

MSPDCL provides incomplete and manipulated documents in connection with the Saubhagya scheme

Hiding or concealing information is punishable under the RTI Act, 2005

IT News
Imphal, Sept 24:

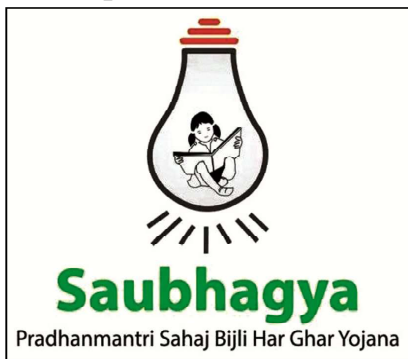
The Manipur State Power Distribution Company Limited provided incomplete documents in connection with the Saubhagya scheme after failing to provide information within the time frame set by the Manipur Information Commission.

During the MIC hearing on September 21, 2022, the MSPDCL provided documents which was sought by team Imphal Times. After thoroughly examining the provided documents, it was found that MSPDCL had provided some incomplete copies of transportation documents and measurement books for the districts of Ukhrul, Senapati, Thoubal, Chandel, and

Churchandpur, but no single copies of transportation documents and measurement books for the districts of Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishnupur, and Tamenglong were provided.

Most copies of transport challans, delivery challans, and dispatch documents for the districts of Ukhrul, Senapati, Thoubal, Chandel, and Churchandpur were not furnished for reasons best known to MSPDCL officials. Hiding or concealing information is punishable under the RTI Act of 2005, and the Commission should take appropriate action.

The measurement books (MBs) for Imphal West District, Imphal East District, Bishnupur District, and Tamenglong District are not provided or maybe deliberately left out by



MSPDCL officials. Furthermore, no records of bill passing or payment details were found in the MBs provided by MSPDCL officials for the districts of Ukhrul, Senapati, Thoubal,

Chandel, and Churachandpur. This indicates that the copies of MBs provided to team Imphal Times have been manipulated, and they must be verified and checked

against the corresponding original MBs.

Furthermore, the work order/LOA for the districts that the MSPDCL provided did not include the entire set of documents, which we, at Team Imphal Times believe was done on purpose by MSPDCL officials. All Work Orders/LOAs provided by the MSPDCL lack details about the item of work, specifically Annexure-A. This act of concealment by MSPDCL officials clearly demonstrates their genuine conspiracy and manipulation.

Consequent to their inability to provide the complete and accurate documents as requested by Imphal Times, a complaint has been filed with the MIC against the MSPDCL for this act.

Centre withdraws incentives, allowances to AIS Officers working in North-East

New Delhi, Sept 24:

The Centre has decided to withdraw multiple incentives and allowances given to the All India Service Officers for posting in the North-East states.

As per a letter issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) on Friday, special incentives and allowances being granted to AIS officers posted in North East States be withdrawn with immediate effect. The letter has been addressed to all the State chief secretaries.

It said that the additional monetary incentives given to the All India service officers will be withdrawn. The additional monetary allowance was introduced in 2009.

AIS officers comprise Indian Administrative Service (IAS), Indian Police Service (IPS) and Indian Forest Service

(IFS). As per DoPT earlier order, officers belonging to the Assam-Meghalaya joint cadre, Sikkim, Nagaland, Tripura and Manipur cadres were entitled to a special allowance of additional 25 per cent basic pay and a few other incentives for posting in the Northeast.

The letter said that the post-retirement housing facility which was introduced in the year 2007 for officers belonging to NE cadres shall be withdrawn.

As per the order, the incentive of reimbursement of payable Income Tax to Tribal All India Service officers belonging to the North-East Cadres while on central deputation has been withdrawn.

Moreover, the order on flexible inter-cadre deputation for officers of NE cadres that was consolidated in 2017 has also been discontinued.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi to launch 5G services in India on October 1

New Delhi, Sept 24:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate 5G services in the country at India Mobile Congress at Pragati Maidan on 1 October.

In a tweet, the National Broadband Mission, under Ministry of Communications, said, "Taking India's digital transformation & connectivity to new heights,"

Hon'ble PM, @narendramodi, will roll out 5G services in India; at India Mobile Congress; Asia's

largest technology exhibition."

Subsequently, on the official website of India Mobile Congress, it was stated that the inauguration of the event and launch of 5G services will be done by PM Modi.

India Mobile Congress (IMC), which claims to be the largest telecom, media, and technology forum in Asia, is jointly organised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI). IMC 2022, planned

from October 1-4, will focus on "the evolution path of existing technology and what it holds for businesses and individuals for the future through meaningful dialogues".

Earlier, Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had stated that India is gearing up for the roll out of 5G services by October. He had also added that 5G services will be scaled up after launch and should reach every part of the country in the next two to three

years.

PM Modi, in his Independence Day speech, spoke on 5G and said that the service would offer 10 times faster speeds and would soon start in India. Indian villages would get access to optical fibre and soon the internet would reach the remotest part of the country, he further stated.

In terms of speed, the thumb rule for 5G is 100 Mbps, though it may vary. The broad consensus for 4G is that it is in the range of 60-70 Mbps. Apart from high-speed

data, 5G also has the potential to enable several enterprise-level solutions such as machine-to-machine communications, connected vehicles, and more immersive augmented reality and metaverse experiences, among others.

Earlier in August, Department of Telecom received total bids worth Rs 1.50 lakh crore from the spectrum auction.

Reliance Jio, Adani group, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea were the four major participants in the spectrum auction.

AR apprehends OGW of PLA

IT News
Imphal, Sept 24:

Loktak Battalion under the aegis of IGAR (S) apprehended one active OGW of PLA from Kwakta Bazaar of Bishnupur district, Manipur today.

Based on specific input from reliable sources, troops of Assam Rifles along with representatives of Commando Police from Bishnupur launched an operation which led to the apprehension.

The OGW was reportedly involved in various UG activities to include recruitment of youths and extortion from local populace in the region.

This apprehension is seen as a major success in the region during upcoming festival season and recent numerous inputs of IED attacks by the group.

The insurgent was handed over to Phaubakchao Police Station for further investigation.

