suffered serious consequences. It hasn't just happened to us. In today's time, new countries such as East Timor, South Sudan and Kosovo have been created. So, when there is a population imbalance, new nations are created. Countries are divided."

He added that apart from the birth rate, "conversion by force and allurements is the biggest factor" resulting in this population imbalance. "Infiltration from across the border is also responsible. So, it is in the national in-

terest to keep an eye on this imbalance," Bhagwat said.

He also stated that the population of a country, if "used correctly", is "not a burden, rather a means". "People keep saying that we have too large a population and unless we control its growth, nothing can be achieved. This is not the complete truth... We have a demographic dividend. China is getting old. We are going to remain young for the next 30 years."

He added that the policy needs to be brought with determination to ensure that society accepts it. "If the society does not accept it, then the policy will not work. If society is told about its benefits, it will accept it without any hiccups. But why it has to be done for the country... why such sacrifice is to be made, that also the society must accept."

# One more prestigious award conferred on Prof Yunus

IT Correspondent  
Guwahati, Oct 5:

The lone Nobel laureate of Bangladesh, who is popularly known as banker to the poor, Professor Muhammad Yunus has been awarded with Karl Kübel Prize of Germany for his extraordinary and multifaceted commitment to families all over the world. The Karl Kübel Foundation for Child and Family honoured the Bangladeshi economist, who conceptualized the small loans to women borrowers without any collateral, with the prestigious award in Bensheim on 30 September 2022.

"Prof Yunus had made it possible for the children and families of his female customers to lead a better life. He is truly a game changer and hope cre-



ator," said Dr Kerstin Humberg of Karl Kübel Foundation, adding that the creator of Grameen Bank of Bangladesh is a great source of hope in times of global crises spanning from the Covid-19 pandemic and global warming to new wars.

Pointing out parallels between philanthropist Karl Kübel

and Muhammad Yunus, Dr Humberg stated that both pursued social goals through entrepreneurial means as early as the 1980s and deliberately focusing on helping people to help themselves. Yunus and Kübel are pioneers in entrepreneurial development cooperation, she added.

Founded in 1972 by entre-

preneur Karl Kübel, the well-known foundation for children and families, works according to the principle of helping people to help themselves and supports disadvantaged people in Germany and abroad. Headquartered in Bensheim, the foundation has been supporting children and their parents worldwide for 50 years.

Speaking to this writer from Dhaka, Prof Yunus reiterated that poverty must vanish from society, and it should be taken to the museum so that the coming generation can study various issues related to poverty in their classrooms. 'If the human race can develop so many things with modern technologies, it can definitely create a better world for the millions of poverty-stricken families, if it wants.

Contd. from Page 2

# Myanmar can't violate its neighbour Bangladesh's....

Besides, he said, the Myanmar ambassador has been called. He was strongly reprimanded through a note verbal. May this kind of incident not happen again. We also condemned the incident that happened. Bangladesh must be careful at all borders but it must be more careful at Myanmar border. Because Bangladesh must be very vocal about one thing so that no one can enter Bangladesh again due to this incident. The risk to the border communities due to shelling, the risk remains if we are not careful.

Bangladesh authority is vigilant as well as patrolling. However, there must be a matter of further investigation. And any ammunition used in war is more or less dangerous. If their shells are found in Bangladesh territory, then first of all there is a need to protest diplomatically. Besides, the government needs to send a strong message to the Myanmar government. If such incidents happen, the life of hill people will be disrupted. They suffer from insecurity.

But Bangladesh does not want to step into any provocation. Because Myanmar can take

a strategic advantage if they can lead to such issues. There may be an attempt to put the blame on Bangladesh for the problem Bangladesh is facing with the Rohingyas. The international community knows Bangladesh's true intentions.

According to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh's ambassador to Myanmar has decided to protest to the country's government. Besides, the respective border has been sealed so that no citizen of Myanmar can enter Bangladesh.

According to Bangladesh Border Guard (BGB), after the incident of shelling, intelligence surveillance has been increased along with the strengthening of security patrols at the border. BGB members are on alert.

Shelling of another country inside a country is a clear violation of international law. Bangladesh should increase border surveillance while maintaining military capabilities. To prevent the recurrence of this incident, it should be resolved through diplomatic channels. However, if it happens again, we believe that there will be a counter-response.

