

EGM concedes the demise of veteran journalist N. Deben

IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

The Editors Guild Manipur concedes the sudden demise of veteran journalist Nongmaithem Deben Singh, popularly known as "Khollo Deben." Members of EGM share the loss of the family and pray his soul rest in peace. Khollo Deben, who was one of the founder member of the All Manipur Working Journalist Union started his career as journalist with the now defunct 'Khollo' daily and later worked with several Manipuri and English dailies in Manipur. Amongst those he worked with include Huiyenlanpao, Imphal Free Press, Sangai Express and Yakairol. Deben during his lifetime actively worked to set up AMWJU along with other senior journalist of the time for the welfare of the journalist of Manipur. He was also instrumental in setting up Sangai Express Daily.

He was 75 years, when he passed away on Thursday, September 8, 2022.

Lion Club to resume Eye OPD

IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

Fortnightly Eye OPD at Lions Eye Hospital & Services Trust of Lions Club of Imphal will resume service from September 1, 2022 between 10 AM and 12 Noon, a statement by Lion Manas Maisnam, Secretary Lions Club of Imphal said.

Those persons who are having eye problems or, who want to check-up their eyes may visit the Lions Eye Hospital at Sangaiaprou Airport Road Imphal and avail the service. The Eye OPD will be opened on 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month. The next Eye OPD for the month of September will be opened on September 25, 2022 at the same venue, the statement added.

By: Amar Yumnam
Imphal, Sept 9:

In my previous input in this daily, I had emphasised: "Education is something very contemporaneous. The education the children need today should be provided today; it can never be postponed to the next day. Education is such a sacrosanct input to social advancement that it should be made available to all the children of each age group without leaving anyone out. Further, education has a spatial dimension unique to it. While a drug transported from Churachandpur can be caught in Kangpokpi, it cannot so in the case of education. Education of the children in a

Ayurveda emphasise on holistic development of people: Governor

IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

Governor of Manipur La. Ganesan inaugurated 'AYURVEDA PARV' - a three days Ayurvedic Mela at City Convention Centre in Imphal, today. Services like free doctor's consultation, free medicine, free yoga training and Ayush exhibition will be available in the mela which is being organized by the Vinoba Seva Pratishthan under the sponsorship of Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India.

Speaking at the inaugural session, Governor said, the concepts and principles of Ayurveda put emphasis on holistic development of people. He said, it is considered to be the most effective ways to treat a wide range of ailments and live a healthy lifestyle. The primary objective of Ayurveda is to seek a balance between body, mind and spirit. Ayurveda recognizes three fundamental forms of subtle energy as 'vasta, pitta and kapha'. These principles are present in every person but



can be different in levels as per the basic biology of their body. It guides the people regarding food and life styles so that people can stay healthy.

Governor further said that Ayurveda is believed to be the oldest healing system that was originated in India from the ancient Vedic times. This traditional system has been practiced by scholars and disciples for over five thousand years ago. He continued that keeping in view of its importance, Ministry of AYUSH has been opened and it has been functioning smoothly. The Ayurvedic system of treatment and medicine has widely been practiced in Kerala which

is encouraging and all should follow this system. We should try to recognize and follow the system, he added.

Professor (Dr.) Rabinarayan Acharya, Director General, Central Council of Research in Ayurveda Sciences also spoke on the importance of Ayurveda for a healthy living and urged people to aware the benefits of Ayurveda in maintaining a disease free healthy society.

Thangjam Arunkumar, MLA, Prof. N. Rajmuhon Singh, VC, DM University and Dr. A. Guneshwor Sharma, Director, AYUSH, and students attended the inaugural session.

Three minor abandoned at Hatta Golapati; CWC I/E contact family but no response

IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

Three minors of separated parents below the age of 5 were found abandoned at Hatta Golapati on Tuesday morning by a team of Child Welfare Committee, Imphal East (CWC).

According to the CWC, the three minor were provided shelter by local club of Hatta Golapati and later handed over to the Childline. The three minor were jointly produced before the Child Welfare Committee, Imphal East, along with the District Child Protection Unit, Imphal East and placed at Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) Imphal East (Wangkhei Ningthem Pukhri Mapal, Lane No. 5 B).

The older two boys have mentioned that their parents, were separated and their origin was from Yairipok Changamgambi, Mathak Leikai, Imphal East.

The CWC contacted the local club and the family however none of them comes forward to claim the said children. The CWC later informed the police and after formalities they were kept secure home.

A statement by the CWC IE said that any person/persons who can identify their true relationship with the said children can make their claim of the said children from the office of the Child Welfare Committee Imphal East located at Kongba Kshetri Leikai, Imphal East, or from the office of the Specialised Adoption Agency (SAA) IE located at Wangkhei Ningthem Pukhri Mahal (South), Lane No. 5(B), by providing relevant documents of proof to support their identity and their exact relationship with the three children within a period 2 months for Danish and 4 months for Habib and Nawaz from the date of issue of this press release. Failure to do so, they said children will be declared as Legally free for Adoption and hence processed accordingly as per the provisions of the Adoption Regulations Act, 2017. The following offices can be contacted in this matter: 1. Child Welfare Committee 8787564077 2. SAA, Imphal East 7005318303 3. DCPU, Imphal East 9774217730.