RPF Prez greets people on the occasion of 44th Raising Day of PLA

IT News
Imphal, Sept 24:

Proscribed group Revolutionary People's Front (RPF) greets the people of the state on occasion of 44th Raising Day of the Peoples Liberation Army (PLA). RPF President Irengbam Chaoen wishing the people of the state, paying deepest respect to all the martyrs who laid down their precious lives in the course of the revolutionary movement, on the occasion of the 44th Raising Day of the People's Liberation Army, the Party extends its unbound respect and gratitude to the people of Manipur, said a press release.

The press release states, "Love for freedom, dignity, and a desire to live as an independent nation is the most treasured aspiration of every person in the world. It was in the light of these values; the government of India in November 1991 endorsed its stand at the United Nations General Assembly to end colonialism before the end of the 20th century. However, India's double

standards lay bare as it has neither discuss nor endorsed the question of Manipur's colonization by India till date. Instead, it has been dominating over the sovereignty of Manipur by harping of draconian laws like the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 till date."

Expressive of its dubious design, India has misled the international community by wrongfully projecting free ancient Kingdom of Manipur as its integral part while orchestrating to discredit the ongoing liberation movement of Manipur as 'separatist'. This is a self-evident wrongful obliterating propaganda of India. The existence of Manipur as a distinctive political entity is evidenced by the fact that M.K. Velody, Secretary, Ministry of State, India officially announced Manipur as a part of the Indian Union only on 15th October, 1949. On this day, the independent Manipur State Assembly and the then Council of Ministers was dissolved by belittling Manipur to a Part C status under the leadership of

a Chief Commissioner which is a testimony to India's annexation of Manipur in 1949. It is for the same reason that India owes to live up to what it had endorsed at the UN General Assembly in 1991 and retreat itself from occupying Manipur by restoring the lost political independence of Manipuri people under the established provisions of United Nations.

It is noteworthy to remind ourselves that on several occasions the Government of India has expressly shown its unwillingness to accept the cause of Manipur's liberation. Successive governments and mainstream people of India have resolutely stood against the rights of self-determination in the name of India's unity. A pertinent point that the people of India should remember is that Manipur's reverting back to its independent status is not to be construed as anti-theoretical to India's integrity. Manipur became an international treaty making power in 1826, 28 February when it was involved in a British and Burma treaty pre-

ceding India which is an obvious example that Manipur's existence as an independent State preceded India. Even prior to this, on 14th September 1762 Manipur and the British East India signed a Defense Treaty while another historic agreement was signed between the British and Manipur in April 1833 resulting in the boundary mapping of Jiri and Western areas of the Barak River. The historicity of Manipur's international treaty making power was witnessed again during the third Burmese War, the Maharaja of Manipur Chakrakirti and Governor General of India reached an agreement to help each other.

Moreover, Manipur had been different from Indian society of which Manipur was a nation of high distinctive social characters which has abode distinct language, culture, tradition, and distinct identity. In the years after the Second World War, it is a well-known fact that the number of independent nations was just 51 in the year 1945 which has

increased to 193 today. Comparatively among the galaxy of independent nations Manipur deservingly stands as a discrete political entity with independent history and constitutional system. For the last 2000 years Manipur has a recorded civilizational national yearning. In its civilizational progression there reflects a sense of community of having lived through momentous journey of collective struggle.

However, the present day degradation of collective life in Manipur and its inability to live upto its civilizational legacy is due to the hegemonic power patronage enforced by Indian state. If such a situation is to linger on the future of Manipur is at stake for it is to certainly worsen. The only way out is to ensure a vision and political life where the people of Manipur shall have their exclusive and independent rights over their national resources and adoption of new horizon of development by abrogating India's unwarranted colonial interference in Manipur.

contd. on page 4

Fake homecoming to promote defamation of the people's movement: KYKL

IT News
Imphal, Sept 24:

The proscribed group Kanglei Yawol Kanna Lup (KYKL) pleaded with the people of Kangleipak not to buy into the ideologies promoted by the state and central governments and to keep an open mind in a press statement released in connection with the recent homecoming ceremony for KCP-PWG and KYKL cadre held on January 1st, MR.

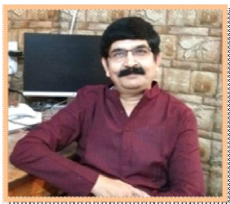
The Secretary of Publicity and Research of KYKL stated that the phrase "Lanna Chatlurabasing mahousagi ichelda hallakhre," which is often used by the Indian colonial masters and their allies to repress the liberation movement currently underway in the state, may be observed through the lens of "ideological state apparatus." This misleads the masses into thinking that a liberation

movement to reclaim our sovereignty is unnecessary and that Kanglei revolutionaries are misguided. There is no doubt that homecoming ceremonies, in which deserters from the movement or randomly picked gangsters unrelated to the movement are dressed in combat clothes, have misled the people, implying that starting a freedom movement has no meaning since India is our own country and Manipur is not a colonial state. If we are to defeat our enemies, we must recognise their tactics and reject state practises that are misleading.

Yaiphaba further stated that in recent weeks, there has been widespread media coverage of a story that shows 12 members of KCP(PWG) and one member of KYKL laying down their weapons before the Chief Minister of Manipur.

contd. on page 4

There is no path to happiness; happiness is the path



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

Albert Camus a French novelist has rightly said that "You will never be happy if you continue to search for what happiness consists of. You will never live if you are looking for the meaning of life". The meaning of happiness is contentment and satisfaction. Finding true happiness is a worthy goal. Happiness is the thing that most people want, yet it is one of the most difficult aspects of life to quantify. How do we measure happiness? How do we define happiness? What is happiness? We can own a

luxurious life with all the social needs but yet we may be unhappy. There is a myth that having lots of money can make a person happy and satisfy. What can provide lasting happiness? Abraham Lincoln once said 'You are as happy as you make up your mind to be.' Happiness is a matter of choice. We can make a choice to be either sad or happy.' Happiness is something which we can't describe in words it can only be felt from someone's expression of a smile. *Oxford English Dictionary's definition* of "happiness" is a simple one: "The state of being happy." Likewise, happiness is a signal or identification of good and prosperous life. Money can buy you food, luxurious house, healthy lifestyle servants, and many more facilities but money can't buy you happiness. The International Day of Happiness also recognizes the need for a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach to economic growth that promotes sustainable development, poverty eradication, happiness and the well-being of all peoples. Every person defines happiness in his/her own manner but in whatever manner one may define happiness; the truth is that it is vital for a healthy and prosperous life. Happiness is often derived from channelizing thoughts to positive thinking. In fact, happiness does have a pretty important role in our lives, and it can have a huge impact on the way we live our lives. For one person happiness is health, for another it is love or spirit. Some people think that happiness is only a short time of their life. Today, technological advancements and development have made our lives easier, comfortable and more luxurious.