The army's operation within

eight kilometers of the border is a violation of international law. But they (Myanmar) are not accepting it, on the contrary they are repeatedly entering into Bangladesh. Therefore, Bangladesh should raise the issue in the international arena and conduct diplomatic activities instead of just expressing formal protest.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen said that Myanmar is again trying to infiltrate the Rohingyas. No more Rohingyas will be allowed to cross the border into Bangladesh, no matter how much provocation is given by Myanmar shelling.

A separatist organization called Arakan Army is stationed there, which has occupied that area. The Myanmar Army is constantly clashing with them. It is illegal to shoot at the border of Bangladesh; it is a violation of international law. Bangladesh now has to see whether the shelling was deliberate or a result of their clash.

However, considering the situation, it seems that Myanmar is not intentionally firing at Bangladesh. In this case, Bangladesh should maintain its

military capability and resolve it through diplomatic channels so that no bullets come in the future. Bangladesh should increase surveillance on the border. The easier it is to raise military tension, the harder it is to defuse it.

Bangladesh must protest strongly the occurrence with Myanmar in order to prevent it from happening again. Bangladesh has vehemently denounced the incident as well. However, combating insurgency is a Myanmar-specific concern. In any case, Myanmar cannot violate Bangladesh's sovereignty under the pretext of an accident. International law must be respected by Myanmar. Myanmar must respect the sovereignty of Bangladesh. Such a persistent attitude has the potential to harm bilateral ties and destabilize the entire area. Myanmar needs to keep in mind that Bangladesh has strong military capabilities as well. Bangladesh also has geostrategic advantages. The incident bodes ill not only for Bangladesh and Myanmar but also for regional stability. Bangladesh has been bearing the burden of 1.2 mil-

lion Myanmar's citizens. As a neighbour, despite having neighbourly respect of Bangladesh towards Myanmar, Myanmar don't show minimum neighbourly attitude to Bangladesh. This is unexpected.

The current state of Bangladesh-Myanmar ties is extremely delicate. There is no doubt that bilateral issues arise out of national interest and national security considerations. Continuous violating border in particular, has become a national security issue for Bangladesh. However, Myanmar must have friendship and neighbourhood policy towards Bangladesh.

The situation is being monitored along with strengthening security patrols. BGB members are on high alert. Dhaka strongly protested. Earlier, Dhaka had expressed anger over Myanmar's warplanes exercising in Bangladesh's airspace. BGB and law enforcement agencies are alert and intelligence surveillance has been increased near the Bangladesh-Myanmar border.

(The author is a female school teacher in Bangladesh)

# Declaration

I, the undersigned Thangjam Tartarchand Singh (52 yrs) son of late Th. Kulabidhu Singh, a resident of Khurai Thangjam Leikai, Imphal East do hereby declare that I have renounced, relinquished and abandoned all form of relationship with my 22 years old son Thangjam Ringku Singh as both my wife (Thangjam Sarda Devi, age 50) and me can no longer tolerate the kind atrocities and harassment committed by him.

We as parents have no relation with our 22 years old Thangjam Ringku Singh and any crime or mischief committed by Thangjam Ringku is his own act and we no longer will take no responsibility as we have cut off all form of relations with him.

Sd/-  
Thangjam Tartarchand Singh and  
Thangjam Sarda Devi

# Vehicle Document lost

I, the undersigned have lost all documents of my newly procured Activa vehicle (two Wheeler). The engine number of my vehicle is JF91E-W01112012 and the chassis number is #ME4J-913HLW112404# at Moreh town on October 1, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
Soibam Abem  
Moreh Ward No. 7  
Tengnoupal district, Manipur

# Vehicle Document lost

I, the undersigned have lost all documents of my newly procured TVS-N-TORQ vehicle (two Wheeler). The engine number of my vehicle is AK3BL2400183 and the chassis number is #MD626AK34L2B00272# at Moreh town on October 1, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-  
M. Nanao  
Moreh Ward No. 9  
Tengnoupal district, Manipur

# Army helicopter crashes in Tawang, one pilot dead

Agency  
Tawang, Oct 5:

One Army personnel died, and another was injured following a helicopter crash near Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh. "An army aviation Cheetah helicopter flying in the forward

area near Tawang crashed on October 5 (today) at around 10:00 AM during a routine sortie. Both pilots were evacuated to nearest Military Hospital. One of the pilots, Lt Col Saurabh Yadav, who was critically injured, succumbed to the injuries during treatment. The

second pilot is under medical treatment. The cause of the crash at this stage is not known. Details are being ascertained," the army informed. At the time of filing this report, there was no information on whether any civilian had been injured in the inci-

dent. This is not the first helicopter crash in Tawang. In 2017, five IAF crew members and two Army officers were killed after an Airforce's Mi-17 V5 helicopter crashed. The chopper was on an air maintenance mission when it crashed.