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PAC & Pain Management Clinic, Elevator near OT complex and Utility Block inaugurated by Director, RIMS

IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

Dr. A. Santa Singh, Director of RIMS, Imphal inaugurated Newly Constructed Departmental Store, PAC & Pain Management Clinic of Elevator constructed near OT Complex which is newly installed Advanced Equipments at Obst & Gynaecology Department and Utility Block, RIMS, Imphal today.

The director while speaking as Chief Guest in the inauguration function stated that by inaugurating such new buildings, facilities and advanced Laparoscopic equipment, the institute will enable to serve better to the needs of the patients and employees. There are many facilities are lined up for inauguration and to dedicate to the public in the coming days.

The newly constructed Elevator will enable the patients



to move comfortably from the Ground Floor to 1st Floor of OT Block.

The patients and staff will be immensely benefited from this Utility Block. Many Departmental Stores, Pharmacy Stalls (to sell generic medicine), fruit stalls, barber, and other facilities will be available to the Utility Block.

During the inauguration,

Prof. N. Sanjib Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital, Prof. M. Rameswar Singh, Head of Obst and Gynaecology Department who is also Deputy Director (Admn/Link), Heads of Departments, Faculty Members, Chief Accounts Officer/Financial Advisor, Consultant (Civil), Consultant (Hospital Administration), official, staff and invitees were present.

13th Foundation Day of IGNTU-RCM celebrated



IT News
Imphal, Sept 9:

The 13th Foundation Day of the Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Regional Campus Manipur (IGNTU-RCM) was celebrated today at the Library Hall of the Campus. Prof. N.S. Hari Narayana Moorthy, Controller of Examinations, IGNTU, Amarkantak was the Chief Guest and Prof.

Ng. Ngalengnam, Director, IGNTU-RCM was the functional President.

Prof. Sanjoy Das, Head, Department of Computer Science, IGNTU-RCM, while welcoming the dignitaries and the gathering also read out the message conveyed by Prof. Shri Prakash Mani Tripathi, Vice Chancellor, IGNTU, Amarkantak. The Vice Chancellor extended his

congratulations to the Organising Committee of the Celebration, blessed the students, teaching and non-teaching staffs of RCM. In his letter, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor also stated that although he could not be with the RCM fraternity on this auspicious occasion, all his prayers and well-wishes are with the IGNTU Parivaar. He also remembered Indian freedom fighter, Rani Gaidinliu, Padma Bhushan Awardee, for her sacrifice for the liberation of the nation from colonial British. Moreover, taking note of the teachers' dedication and service, he also assured that promotions would be granted to those eligible teachers in appropriate levels and positions. Once again, he wished the celebration a grand success.

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Put Education to the Centre-Stage: It is imperative

By: Amar Yumnam
Imphal, Sept 9:

In my previous input in this daily, I had emphasised: "Education is something very contemporaneous. The education the children need today should be provided today; it can never be postponed to the next day. Education is such a sacrosanct input to social advancement that it should be made available to all the children of each age group without leaving anyone out. Further, education has a spatial dimension unique to it. While a drug transported from Churachandpur can be caught in Kangpokpi, it cannot so in the case of education. Education of the children in a

village in Ukhrul has to be provided in that village itself and it can never be replaced by education provided in a village in Mao. This provision of education to all the villages has to be marked by simultaneity. This temporal, spatial and demographic coverage would decide the future social scenario and determine the higher education to be provided. The success or otherwise of our ending as an Open Society or a Closed Society as Karl Popper envisaged in Volume I of his classic *The Open Society and Its Enemies* would be determined by what happens to our education. This envisioning is given in a shorter form by Eliot Cohen in his 2009 book, *Critical Thinking Unleashed*, thus: "In his classic book *The Open Society and Its Enemies*, philosopher Karl Popper distinguishes between two types of societies—one "open," the other "closed." An open society, he says, "sets free the critical powers of man," while a closed society stresses "submission to magical forces."

I had made these statements in full consciousness of the politico-administrative context of today's Manipur. Unlike in the previous term, the Minister in charge of looking after Education in the present term is not only qualified but also possesses commitment and capability to apply his mind to the issues confronting

Education in Manipur today. But what is afraid is that the fracturing indulgence of the present leadership might have decapitated the Minister of Education to pursue his visions for addressing the crisis (I use the singular term for the challenges facing this sector are all interrelated) facing the sector he has not only to look after but to take care for enhancement of social capacity to take the people and the society to an imagined future—the future where the past is not forsaken but incorporated to the imagined future in full knowledge of the unfolding technological world.

The reports of problems confronting the Education sec-

nario of Manipur have been dominating the headlines of Manipur news media. The latest is of the Heirok Higher Secondary School where the students have come out protesting with placards displaying inter alia "Let Us Study Properly", "No Education Without Teacher" and "No Teacher No Future". The judiciousness of these slogans can only be accepted but not countered. Now these demands are also coupled by the news covering the statements of the parents expressing their poverty compelling them to send their children to the government schools instead of the costlier private schools where somehow education happens one

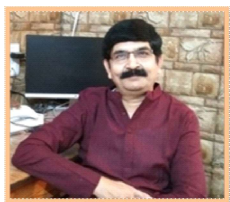
way or the other. Education is the only sure means for social mobility, and the poor parents must definitely have imagined a future where their children would move upward later in their life on the strength of the education they would acquire today; imagine their pains in the light of the unholy scenario.