As we now know that we can't buy happiness with money and there is no other shortcut to happiness. It is something that you feel from within. Everyone desires to be happy in life. Unfortunately, many people think they are not happy, because they have a lot of problems. Happiness cannot be achieved without establishing complete control of one's thoughts as it is very easy to be carried away by the waves of thoughts and emotions surrounding us.

In addition, true happiness comes from within yourself. Happiness is basically a state of mind. Though life throws countless challenges at us on a daily basis, if we drown in those challenges we would definitely become depressed so let us find positive things in our daily lives to get excited about and feel the happiness. Happiness doesn't happen out of anywhere - it has to be worked on; it has to be produced, created, discovered, built from the ground up. Happiness can be by fulfilling relationship goals and are respected by each other. Happiness often comes from within. What we need is to learn how to tame negative thoughts and approach every day with optimism. One must remember that happiness can happen to anyone, mostly because everyone deserves to be happy.

Climate Inequality



By: Vijay GarG

If the United States' Pledge of Alliance were rewritten for the world of the twenty-first century, the clause "and justice for all" could well be changed to "and climate justice for all," given that issue's paramount importance. A painful lesson from the last few decades - not only in the US but around the world - is that the adverse effects of climate change are not distributed equitably among countries and communities. While the climate crisis has devastating implications for all of us, the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres rightly points out that "the poor and vulnerable are the first to suffer and the worst hit."

According to the world's authoritative climate-science body, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), declines in crop production and quality, increases in crop pests and diseases, and other disruptions have disproportionately affected the poor, just as increasingly frequent and extreme heat disproportionately threaten children and the elderly. As climate change simultaneously disrupts food, human, water, and ecosystem security, we can expect many more adverse cascading effects.

Extreme flooding, for example, is expected to become twice as frequent in the flood-prone areas that are home to some 450 million people. More broadly, the IPCC points to 2017 research showing that by 2030, 122 million people (mostly the poorest 20 per cent across 92 countries) could be pushed into extreme poverty by higher food prices and other climate-driven income losses.

Compounding the injustice, the biggest contributors to climate change are not necessarily those most affected by it. According to a 2020 report by Oxfam and the Stockholm Environment Institute, between 1990 and 2015, the richest 1 per cent of the global population accounted for twice the carbon dioxide emissions relative to the poorest 50 per cent.

Yet poor countries bear a larger share of the costs, simply because around 75 per cent of people living in poverty depend on agriculture, which is extremely sensitive to irregularities in weather and broader climatic changes. Poor countries are also more prone to resource conflicts, and they tend to lack adequate technology, infrastructure, policies, and resources for adaptation.

contd. on page 3

On intriguing debate over automobile mishap

By: Nava Thakuria

During my college days our subject-teachers used to advise us, once we become automobile engineers should try to replace the piston engine as it's not fuel efficient. When I left hostel no 7 of Assam Engineering College in 1990 after completing my degree course in Mechanical branch (with a special paper on Automobile Engineering), the preaching of our teachers was so fresh to me.

For those, who have no preliminary technical idea of a piston engine (internal combustion engine, run by feeding diesel or petrol/gasoline), it converts thermal energy into mechanical work (or power) which helps moving a vehicle. But these engines still remain less efficient for a number of reasons like not being capable of burning the fuel fully, failing to convert the generated heat into mechanical energy to an optimum level, etc.

Probably I could have pursued automobile courses so that the initiative for new types of fossil fuel engine can be enriched. But destiny had a different script for me and I had to turn out to be a mere media worker in an Assamese daily with a marginal salary. Even though I faced interviews for a job (in the engineering stream), it never happened because of many reasons. But I accepted the new found profession with a challenge and continues to keep myself happy and energetic even after three decades of professional journalism.

What I don't pursue in post-college days, it is almost done by the new technology. Slowly we Indians have generated interest in the electricity run automobile (thus either replacing the piston engine or making it a second priority). The electric vehicles (from two-wheelers to four-wheelers) have slowly entered our garages in a large number. From the environmental point of view to regular maintenance, the electric ve-

hicles enjoy more advantages as it has a simple mechanism of running the wheels with the help of a motor sidelining the complicated gears aligned with the clutch and also the power consuming starting-equipments.

In the technical term, an electric vehicle runs with the energy received from fuel cells, which need to be re-charged regularly. The fuel cells convert the chemical energy into electrical energy directly (whenever needed). So these vehicles do not need the clutch or a gearbox, which drastically minimise the complication of driving. In another aspect, a fuel cell emits only the water-vapour making it an environment-friendly device unlike the piston engine that generates hazardous gases.

Now the debate gains momentum if a battery run vehicle is more balanced and helps the driver to control it efficiently as being without the impact of linear motion of pistons (which is converted into rotational motion by the crankshaft) and the tendency of the centrifugal force (gyroscopic motion) when on a sharp-curved road or in an urgent need of changing of the direction of a high speed vehicle on the road (so that it avoids slipping/skidding).

In a simple way, the gyroscopic motion can be termed as the ability of a rotating object to maintain the orientation of its rotation. In case of changes in the axis of rotation, the object creates rotational momentum. So when a conventional four-wheeler running at a high speed takes a turn (left or right), the driver feels the tendency of slipping of the vehicle due to the gyroscopic moment. The gyroscopic effect always pushes the vehicle outward and hence a safe speed for it (read the piston engine run automobile) during a curve is normally notified.

The tragic death of former Tata

Sons chairman in an accident created ripples in both mainstream and social media space about the road safety even if a vehicle runs at a higher speed (but with satisfactory control over it in case of an emergency). The sad news broke on 4 September where the iconic industrialist Cyrus Mistry (54) died on his return journey to Mumbai from Udvada (Gujarat). The accident took place as his Mercedes-Benz SUV hit a divider on Ahmedabad-Mumbai Highway in Palghar area.