# Congress, TMC lose chairmanship of Parliamentary committees, 6 key panels under BJP and allies now

Agency  
New Delhi, Oct 5:

The Centre on Tuesday reshuffled the posts of chairpersons of key parliamentary panels, PTI reported. With the changes, the Congress and Trinamool Congress no longer hold charge of any major panels.

Currently, the chairpersons of the six major parliamentary committees—home, IT, defence, external affairs, finance and health—belong to the Bharatiya Janata Party and its allies. Congress was given charge of the panel on science and technology, forests and climate change. Congress MP Abhishek

Manu Singhvi was replaced by BJP MP Brij Lal as the chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who is contesting the party's presidential polls, has been replaced by Shiv Sena MP from the Eknath Shinde faction, Prataprao Jadhav, as the head of the Parliamentary Panel on

Information Technology. The Trinamool Congress, which headed the Parliamentary Panel on Food and Consumer Affairs, did not get to head any committee. Leaders from the Congress and the Trinamool Congress rebuked the BJP-led Centre for not distributing posts to main panels.

# Assam Rifles conducts wreath laying ceremony

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

Mantripukhri Battalion, under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a wreath-laying ceremony yesterday for G/47061H Rfn/GD (Late) Samu

Singh, of 4 Assam Rifles who attained martyrdom during an attack on the ROP party near Tadubi - Imphal road (Manipur) on 04 Oct 1962. In retaliation to the insurgent ambush, Late Samu sustained gunshot wounds and suc-

cumbed to his injuries, thereby laying down his life as a supreme sacrifice for the nation. Modi Battalion, under the aegis of IGAR(S), organised a wreath-laying ceremony yesterday to pay tribute to Nk(Late) Tara Singh, who laid down his

life in the line of duty and attained martyrdom on 04 Oct 1995 during an encounter firing in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. The Battalion also reached out to the NOK of the braveheart, presented mementos and token of remembrance.

# Navarati festival concludes

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

9 days Navarati festival celebrated by Central Welfare Wife's Association (CWWA) CRPF Manipur-Nagaland at CRPF Langling concluded yesterday. CWWA is an organization formed by the families of CRPF personnel to assist the family of CRPF at time of hardship and to support the children of the CRPF personnel.

During the closing day Manipur film actor Soma Laishram, Fashion Designer Kumari Laishram and top officials of the CRPF were attended during the function.



## Sports

# India announce 21-member squad for FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

Agency  
Bhubaneswar, Oct 5:

Head coach Thomas Dennerby on Wednesday named a 21-member Indian squad for the FIFA U-17 women's World Cup, scheduled to begin here on October 11.

Hosts India have been drawn in Group A alongside USA, Morocco and Brazil.

They will face the USA on October 11, followed by matches against Morocco and Brazil on October 14 and October 17 respectively, at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

"It's a new situation for everyone. India have never played in the World Cup before. This is a different ball game altogether," Dennerby said. "It's a unique chance to show everyone that we have prepared well and will not allow anyone to run over us." The prestigious tournament will be held in Bhubaneswar, Margao in Goa, and Navi Mumbai from October 11-30.

The Kalinga Stadium will host three pool matches of



India. "When you are on the field, everything is held back

behind and you just have to focus on the game. That's what the girls need to do.

"We are not going into the tournament as the favourites. I believe the pressure then is on the opponents," the head coach said.

Pointing out the importance of performing well on the pitch, Dennerby said: "The performance is key for us. And I hope the girls are not much nervous and will play with confidence. You can't be nervous and perform at the same time. It's time to get the ball rolling."