But allowing the school problems, particularly the lack of teachers coupling the service uncertainty of the existing ones, to persist amount to ensuring a deepening social inequality in the future. The primacy as well as urgency for providing utmost attention to Education have also been reinforced by the recent distur-

bances caused by the COVID19. In order to comparatively appreciate the issues of Manipur (since there has been no attempt to sponsor evaluative studies), let us see what has happened around the world. Bokati-Lindell, a staff editor of the New York Times, reports in the 7 September 2022 of the paper: "the pandemic's toll on children's education varied a great deal both among and within countries. In middle-income Latin America and South Asia, for example, schools were closed much longer—for 75 weeks or more—than those in high-income countries in Europe and Central Asia."

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Parakaram Diwas



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

Kudos to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for unveiling a hologram statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on the occasion of his 125th birth anniversary. The Modi government in 2021 announced to observe January 23 as 'Parakaram Diwas' to commemorate the birth anniversary of Bose. Whenever we hear the name Subhash Chandra Bose, the first thing that comes in our mind is a popular saying by him, "Tum Mujhe Khoon do main tumhe Azadi dunga".

As PM Modi said Netaji's statue will really inspire democratic values and future generations. It is nice that the grand statue of Netaji is completely hand sculpted using traditional techniques and modern tools. He has rightly said that the freedom struggle had involved the sacrifice of lakhs of people, but after Independence there was an attempt to erase their contribution. Subhash Chandra Bose, popularly known as "Netaji", a great militant, freedom fighter and patriot was born at Cuttack, Orissa. He was selected for the Indian Civil Service but he did not want to stay in England and serve the British government. He resigned from his Civil Service job in 1921 and returned to India after hearing of the national turmoil in India.

His political and ideological views were largely influenced by the Bhagavad Gita and he worked tirelessly to gain independence for India from British rule. He believed in the ideals of democracy, however, he also believed that pure democracy would not work in a post-colonial India.

He was a warrior, who had to wage the freedom struggle. Not only did he embrace the freedom movement wholeheartedly, but also became an inspiration for freedom. With the slogan "Give me blood and I will give you freedom", he started preparing to awaken the country. Bose's selfless contribution to India's Independence Movement and organizing and leading the Indian National Army is indispensable. His struggle of Independence was highlighted during the Civil Disobedience Movement for which he had even been arrested. He was called "The Iron Man" for his strong demeanour. According to him freedom cannot be attained solely by non-violent means; it also necessitates violence. He actively participated in the Salt Satyagraha of 1930 and vehemently opposed the suspension of Civil Disobedience Movement and signing of the Gandhi-Irwin Pact in 1931.

He built a force and presented that force before the enemies of the country as the Azad Hind Fauj (Indian National Army). He gave the slogan of "Dilli Chalo" with a new spirit. Thousands of soldiers of his 60,000-strong army sacrificed their lives for the country. Despite his failure at leading a military revolt against the British Occupation, Bose was extremely successful in another area. In 1941, a Free India Radio was set up with help from Germany, on which Bose regularly spoke about the Indian Freedom Movement. Due to his charisma and charm, he succeeded in generating a wave of support for the Indian Freedom Movement. Bose, a ferocious fighter and the embodiment of intellect, trailed throughout the globe, meeting prominent leaders from Germany, Italy, and Japan before forming the INA (Indian National Army) in 1941.

Subhash Chandra Bose is an unforgettable national hero. He had tremendous love for his country. Bose lived with this philosophy and also inspired others. Netaji encountered failures several times, but he converted those failures to triumph with his struggle. Today's young generation should learn a great deal about Subhash Chandra Bose and his life.

Mid-day Meal showed malnourished children the way to school



By: Vijay GarG

The truth about the mid-day meal scheme is that it has given a boost to primary education. The poor and malnourished children of the country have been shown the way to school. The number of students in schools has increased. They are being encouraged to come to school. Leaving school has not been stopped, but this scheme is proving effective in reducing it.

Education is the foundation from which the building of India begins. This is why the 1990 World Conference for All Compulsory education was announced and on August 15, 1995, the government started the mid-day meal scheme in schools. From 'Chalo School Chalein' to 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' concepts have been made in this direction. But the question remains whether the best system of primary education in India has been achieved over the years. At the moment this question is floating on the floor with incomplete answers. The goal of making primary education free and compulsory for all children is not new, its journey is more or less as old as independence. It is. Despite this, the picture about school education does not appear to be emerging very well. Yes, it is another matter that it has increased progressively in the midst of the ongoing effort, but the two years of Covid-19 have hurt the entire schooling.