Dr Anahita Pandole, a gynaecologist by profession, drove the luxury car and couldn't turn it properly as the highway was narrowing from three-lane to two-lane ahead of Surya river bridge. The German car manufacturer later claimed that the ill-fated vehicle was at around 100 kilometer per hour and the driver used the brake just 5 seconds before the collision.

Dr Pandole and her husband, both were in front seats wearing seatbelts, survived with serious injuries. However Mistry and another passenger in rear seats (both did not use seat belts) died on the spot. So the issue of mandatory seat belts in rear seats by the Indian passengers also surfaced along with more safety features in the high speed vehicles, all weather road condition, modern traffic signaling system, a speed data recorder (similar to the black box installed in an aircraft, which would help to study various parameters in case of a mishap and address scientifically in newer models), etc.

Union road transport and highways minister Nitin Gadkari, who has been pursuing for increasing the speed limit for vehicles running on both national highways and expressways (meant for very fast travel), has declared that the government will make the (wearing of) seatbelts mandatory for both the front seaters and

rear (back) seaters. The automobile companies, which supply vehicles for the Indian roads, are being ordered to put seatbelts in backseats along with an alarming system in all new cars. The current speed limits of private cars vary from expressways (120 kmph) to national highways (100 kmph) to other roads (60 kmph). Gadkari argues for an increase of speed at least by 20 kmph across the country.

The developed countries, where the road qualities are properly maintained, normally approve the vehicular speed limit up to 120 kmph only. Those countries also set a standard time for the driver's rest after a four to five hours journey and maximum nine hours driving in a day. No such rules exist in India where the professional drivers are often compelled to work overtime with no specific time for rest. A significant number of road accidents took place on Indian roads because of the driver's fatigue. In some cases, the owners replace professional drivers for personal thrills during the journey.

India loses around one million people per year to road mishaps and a few millions have to suffer from the wounds lifelong. Responding to the concern of millions of automobile users following Mistry's death, All Assam Engineer's Association had recently urged the car owners to check if the inbuilt safety measures like crash sensors, airbags (both frontal and side), side-curtain bags, anti-lock brakes, traction control, electronic stability control, lane-keeping assist, forward-collision warning, brake assist, automatic emergency braking, tire-pressure monitor, etc are properly installed in their vehicles.

(The writer is a Guwahati-based practicing journalist with the academic qualification of engineering)

Eye makeup products every girl should have



By: Shahnaz Husain

ing to the eyes.

For well-defined eyes, you can use herbal Kajal. This Kajal is the formulation of priceless herbs and oils. It glides over your eyes easily and is small enough to be carried anywhere.

Red Lipstick

Nothing matches the universally flattering red-hued lipstick. The classic cult shade looks fresh every season. Red lipstick can update your look quickly. The best part about having red lipstick is, that the shade looks perfect with both contemporary and traditional looks and complements every skin tone.

Black eye-liner

This is another item that will assist in elevating your eye makeup look. For beginners, it could be a little challenging to apply eyeliner accurately at first. But once you understand it, applying it won't be difficult. Your eyes will look better and be more defined if you do this.

You can also use the 'Herbal Eye

Liner', made with neem. It includes herbal substances, including neem, camphor, almond oil, castor oil, and amla, designed to shield the area around the eyes and eyelashes. The form of the eyes is improved and redefined with this ayurvedic eyeliner. It includes natural oils that stop the skin around the eyes from drying out and peeling.

Mascara

You surely need this revolutionary eye product. The easiest solution to make eyes appear bigger is to apply a few coats of your favourite mascara. If you are not a lover of wearing eyeliner and Kajal on a regular basis, a nice voluminous mascara will instantly make your look stunning.

It's the one product every woman should have in her makeup bag at all times. Mascara makes your eyelashes look amazing by darkening, lengthening, volumizing, and curling your lashes

You can use the water-

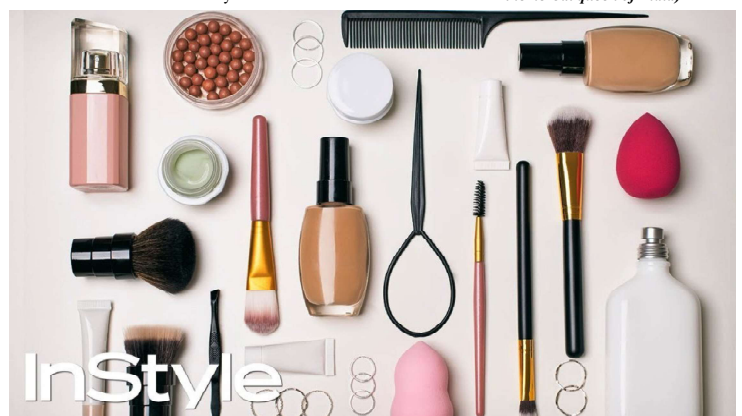
based Mascara. It is specifically created to enhance the appearance of the eyelashes and is blended with natural components. Using this mascara gives the lashes the appearance of being longer and thicker.

Eyeshadow Palette

Most women may not consider an eyeshadow palette to be a necessary item, especially those who barely spend five minutes applying makeup each morning. Owning a neutral eye shadow palette, though, may be handier than you realize. It is a multipurpose product that, in addition to creating stunning eye looks, can be used to contour and even fill in brows with colours.

So, lovely ladies, ensure that you have the aforementioned eye makeup items in your cosmetics bag so you may flaunt your gorgeous eye looks.

(The author is an international fame beauty expert and is called the herbal queen of India)



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MEA issues advisory on fake IT job offers targeting Indian youths in Myanmar, Thailand

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday issued a warning about fake offers meant to entice Indian youths with lucrative jobs based in Thailand.

The ministry said the target groups are IT skilled youth who are duped in the name of lucrative data entry jobs in Thailand through social media advertisements and by Dubai and India-based agents.

"Instances of fake job rackets offering lucrative jobs to entice Indian youths for the posts of 'Digital Sales and Marketing Executives' in Thailand by dubious IT firms involved in call-centre scam and crypto-currency fraud have come to our notice recently by our Missions in Bangkok and Myanmar," the MEA said in a statement.