**The Squad:** Goalkeepers: Monalisa Devi Moirangthem, Melody Chanu Keisham, Anjali Munda.

Defenders: Astam Oraon, Kajal, Naketa, Purnima Kumari, Varshika, Shilky Devi Hemam.

Midfielders: Babina Devi Lisham, Nitu Linda, Shailja, Shubhangi Singh.

Forwards: Anita Kumari, Lynda Kom Serto, Neha, Rejiya Devi Laishram, Shelia Devi Loktongbam, Kajol Hubert Dsouza, Lavanya Upadhyay, Sudha Ankita Turkey.

# Amit Tonk wins Indian hair style icon 2022 organised by Streax Professional Times



IT News  
Imphal, Oct 5:

Amit Tonk from Manipur has won the India hair style icon 2022 organised by Streax Professional Times.

In a meeting with reporters at Manipur Press Club today, Amit Tonk said that the final round was held in Mumbai St. Regis hotel on October 2, and

he came first and received Rs 5 lakh and a trip to Paris for fashion week 2023. He bagged an annual contract with Streax Professional and portfolio coverage at The Times of India, Femina and Grazia. It was a national competition with participants from different states, and the semi-finals were held in Guwahati. The competition

starts in March. It was Bombay fashion week, which happens once every three years. It was a kind of competition that gathered professional hairdressers from across the country for an opportunity to showcase their talent.

This trophy is for the young generation. Now he is working at New Larc salon Sangaiprou.

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# 'Unabated extortion' led to....

The insurgent outfit, which is holding peace talks with the Centre, went so far as to publish an "Annual Budget Proposal for the Fiscal Year 2021-22" in which it sought to collect Rs 8.89 crore by way of 'market/shop tax,' transport, cement,

chicken feed, poultry, piggery and other businesses. **Threat from NSCN (IM) splinter group**

Home ministry sources said the Centre continues to hold talks with the NSCN (Isak-Muivah) group, which is

"deeply" involved in imposing "taxes," a euphemism for extortion in some states of the north-east. However, the AFSPA extension is because of threat posed by a splinter faction of the NSCN (IM) led by the outfit's former 'commander-in-chief.

# RTI Week celebration....

Use of any intoxicants is to be strictly prohibited inside the complex, and can be jailed as per the law of the land. Plucking of flowers/fruits/plants/saplings inside the complex will be fined, and engraving/writing on any walls/surface prohibited & will be fined.

This latest measure by the Department of Youth Affairs and Sports is for the people of Manipur and the sporting talents. To regulate the entry and

safeguard the sanctity of the Khuman Lampak Sports Complex, the Department is taking the initiative of charging a minimal membership fee which will go towards the maintenance of the Complex.

Besides this, the Department has also taken up innumerable initiatives for the upliftment of sports in the state. The drafting of the State Youth Policy is under-way to help enhance the role of youths in the state, and initia-

tive has been taken up to implement the Sports Code as per the guidelines of the Government of India. Cash incentives to promising sportspersons and medalists have been announced as a reward for their efforts in bringing laurels to the state and the country. The Department is also in discussion with various stakeholders to develop the Khuman Lampak Sports Complex and other sports stadia into world-class facilities.

# India thrash Maldives 5-0 in AFC U-17 Asian Cup Qualifiers

Agency  
Al Khobar, Oct 5:

India kicked off their AFC U-17 Asian Cup 2023 Qualifiers in style, thrashing Maldives 5-0 at the Prince Saud Bin Jalawi Stadium here on Tuesday.

Captain Vanlalpeka Guite, Lalhmingchhuanga Fanai, Aman, Bobby Singh, Phoenix Oinam scored a goal each to

make it a five-star performance for India.

India got off on the front foot, with Huzafah and Bobby orchestrating attacks down the left flank.

The Blue Colts came close to opening the scoring in the ninth minute, when a Vanlalpeka Guite corner from the left was almost turned in by Faizan. However, the ball went agonisingly close to the

goal, travelling parallel to the goal line, before going out of play.

It did not take them too long to score the first though, as captain Guite ran on to a low cross from the right and slot it home.

Fanai doubled the lead in the 24th minute, when he tried his luck from long range, as the ball took a deflection and sailed past the Maldives keeper.

# 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](mailto:imphaltimesessaycomp@gmail.com) in MS Word or PDF format.

Team Imphal Times