Significantly, on March 14, 2020, the mid-day meal scheme was put on hold. It was more fatal for children who were attached to education and school for food. Although the mid-day meal scheme is now on its way once again, but the children who have been connected to education through food since years ago. The work was done, how many of them have been returned, it is a matter of investigation. At present, due to this scheme, about twelve crore children in the age group of six to fourteen years and from class one to eight are covered. It is noteworthy that the government provides lunch to the students of classes one to eight in recognized schools including government, non-government and non-government schools. In 2021, its name was changed to PM Nutrition Scheme. There is better development of children and more and more children can come to school, for this purpose, Mid-Day Meal plan was started.

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Strategic significance of Bangladesh PM's recent India Visit

By: Dr Arpita Hazarika

been paying close attention to this. Despite being small, it was an essential first step "said Vinay Kwatra, the foreign secretary of India, in New Delhi.

According to its "Forces Goal 2030," Bangladesh is modernizing its military by introducing new weaponry and enhancing infrastructure. A large portion of these requirements can be met by India, which will also boost defence cooperation between the two countries.

China has sold Bangladesh weapons, including two traditional diesel electric submarines. China has become one of the world's leading suppliers of weapons, particularly to nations in India's immediate neighborhood.

India has recently greatly increased its military support for capacity building and capabilities development for nations in the Indian Ocean Region in an effort to counter this.

The "intensification" of bilateral defense ties was welcomed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Indian counterpart, Narendra Modi.

According to the joint statement released following the bilateral talks between the two leaders, they also agreed on the early completion of projects under the Line of Credit for Defense, which would be advantageous for both nations.

India looks forward to strengthening bilateral defense ties and welcomed the completion of "first purchase plans" for vehicles for the Bangladesh Armed Forces.

Both parties stressed the importance of cooperating closely to implement the \$500 million Line of Credit offered by India for defense items at the 4th Bangladesh-India annual defense dialogue held in New Delhi in August. At the meeting, representatives from Bangladesh and India reaffirmed their commitment to improving interactions between their armed forces and discussed the development of bilateral defense cooperation programs.

For in-depth conversations, various facets of defense industrial and capability-building cooperation came up. Both nations looked at the possibility of working together on joint production, co-development, and commerce in the defense sector.

The Indian side reaffirmed its demand for the 2019 MoU's provision of a coastal radar system for increased

marine security to be implemented as soon as possible.

After the meeting between the two leaders, 7 MoUs were also signed between the two countries. These are - MoU on withdrawal of 153 cusecs of water from Kushiara River under Surma-Kushiara Project, MoU between BSIR of Bangladesh with Council of Science and Educational Research of India on Scientific Cooperation, MoU between Supreme Court of Bangladesh with National Judicial Academy at Bhopal, Indian Railway Training Institutes, an MoU between the Railway Ministries of the two countries for the training of Bangladesh Railway staff, an MoU between the Indian and Bangladesh Railway Ministries for information technology cooperation in Bangladesh Railways, an MoU between Bangladesh Television with India's state broadcaster 'Prasar Bhati', and an MoU between BTCL and NSIL on space technology cooperation.

The relationship between Bangladesh and India is long-standing. We hope that this relationship will become closer and closer in the future. But it is also true, even though the two countries have maintained good relations, some issues have not been resolved yet. These include the Teesta water sharing agreement, border management and trade deficit. Regarding the Teesta water distribution agreement, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina expressed optimism and said that the agreement will be signed very soon.

It may be mentioned that all the formalities of signing this agreement have been completed but it was not implemented at the last moment. Indian authorities should consider to resolve the matter expeditiously. Indian government should also be sincere in stopping border killings. Reducing the trade deficit between the two countries is also of particular importance. We hope that the relations between the two countries will be strengthened through the settlement of the outstanding issues in the coming days.

Trade and cooperation between these two close neighbors have grown as a result of their special friendship relationship, promising advantages for both nations. To advance

their relationship even further, Bangladesh and India signed seven agreements on Tuesday. These agreements covered important topics like water withdrawal from a shared river, railroad development assistance, judicial officer training in Bangladesh, science and technology cooperation, and broadcasting cooperation. These agreements portend a strengthening of the bonds that unite the two nations.

Compared to 2010, India's loan assistance to Bangladesh has now increased tenfold. 25 percent of India's total foreign aid is allocated to Bangladesh. In the meantime, the country has handed over a billion dollars to Bangladesh, that too at less than one percent interest, a generosity that no other friendly country has shown to Bangladesh.

India's provision of tariff-free transit facilities to Bangladesh for exports to Nepal and Bhutan is considered a major step in bilateral cooperation. Also, since India can use the Chittagong seaport, not only the Seven Sisters of India will benefit from it, Dhaka will also benefit from it. Because, due to this, the South Block of Delhi expects that the export of Bangladesh to Northeast India will increase significantly.

The visit also made it clear where India wants to take its relationship with Bangladesh in the days ahead. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, or CEPA for short, with Bangladesh. As a result, the products of both countries will get duty-free access.

It is estimated that the volume of trade between the two countries will increase from the current 1.4 billion dollars to 15 billion dollars in the next ten years. India was also requested to implement SEPA by Japan and China. But India chose Bangladesh as its fourth largest trading partner before Japan or China. Besides, in the coming days, the area of cooperation between the two countries is going to expand in space as well.