According to foreign ministry, the victims are reportedly taken across the border illegally mostly into Myanmar and held captive to work under harsh conditions. "Therefore, Indian nationals are advised not to get entrapped in such fake job offers being floated through social media platforms or other sources."

The MEA also advised Indians to verify the credentials of foreign employers through concerned missions abroad before taking up any job offer. "Before travelling on tourist/visit visa for employment



purposes, Indian nationals are advised to check/verify credentials of foreign employers through concerned Missions abroad, and antecedents of recruiting agents as well as any company before taking up any job offer," the statement said. This advisory comes after the MEA on Thursday asked Indian nationals to exercise extreme caution before taking up jobs in Thailand after dozens of Indians were illegally brought into Myanmar as part of the employment racket.

Speaking at a weekly press briefing, MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi said IT companies are engaged in digital scamming and forged crypto activities. He said that these scammers are recruiting Indian workers on the pretext of em-

ployment opportunities in Thailand.

"We are aware of fraudulent IT companies that appear to be engaged in digital scamming and forged crypto activities. They seem to be operating with agents from Dubai, Bangkok and India. They are recruiting Indian workers on the pretext of employment opportunities in Thailand," the MEA spokesperson said.

He explained that Indian workers are lured by social media advertisements of highly lucrative jobs and then taken across the border in Myanmar.

"And that area you know is difficult to access due to the local security situation. Nevertheless, thanks to our mission in the country, we have

been able to facilitate the rescue of some of these victims from captivity or forced labour and we are trying to help others," he said.

Bagchi urged Indian nationals to exercise extreme caution before accepting such job offers. "It may also be mentioned here that the visa-on-arrival scheme in Thailand does not permit employment. Our embassies in Thailand and Myanmar have issued advisories in this regard. We have also taken up the matter in both countries," he said.

Earlier, the Indian Embassy in Myanmar's Yangon released an advisory. It had cautioned about the companies engaged in digital scamming activities located in remote eastern border areas of Myanmar.

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

With 4,912 new coronavirus infections being reported in a day, India's tally of cases rose to 4,45,63,337, while the active cases declined to 44,436, according to the Union Health Ministry data updated on Saturday.

The death toll has climbed to 5,28,487 with 38 fatalities, which include 19 deaths re-announced by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The 19 fatalities reported in 24 hours include two each from Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana and Karnataka.

The active cases comprise 0.10 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has the health ministry said.

A decline of 845 cases has been recorded in the active caseload in 24 hours, it said.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.62 per cent while the weekly positivity rate was 1.69 per cent, it mentioned.

The number of recoveries climbed to 4,39,90,414, while the case fatality rate was 1.19 per cent.

According to the ministry, 217.41 crore doses of vaccines

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

India's COVID-19 tally had crossed the 20-lakh mark on August 7, 2020, 30 lakh on August 23, 40 lakh on September 5 and 50 lakh on September 16.

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

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

CBI cracks down against child sex abuse material, raids 56 locations across country

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Saturday launched a major operation code named "Operation Megh-Chakra" against circulation and sharing of child sexual abuse material online, conducting raids at around 56 locations in 20 states and union territories, people familiar with the development said.

The operation was initiated based on inputs shared by the Interpol, they added. The original input about persons involved in alleged posting and circulation of child sexual exploitation material (CSEM) through various social media platforms was shared by Interpol, New

Zealand, which were passed on to CBI through Singapore.

A similar operation "Operation Carbon" was carried out by CBI in November 2021 when raids were conducted at 76 locations across the country against 83 persons and several persons were arrested.

CBI is also the nodal agency for the Interpol, which has an International Child Sexual Exploitation (ICSE) image and video database, which allows investigators from member countries to share data on cases of child sexual abuse.

Used by 64 countries including India, ICSE has helped identify 23,500 survivors and 10,752 offenders worldwide from the 2.3 million images and videos the database has. It has provision of

sharing data — both in open network that can be accessed by all the countries as well as with specific countries.

CBI also has constituted a special unit called Online Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation Prevention/Investigation (OCSAE) since 2019 for investigating matters pertaining to online child sexual abuse and exploitation. Apart from receiving various references/information, the unit undertakes investigation of various offences relating to online child sexual abuse and exploitation. It collates and investigates information received from the embassies and overseas federal probe agencies about organised rackets which are active in online child sexual abuse and exploitation.

Congress president poll: 'Manish Tewari likely to throw his hat into the ring,' says report

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

A report said on Friday that former Union minister for information and broadcasting Manish Tewari is considering running for the post of Congress' national president. News agency IANS mentioned sources close to the Anandpur Sahib MP as saying that he visited his constituency to meet state party delegates. As per Congress' constitution, over 9,000 delegates constitute the electoral college to choose the party's national president. A vocal critic of Congress leadership, Tewari has called

for reforms within the party. In case Tewari enters the race, there could be a multi-cornered contest.

The notification for the Congress president poll was issued on Thursday by Congress' central election authority.

It is stated in the notification that nominations must be filed between September 24 and 30.

On October 1, a valid candidate list will be published following the scrutiny of nominations. The last date to withdraw is October 8, after which a final list will be published. The poll will take place on Oc-

tober 17, and the counting will be held on October 19.

On Friday, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot announced his nomination for the AICC (All India Congress Committee) president polls. Moreover, he said that Rahul Gandhi told him that no member of the Gandhi family should become the next party chief.

The Rajasthan CM further said that Congress' interim president Sonia Gandhi and party's Rajasthan in-charge Ajay Maken will take the call on his successor.

It is likely that Congress MP Shashi Tharoor will be the

second candidate and several others may also enter the race. Meanwhile, Gehlot suggested that all Congress members should work together after the election in order to strengthen the party.

Notably, Ashok Gehlot met Congress' interim chief Sonia Gandhi at 10 Janpath in Delhi on Thursday for two hours before departing for Kerala to join Rahul Gandhi's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'.

There are reports that Sonia Gandhi has stated she will not endorse any candidate and that the poll will be fair. Gehlot will reportedly file his nomination next week.