(The author is a Gauhati University, Assam, India-based researcher. She is very interested in refugee affairs, political economy, security and strategic affairs, and foreign policies of the Asia-Pacific region)

Arvind Kejriwal's National aspirations depend on Gujarat Assembly Polls

By: Sushil Kutty

By end-2022, we'll have pinpointed the identity of the primary challenger to Narendra Modi's hegemony over the Prime Minister's chair. That is, if the Gujarat assembly elections are held on schedule, and not delayed. If the Gujarat elections are postponed, then it will take a few more months to make an intelligent guess.

Modi's challenger will rise out of the dust and debris of the Gujarat assembly elections. The Gujarat assembly elections are scheduled to be held by this year end, in the month of December. This time, the Gujarat elections will be a three-way contest. The last Gujarat elections witnessed a two-way contest, between the BJP and the Congress. This time, the AAP is hoping to make a triumphant entry with 2024 in the crosshairs.

"Aam Aadmi Party, Gujarat started its election campaign for Gujarat on 2 April with a Padayatra. AAP declared its alliance with Bharatiya Tribal Party for the assembly elections. On 2 August 2022, AAP convenor and the Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal addressed a public rally in Vervaval, Saurashtra," says Google. "The Legislative Assembly elections are speculated to be held in Gujarat in December 2022 to elect 182 members of Gujarat Legislative Assembly."

The last time the Gujarat assembly elections were held, there were a few frights before the Gujarat Model prevailed and the Congress lost the fight at the gates. Then, there was nothing like the shadow of an impending general elections to make a difference, and there was no party like the AAP making an entry, massing its freebies up for grabs at the gates of Gujarat buoyed by its sweeping Punjab success.

So, AAP and Arvind Kejriwal get the first shot at being named the primary challenger to AAP and Narendra Modi in the 2024 states even if it's only the AAP which will crow the challenge. Come to think of it, Kejriwal has already gone and named himself Modi's bete noire come 2024; straight off the bat, with the announcement of the 'Make India No.1' campaign, shortly before the Modi government went hammer and tong against his deputy Manish Sisodia, hoping to leave Kejriwal in a dispirited stupor.

Narendra Modi has been taking out challengers to his throne one by one. The other day, former Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad tweeted

a warning, asserting that there was "no vacancy for the post of Prime Minister." Before that, the ED had largely edged out West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee from the chase to become Prime Minister. Mamata's hope of getting an early start was thwarted, nipped in the bud by the central investigating agency.

Now, there's the CBI targeting the AAP leadership. And Manish Sisodia is the "bahana", but Kejriwal is the "nishana". However, for all the sound and fury, the CBI unearthed only empty liquor bottles, their labels marked "buy 1, get 2". This amid news that Tamil Nadu is getting its own Dravidian version of Kejriwal's 'Mohalla Clinic'. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin is a hardcore supporter for 'Kejriwal for Prime Minister' though he wouldn't say 'No' to anybody else from the array of Opposition leaders.

MK Stalin understands the lay of the poll-land, the simple easy to get fact that other than Arvind Kejriwal and Rahul Gandhi there are no winnable challengers to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. In other words, if the Congress is an established national party, the Aam Aadmi Party will be one

post-Gujarat Assembly elections if it wins Gujarat with its freebies. The Delhi-Punjab freebies model can beat the jaded Gujarat 'Amita' model.

MK Stalin's DMK will forever be a regional party. Ditto Nitish Kumar's JD(U) and Mamata's Trinamool Congress. The AAP and the Congress can bag votes in substantial numbers in almost all the states across India, but not the JD(U), and neither will the Trinamool succeed. Freebies are a powerful allure to poverty-stricken voters. Human beings are wired to choose freebies over paying a price, right from childhood.

True, the Dravidian parties of Tamil Nadu are the pioneers of the freebie culture, but the "from the Dravidian Stock" additive acts against them. The DMK outside Tamil Nadu is stillborn. The JD(U) outside Bihar wouldn't be much of a popular draw. The TRS of KCR doesn't stand a chance outside Telangana. But AAP is a made-to-order potential national party and if it wins Gujarat, or even comes second, Arvind Kejriwal will be top draw to challenge Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The only alternative to Kejriwal will be Rahul Gandhi. (IPA Service)

Elizabethan age ends, Charles is finally King after decades-long wait

Agency
London, Sept 9:

Britain's longest reigning monarch Queen Elizabeth II died on Thursday. At the moment she breathed her last, the throne passed immediately to Charles, the former Prince of Wales and the heir-in-waiting.

Charles has been preparing for the crown for the better part of his life. Now, at age 73, that moment has finally arrived. King Charles III will be proclaimed as the new sovereign by the Accession Council on Saturday.

Charles is the oldest British royal in history to assume the throne. For the sake of comparison, his mother, Elizabeth, was crowned Queen when she was 26.

Following his coronation, he will be the head of state for the UK and 14 other countries, including Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

Who is Charles, New King of UK?

Born at the royal estate in Sandringham on November 14, 1948, Charles is the first child of Elizabeth, who was then still a princess, and Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh.

He has three younger siblings: Anne, the Princess Royal; Prince Andrew, the Duke of York; and Prince Edward, the Earl of Wessex.

From a princeling, Charles became the heir apparent at age three when his grandfather King George VI died and his mother Elizabeth took the throne as Queen of Britain in 1952. He was nine when he was given the title of Prince of Wales.

As the monarch's eldest son, he automatically took the titles Duke of Cornwall, Duke of Rothesay, Earl of Carrick, Baron of Renfrew, Lord of the Isles and Prince and Great Steward of Scotland.

Elizabeth and Philip broke from royal tradition in the upbringing of Charles, choosing to send him away to school rather than appointing a royal



Queen Elizabeth II

Charles

tutor. He was educated at Hill House School in West London and Trinity College in Cambridge University.

During his time at Cambridge, Charles received pilot training from the Royal Air Force. However, the bulk of his military career was spent in the Royal Navy where he qualified as a helicopter pilot.

On July 1, 1969, he was formally invested as Prince of Wales.

In the summer of 1981, Charles married Diana Spencer, who went on to be hailed as the much beloved "people's princess". They had two children Prince William and Harry.

Charles and Diana's marriage, according to most royal watchers, was a deeply unhappy one. The couple eventually divorced in 1996 amid lurid tabloid headlines and mutual charges of infidelity.

"There were three of us in this marriage," Princess Diana said to the BBC in a tell-all interview, referring to her husband's romantic involvement with Camilla Parker-Bowles.

On August 31, 1997, Diana was killed along with boyfriend Dodi al-Fayed in a car crash in Paris. Charles was staying at Balmoral Castle in Scotland with his two sons and the rest of the royal family when he got word about what happened to his ex-wife.

Eight years later, in April 2005, Charles wed Camilla

Parker-Bowles, who took the title of Duchess of Cornwall. Earlier this year, Queen Elizabeth said she would prefer Camilla to be called "queen consort" when her son takes over.

King Charles has long been an advocate of climate action and environmental protection. Among his many philanthropic and environmental endeavours are the Prince's Trust and the Prince's Rainforest Project.

On April 8, 2021, Charles' father Prince Philip passed

away at the age of 99. Since her husband's death, the Queen's health started declining and she suffered from a prolonged illness in the midst of the Covid pandemic.

On September 8, reports emerged that Queen Elizabeth's health was failing. Charles, along with other royals, immediately rushed to be by her side. A short while later, Buckingham Palace issued a statement that 96-year-old monarch died peacefully in her sleep.

India logs 6,093 Covid-19 infections today, active cases below 50k

Agency
New Delhi, Sept 9:

India recorded 6,093 new Covid-19 cases in the past 24 hours, according to the Union Health Ministry data on Friday. Yesterday, the country had logged 6,396 fresh infections. Prior on 6 September, India saw lowest cases in three months which was 4,417.

As per the health ministry data, active Covid cases have further declined to 49,636 from 50,342. The active cases comprises 0.11 per cent of the total infections, while the national COVID-19 recovery rate has increased to 98.70 per cent.

The daily positivity rate was recorded at 1.93 percent and the weekly positivity rate was recorded at 1.88 per cent, according to the health ministry.

Under the nationwide COVID-19 vaccination drive, 214.55 crore doses of Covid vaccines have been administered in the country so far of

which 94.46 crore are second dose and 17.73 crore are precaution dose.

A total of 3,16,504 tests were conducted in the last 24 hour, with the total number of test conducted so far is 88.87 crore.

The data shows that 6,768 recoveries were recorded in a span of 24 hours, taking the cumulative recoveries to 4,39,06,972.

The death toll climbed to 5,28,121 with 31 fatalities which includes 13 deaths reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 am stated.

Speaking about vaccine availability, more than 202.42 crore (2,02,42,52,325) vaccine doses have been provided to States/UTs so far through Government of India free of cost channel and through direct state procurement category. It further said that more than 4.90 crore (4,90,23,790) balance and unutilized vaccine doses are still available with the States/UTs to be administered.

Earlier on 6 September, In-

dia gave emergency approval to the world's second covid-19 vaccine that can be delivered as nasal drops. The vaccine was jointly developed by Covaxin-maker Bharat Biotech and Washington University St. Louis.

Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) V.G. Somani approved restricted emergency use of the vaccine INCOVACC (BBV154) for primary two-dose schedule for people above 18 years of age.

Meanwhile, 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.

India, Japan agree to enhance military drills and defence co-operation

Agency
Tokyo, Sept 9:

India and Japan on Thursday agreed to enhance military exercises and defence cooperation as the two countries emphasised that the bilateral special strategic and global partnership plays a crucial role in ensuring a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific, amidst China's aggressive behaviour in the region.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met his Japanese counterpart, Yasukazu Hamada here on the first day of his official visit to Japan and the two leaders reviewed various

aspects of bilateral defence cooperation and regional affairs.

They also agreed to hold military drills aimed at boosting co-ordination between the air forces of the two nations.

"Reviewed various aspects of bilateral defence cooperation and regional affairs during the bilateral meeting with Japan's Minister of Defence, Yasukazu Hamada in Tokyo today. This year marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries," Singh tweeted.