Supreme Court stays deportation of Assam woman excluded from NRC

Agency
Guwahati, Sept 24:

The Supreme Court on Friday put a stay on the deportation of an Assam woman who had been excluded from the final draft of the state's National Register of Citizens, Bar and Bench reported.

In 2019, the Gauhati High Court had upheld a 2017 verdict by a Foreigners Tribunal that the woman was not a citizen of India. Judges in both courts held that she had entered Assam illegally through Bangladesh after

March 25, 1971 — the cutoff date in the northeastern state to prove citizenship.

On Friday, a bench of Justices DY Chandrachud and Hima Kohli were hearing a plea filed by the woman challenging the High Court verdict.

Advocate Pijush Kanti Roy, appearing for the woman told the judges that all her family members had been declared Indian citizens. However, the Foreigners Tribunal held that she had entered the country illegally and directed the authorities to take action, Live Law reported.

The judges took this argument into consideration to put a stay on the woman's deportation till the next hearing of the plea after three years and asked the Centre and Assam government to file their responses to the petition.

In her plea, the woman has claimed that she is an Indian citizen by birth. The woman also said that she has submitted documents to prove that the name of her parents existed in voter lists and certificates issued by the local panchayat before 1971.

Contd. from Page 2

Climate Inequality

Moreover, climate change amplifies pre-existing forms of inequality and drives more migration and forced displacements. In Latin America, one of the most unequal regions in the world, many native groups — such as the Guna people in Panama, the inhabitants of the Mexican state of Chiapas, and some Aymaran groups in Bolivia — have lost their towns to rising sea levels, drought, water scarcity, deforestation, changing rainfall patterns, and natural disasters. Worse, when these groups are forced to leave their traditional lands, they often end up in urban slums, where they face

double discrimination as migrants and indigenous peoples.

This human tragedy is growing in scale. The UN World Migration Report 2022 notes that in 2020, natural disasters, extreme temperatures, and droughts displaced 30.7 million people in 144 countries and territories. And contrary to popular belief, the report explains that most new internal displacement in Latin America and the Caribbean that year was due to natural disasters, rather than to violence and conflict.

Climate change also has unequal adverse effects on health and education. The

UN's Human Development Report 2019 forecasts that between 2030 and 2050, climate change will cause some 250,000 additional deaths per year from malnutrition, malaria, diarrhoea, dengue, and heat stress. And rising temperatures will increase malnutrition and food insecurity and expand the geographical range of disease-transmitting mosquito species, hampering school attendance, performance, and achievement.

These problems have made climate-justice policies and strategies essential to the Global South, and particularly to Latin America. Policymakers will need to fo-

cus on ensuring a fairer distribution of obligations and duties not just between states but also across segments of the population and between generations.

Furthermore, climate justice demands that developed countries and multinational corporations assume responsibility for the negative externalities they generate. They must pay their "climate debt" to the rest of the world and acknowledge the intergenerational implications of climate-driven inequality. Like the poor today, younger and future generations will pay the biggest price for a problem they didn't cause.

This year's international gatherings at the UN General Assembly and the Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Sharm el-Sheikh will succeed only if the international community makes progress toward a new framework to provide developing countries with the financial and technological support they need to adapt to climate change.

Though concrete measures to deliver climate justice are well known, they have proved difficult to implement. Still, there have been promising steps in the right direction. In the US, for example, the Biden administration has launched a "whole-of-govern-

ment initiative" (Justice40) to ensure that federal agencies deliver 40 per cent of the overall benefits of clean energy, sustainable housing, and clean water to underserved communities. It has also created an Environmental Justice Advisory Council that other countries should consider replicating.

Although major economies bear the largest responsibility for curbing the devastating effects of climate change, all countries must adopt responsible policies to mitigate the damage and protect their most vulnerable inhabitants.

In Costa Rica, we under-

stood the importance of enacting such policies very early on. That allowed us to become an early leader in renewable energy and the first tropical country to halt and then reverse deforestation. Sustainability policies have improved conditions for indigenous and vulnerable communities here as well as in Colombia and Ecuador, by helping communities find new ways to increase income (diversification of means of life) and promote climate-aware and resilient agriculture techniques (such as retaining soil moisture or using crop varieties better adapted to droughts).

One day refresher course for PLVs of DLSA, Thoubal held

IT News
Imphal, Sept 24:

District Legal Services Authority, Thoubal under the aegis of Manipur State Legal Services Authority organized a one day refresher course/training programme for the PLVs of DLSA, Thoubal.

The event was organized in view of enhancing the knowledge of the PLVs of the various Social Welfare Schemes under Govt. of Manipur as well as refreshing their knowledge on various basic laws and procedures as well as polishing their

skills in conducting mediation of disputes, legal knowledge of common laws etc.

The event was attended by Binny Ngangom, Chairperson, DLSA, Thoubal, Masana Panmei, Secretary, DLSA, Thoubal, A. Kameshwar Singh, DSWO, Thoubal as well as CH. Momon Singh, Advocate Member, MASLSA as presiding members.

In her welcome address, Masana Panmei mentioned the PLVs as the bridge between common people and the legal service institutions to remove impediments/barriers in access to justice; those who reach out

to the people at their doorsteps rather than people approaching the same. Binny Ngangom also mentioned the increasing importance of the role of PLVs with increasing pressure and volume of cases in the Courts.

In the first session of the programme, A. Kameshwar Singh, DSWO, Thoubal spoke about various welfare schemes for the old aged, widows, orphaned and differently abled persons and what role PLVs could take in increasing the outreach and awareness of these schemes of various corners of the District.

In the second session, Ch.

Momon Singh gave a brief introduction of what is law, why the public need to be aware of it and what role the PLVs could take to do the same. He further elaborated on common litigations and disputes such as marital, money dispute, property dispute etc. He further gave a brief overview of Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act, what Police can and can't do during arresting, detailed information regarding FIR etc.

The programme was attended by about 30 PLVs from Thoubal and Kachhing Districts under the aegis of DLSA, Thoubal

Arrested PFI member reveals outfit planned to disturb PM Modi's Bihar rally in July

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

The Enforcement Directorate claimed that the Popular Front of India (PFI) planned to attack Prime Minister Narendra Modi's rally in Patna and was raising terror modules, collecting deadly weapons and explosives, and preparing to launch simultaneous attacks on sensitive places and individuals in Uttar Pradesh, Times of India reported.