Noting that India and Japan pursue a Special Strategic and Global Partnership,

Singh said India's defence partnership with Japan will play a crucial role in ensuring a free, open and rules-based Indo Pacific region.

India, the US and several other world powers have been talking about the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the region.

China claims nearly all of the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea.

In a statement, India's Defence Ministry said that during the delegation-level talks, Singh highlighted that the growing complexities in the India-Japan bilateral defence exercises is a testimony to the deepening of defence cooperation between the two countries.

He emphasised on the need to expand the scope of partnership in the field of Defence Equipment and Technological Cooperation.

The minister invited Japanese industries to invest in India's defence corridors where a conducive environment for the growth of the defence industry has been created by the Government of India, the statement said.

The two ministers expressed their commitment in continuing bilateral and multilateral exercises including 'Dharma Guardian', 'JIMEX' and 'Malabar', it said.

They welcomed the operationalisation of the Re-

ciprocal Provision of Supply and Services Agreement during 'Exercise MILAN' in March this year.

The two ministers also agreed that the early conduct of the inaugural fighter exercise will pave way for much greater cooperation and interoperability between the Air Forces of the two countries.

This year marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between India and Japan.

In Tokyo, Singh and External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar will join their Japanese counterparts at the '2+2' foreign and defence ministerial dialogue later in the day. The 2+2 Dialogue will review bilateral cooperation across domains and chart out the way forward.

The 2+2 dialogue is taking place more than five months after Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida visited India for the annual India-Japan summit.

Contd. from Page 2

Mid-day Meal showed malnourished children....

By the way, during the days of colonial rule, such a program was first started in the Madras Municipal Corporation in 1925 for the underprivileged children. There is no doubt that this scheme has been successful in bringing the children to school, but the reality is that the success has not been as much as the figures are counted. It is the responsibility of the government to bridge this gap between figures and reality. It is worth mentioning that no matter how powerful and effective a plan is, its execution is seldom possible. Mid day meal the plan is no different. The report of 'Unified District Information System for Education' shows that the number of government schools in the country has decreased, while the number of private schools has increased.

According to the report, more than fifty thousand government schools were closed in the country in 2018-19. Despite the mid-day meal scheme, the process of dropping out among the children has not stopped. It is clear from the lat-

est UNESCO report that the number of children dropping out due to the corona epidemic has increased rapidly. Mid-Day Meal Scheme 1997-98A was implemented in all the states of the country. Madrasas were also included in it in 2002. In 2014-15, this scheme was running in eleven and a half lakh primary and upper primary schools.

The figures then show that ten crore children were getting benefitted. According to the data released by the Planning Commission in 2011, the number of schools in India was 15 lakhs. Looking at the progressive development of education, it can be understood that after a decade this figure would have been even higher. In a country where every fourth person is below the poverty line and this figure is the cause of illiteracy.

However, the cost of such plans becomes much higher. It cannot be denied that education very rarely thrives in poverty and financial constraints. It is also a matter of reference that 100 grams of cereals,

pulses and vegetables are being given daily to all the children of classes I to V and 150 grams of the same food items are being given to the children of classes VI to VIII. The aim is to provide children with micronutrients such as iron and folic acid in addition to calories and protein. It should be noted that midday not only a meal scheme is not a scheme, but it is a legal right of the children of primary and upper primary classes as per the National Food Security Act 2013.

The All India Elementary Education Commission was constituted by the government in 1957 to promote and upgrade primary education. In this sequence, in 1965, the National Education Commission presented its report, which emphasized on maintaining equal educational opportunities for students of every religion, caste and gender without any discrimination. Due to this commission, the National Education Policy 1968 came to light. Here also concrete measures were seen to make education free and

compulsory. A new concept emerged in the academic environment from the National Policy on Education 1986, while the Operation Black Board of 1985 was full of basic facilities. In the current era, there are immense expectations attached to the New Education Policy 2020.

The human mind can be made useful only by education. The present age is of information and the collection and presentation of these information is the proof of intelligence in today's world. Thus, on the education of the young No compromise can be made and no such understanding can be reached which will hurt their right to education in the slightest. The Ministry of Human Resource Development constituted a committee to ensure that there is no scam and negligence regarding the mid-day meal scheme. This committee monitors the scheme at the national level. Through this, it is ensured that the right kind of food is given to the children in every school of the country.

Despite this, there are so many flaws in it that complaints keep piling up. Children also sick due to mid-day meal scheme and their death figures have also been seen from time to time. While children get the benefits of this scheme, its misuse continues by many. This scheme is almost three decades old, yet India has failed to improve its level in the index of hunger. Despite all this, the truth about the mid-day meal scheme is that it has given a boost to primary education. The poor and malnourished children of the country have been shown the way to school.

The number of students in schools has increased. They are being encouraged to come to school. Leaving school has not been stopped, but this scheme is proving effective in reducing it. Overall, it would be fair to say that the Mid-Day Meal Scheme is the hope of crores of young people of the country, where along with education, the stomach is also concerned and is improving their nutrition and increasing the level of learning.