The ED claimed in its remand note against PFI member Shaheque Payeth, who was arrested in Kerala on Thursday, that the outfit had organised a training camp to launch an attack during Prime Minister Modi's July 12 visit to Patna.

Significantly, PM Modi came within inches of being assassinated in Patna in October 2013 when jihadi terrorists from the Indian Mujahideen, which, like the PFI, has members of the outlawed Students'

Islamic Movement in India among its ranks, bombed a rally he addressed immediately afterwards.

The ED discovered details of Rs 120 crore collected by the outfit over the years, mostly in cash and intended to be channelled for riots and terror activities across the country.

Following Thursday's nationwide raids on the outfit, during which several agencies, including the National Investigation Agency, arrested more than 100 activists associated with the outfit, the agency has arrested four PFI members.

Following Thursday's nationwide raids on the outfit, during which several agencies, including the National Investigation Agency, arrested more than 100 activists associated with the outfit, the agency has arrested four PFI members.

The ED detained three other members of the organization's board of directors in Delhi: Perwez Ahmed,

Md. Ilias, and Abdul Muqeet. Since 2018, when a money laundering investigation was launched against PFI, all of them have been questioned multiple times by the agency.

The Enforcement Directorate has accused Payeth, who previously lived in Qatar, of illegally using his NRI account in India to transfer money from abroad to PFI in order to cause disruptions in the country. According to ED, Payeth's premises were previously raided by the agency last year when investments in real estate businesses and their diversion to PFI were revealed.

"More than Rs 120 crore has been deposited in the accounts of PFI and related entities over the years and a very large part of the same has been deposited in cash from unknown and suspicious sources within the country as well as abroad," the agency has said.

The agency further claimed that "these funds

were layered and transferred for eventual use in their continuous unlawful activities over time which includes but are not limited to inciting violence and fomenting trouble leading to Delhi riots of February 2020, visit of PFI members to Hathras with an intent to disturb communal harmony, inciting riots and spreading terror, planned to form a terror gang, collection of deadly weapon and explosives to simultaneously launch attacks on important and sensitive places and individuals in UP with an intent to undermine the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the nation."

The agency accused PFI of criminal conspiracy and also of activities that had the potential "to pose threat to the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the nation". During the probe, various bank accounts of PFI and its members were analysed and statements of the accused were recorded.

Sports

Former India captain Dilip Tirkey elected Hockey India president

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 24:

Former India hockey captain and a member of the 1998 Asian Games gold medal-winning side, Dilip Tirkey, was on Friday elected as the Hockey India (HI) president, after two others, who had filed nominations for the post, withdrew before the elections.

One of the most capped former players—Tirkey played a record 412 international matches in his career spanning more than 15 years as defender—, the 44-year-old great from Odisha represented India at the 1996 Atlanta, 2000 Sydney and 2004 Athens Olympic Games.

The Hockey India elections process was scheduled to be completed by October 9, as per the deadline set by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) and the Committee of Administrators (CoA) in August.

Before Tirkey was elected president, Hockey India was under the jurisdiction of the CoA on the orders of the Delhi High Court because of an alleged violation of the National Sports Code.

Tirkey thanked the CoA and its members following him becoming the president of the national sports federation, tweeting



"Thanks @DrSYQuraishi (COA member) & @FIH_Hockey for conducting smooth elections of @TheHockeyIndia. I will ensure that Indian hockey reaches to new heights."

The FIH also congratulated Tirkey on his election as Hockey India chief, saying in its letter from Lausanne on Friday, "At the outset, the FIH would like to thank the members of the Committee of Administrators for adhering and ensuring that the election process of Hockey India has been conducted smoothly. The FIH has been monitoring the election process through the Hockey India website and media reports in India."

"...we are pleased to ob-

serve that the Executive Board of Hockey India stands elected as has been put on the website of Hockey India from today, and that the posts election was unanimous for all posts. We are delighted that the election process has been completed and a democratically elected body is now in place. We extend our congratulations to Dr. Dilip Tirkey, Mr. Bhola Nath Singh (secretary-general) and Mr. Sekar J. Manoharan (treasurer) and look forward to working with them closely.

"We have appreciated the effective efforts of the CoA over the past couple of months to restore the democratically elected body in Hockey India," said FIH.

"With effect from today, 23 September 2022, we note that the CoA has concluded its mandate, and the FIH will now communicate directly with the newly-elected Executive Board for matters pertaining to Hockey in India. We again thank you for your efforts and hope you will all be our guests for the upcoming Hockey Pro League matches which are scheduled to commence from 28 October 2022 and the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023, which is scheduled to commence from 13 January 2023."

HI office-bearers: President - Dilip Tirkey (Hockey Association of Odisha); Vice-president (female) - Asima Ali (Hockey Jammu & Kashmir); Vice-president (male) - S.V.S. Subramanya (Hockey Karnataka); Secretary-General - Bhola Nath Singh (Hockey Jharkhand); Treasurer - Sekar J. Manoharan (Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu); Joint secretary (female) - Ms Arti Singh (Hockey Rajasthan); Joint secretary (male) - Sunil Malik (Hockey Haryana).

Executive Board Members: Arun Kumar Saraswat (Hockey Rajasthan); Asrita Lakra (Hockey Jharkhand); Gurpreet Kaur (Hockey Delhi); V Sunil Kumar (Kerala Hockey); Tapan Kumar Das (Assam Hockey).

Contd. from Page 1 RPF Prez greets people on the....

In contrary to the spirit of independence, India has consistently projected Manipur as perennially underdeveloped and parasitic on Indian funding as a part of its colonial ideology is not only outdated but also unsuitable to modern day political values. The people of Manipur need to wake up from this colonial slumber and preaching by re-orienting themselves that projected dependence of Manipur on India as nothing, but a colonial make over. Unfortunately, the failure on the part of the administrators to inculcate suitable ways of exploiting indigenous resources has led to the reinforcement of the colonial false consciousness making the people of helpless and believe in the colonialism designed. The apparent psychology of dependence on India has made them think dependent and structurally deprived the people of Manipur from making its own process of development. The state of affairs has degraded to such a level that despite Manipur's location in a prosperous geopolitical international borderland has not been able to harness any significant gain.

The prolonged internalization of the belief that only the imports from India feed Manipur has resulted prevented the effective usage of National Highway 37 as a route for Manipur's economic prosperity. The state government has for long failed to envision a policy that can positively deal with the potential of a hugely populated Barak Valley with an approximate population of 45 lacs as a potential export market for Manipur through Jiribam as an economic gateway. On the other hand, our neighbouring country Myanmar is known for its rich agrarian produces and precious minerals and resources. An effective trade system with Myanmar through Manipur's border town Moreh can boost up WESEA into a regional market plaza has been never understood by those who are in the helm of affairs.

Efficient system of transportation is a major condition for the growth of trade and commerce and is the backbone of any country's national development which the government in the state has not been able to realize the need for a critical perspective. The previous and the current government has consistently evidenced their lack of vision in this regard. The ongoing propaganda of the Government of India to project Act East Policy as anathema to develop trade in WESEA is a mirage. The people of Manipur should never be misled by such a befuddling such false promise that is never meant to be realised. If India was really interested in actual development of Manipur mentioned as their North East State in WESEA, it should have abandoned her Geopolitical outlook on WESEA. India could have involved itself in the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to improve regional trade with China.

It is well noted fact that as a result of BRI, the railway services

that connects China — Laos which commenced construction from 2016 and completed on December 2021, has a whopping business of US Dollar 1.45 billion in worth, after nine months of being in operation that simultaneously improving the economy of the people living in the border areas of this two countries. The Look East Policy of India which began in 1991 which has been presently rechristened as Act East Policy has been a shaky project. The strategic geopolitical reductionism of India is well reflected in the Indian External Affairs Minister, S. Jaishankar's statement on 22 August 2022 in Assocation that the future of Asia is linked to the development of India China relations. Such a vision of India needs to be studied.

On the other hand, the people of Manipur need to understand the significance of fertile wetlands, agrarian spaces, and hills which are naturally endowed with avenues for livelihood. Not only the Government but also the people of the land need to wake up and seriously contribute to full utilization of such a potential our economy. Such a realization is to be a major forward step in the development of the state. The present pursuit of the government to explore the potential of tourism in the state can be realised only when potential tourist spots and lakes are fully developed. There is a need to develop "Water Parks" by converting wetlands and water reservoirs for sight-seeing of the local tourist. Progress in this aspect can attract foreign tourist through a proper planning and development of historically important sites.

A tragedy of Manipur is the excessive internalization of parasitism and dependence on India. Not only this, but the people of Manipur are also increasingly becoming reliant on a grant-in-aid subservient economy. Such devaluation in the form of economic subservience is sign of continuous relegation of the rich heritage left by our ancestors. The devaluation has become such a serious trend that people are increasingly succumbing to the allurements and dictates of the class of people in the helm of affairs. Furthermore, in the name of the Constitution the subservient mentality has become so entrenched that some sections of our society have begun to invoke constitutional provisions to acquire new status. If the trend continues, our peoplehood is to surely convert people into perennially dependent community who would not be able to walk anymore without a support. Continuous disrespect to our selfhood and national dignity has been denigrated with the ever-increasing number of people who are hell bent on acquiring the power at any cost thereby inducing a state of brutal electioneering and social fragmentation. The situation has so worsened that it has converted Manipur into a den of corruption and drug trafficking.

The situation is becoming bad to worse with the growing ethnicization of social relations in Manipur. Association of hill dwellers of Manipur is in connivance with neighboring ethnic forces to disintegrate Manipur causing enormous disharmony. However, one must remember that disturbing the integrity of a nation is prohibited under the provisions of UN General Assembly Resolution of December 14, 1960. In the spirit of UN Resolution, the Government of India is expected not to interfere with the integrity and social harmony of Manipur. The irony is that India has a sham deal with the political issues of Mizos and Nagas. Therefore, every fellow countryman of Manipur is being called upon not to indulge in suicidal claims in the name of ethnic rights by ensuring a collective imagination for independence and peace.

Towards the conclusion, the ongoing struggle in Manipur is the manifestation and product of the inherent conflict between Manipur and India. Until and unless the situation of Indian colonialism is not overturned the indigenous liberation struggle is to continue. The revolutionary movements in Manipur are well positioned with enough striking power and foundation for the pursuit of the movement. Therefore, the propaganda of the Government that the conflict situation in Manipur be placed under a permanent settlement by 2024 is nothing less than threat issued to the people. The adversary government must realize that the ongoing struggle of Manipuri people is a historical responsibility and rightful cause. One must be aware of the pretentious revolutionary forces that is poised to malign the true revolutionary forces. The reported surrendering of armed revolutionaries is nothing but a systematic process to preach the mainstream ideology of the colonial state. Because the real image of true revolutionary movement is to be written by those who are sacrificing their lives and continuously fighting the imperial regime. Similar trajectory has been seen unfaithfully in the revolutionary courses of the world.

The same historicity must be acknowledged by the present Government in Manipur and should not meddle in the conflict between Manipur and India. Furthermore, it should not act like the actual adversary party in the conflict. In comparison with India, our people should never misjudge the potential of the revolutionaries and deviate from discouraging our revolutionaries that shall dissuade the movement. The people of Manipur shall have to show the triumph vision together for the strength of the revolutionary movement and actions taken up by the revolutionary needs to be properly acknowledged and respected with a sense of mutuality. Such a collective mutualism and cooperation is needed more in a society where a liberation movement is in progress, the press release added.

Fake homecoming to promote....

Basically, it described how the state government and the central government collaborated to bring 12 KCP(PWG) cadres and one KYKL cadre back into mainstream society. A false concept of India as our nation is the message this report will be conveyed to the people, as well as the notion that those who

fight against colonialism are misguided people.

Furthermore, he stated that KYKL would like to reject in this news report is that there was an active cadre from KYKL taking part in the surrender drama. His name is Leisangthem Arun (36) from Khurai Sajor Leikai. This has made it more clear that what

the state government is doing is pure drama, but extremely venomous drama. Chingiao is one such person who abandoned the cause years ago because he did not want to give his life in order to further the cause. His name had already been crossed off the army list for the MYL, KYKL.