Document Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my Voter Card, bearing No. CMN0289090. Driving License, bearing No. MN-0119990002099, RC Book of Active, bearing Regd. No. MN01F-2421 in between Nongmeibung and Konung Mamang on September 2, 2022.

Finders are requested to hand over it to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Kshetrimayum Umesh Singh
Nongmeibung Chakpram Leirak
Imphal East, Manipur
Contact No. 9612555846

Voter Identity Card Lost

I, the undersigned have lost my Voter Identity Card issued by Government of Manipur enrolled as SI. No. 412, H. No. 90 bearing BPT003324 of 40/5 polling station, Jiribam A.C., on the way between Babupara Ward No.6 to Jiribam Bazaar on the September 7, 2022.

Finder are requested to hand over the same to the undersigned.

Sd/-
Md Ali Ahmed
Babupara Ward No.6, Jiribam

'Congress broke India, BJP unifying it': Manipur CM N Biren Singh slams Bharat Jodo Yatra

Courtesy: ZEE News New Delhi, Sept 9:

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh, on Thursday, took a swipe at Congress over the ongoing Bharat Jodo Yatra and said that their motive of "unification of India" would have been believed in if the party had abrogated Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi yesterday along with senior party leaders began the second day of the party's Bharat Jodo Yatra from Agasteeswaram town of Kanniyakumari district in Tamil Nadu.

Speaking to ANI, Singh said, "Congress which broke India is conducting Bharat Jodo Yatra. If they had removed Article 370 from Jammu and Kashmir, the people would have believed that they want to unite India. But it was abrogated by the BJP."

"Congress broke India, BJP is unifying it. The people of India know about everything," added. The Chief Minister also took a jibe at his West Bengal counterpart Mamata Banerjee over her "Khela Hobe in 2024" remark, and said, "nobody can defeat the BJP under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".

Reacting on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's visit to the national capital and his meeting with the Opposition leaders in an attempt to unite them ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Singh said he "deceived the BJP" and he was answered by the five JD(U) MLAs who jumped ship to join the BJP in Manipur earlier this month.

"Nitish Kumar is busy uniting the Opposition for the 2024 general polls, he has deceived the BJP and he has got



the answers from Manipur. What you sow is what you reap. The BJP did everything for Nitish Kumar, making him the chief minister despite being in the majority. But he deceived us," he said. "The JD(U) MLAs in Manipur wanted to be with NDA, and so they joined the BJP. They said that they wanted to remain with the NDA and they are satisfied with the work being done by PM Modi," Singh added.

CM N Biren Singh also extends support to Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's demolition of three madrasas in the state, Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Thursday said that the BJP is not against the legal madrasas but only the illegal ones. Singh said that he would have taken the same action if he had been the chief minister of Assam.

Speaking to ANI, he said, "What the Chief Minister is doing in Assam in connection with the madrasa is right. Those who have to approach the courts can do it, it is a democracy. But he is doing the right thing. If I had been at Himanta Biswa Sarma's place as a chief minister, I would have taken the same action."

Standing in support of

Sarma who was criticised by Congress for his action against the madrasas which the Assam CM alleged were the offices of Al-Qaeda, Singh said that Sarma understands the political demography of the state and is working accordingly. "Sarma is an experienced politician who is connected to the grassroots. He understands the political demography there. He is working according to that only. We have instructed earlier to the madrasas in Manipur to impart a general education," he said.

The Manipur CM said that there is a need to crack down on those indulging in "unconstitutional activities". "Unrecognized and unauthorized Madrasas need to be recognized. An undue advantage of India's democracy was taken. The BJP governments are not against the legal madrasas but are against the illegal ones. There is a need to crack down on those who do unconstitutional activities," he said.

Meanwhile, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday said all demolished madrasas were not madrasas but Al-Qaeda offices. Speaking to mediapersons here, Sarma said, "All demolished

madrasas were not madrasas but Al-Qaeda offices. We demolished 2-3 and now the public is coming to demolish others. The Muslim community is coming to demolish, saying that they do not want a madrasa where the work of Al-Qaeda is done. That changes madrasa's character."

The Chief Minister's statement came after local residents of Pakhuria Char in Assam's Goalpara district demolished a madrasa on Tuesday after a cleric associated with it was held for alleged anti-national activities.

"Locals took the initiative to demolish a madrasa. The government was not involved in it. They were surprised that the jihadi who was arrested was a teacher in the madrasa. People have given a strong message that they do not support jihadi activities," Goalpara Superintendent of Police VV Rakesh Reddy told ANI.

"Today, the locals of Darogar Alga, Pakhiura Char in Goalpara district voluntarily demolished the madrasa & the residence adjacent to the madrasa which was previously used by two suspected Bangladeshi nationals as a strong resentment towards the Jihadi activities," said the Assam Police CPRO.

In the last few weeks, four madrasas have been demolished, with the first three being pulled down by government authorities. Earlier on August 4, the government authorities demolished Madrasa Jamil Huda Madrasa at Moirabari in Moriganj district. Notably, on 30 August, the Uttar Pradesh government had asked the DMs of all the districts to conduct a survey of unrecognized madrasas and inform the government about it.

Contd. from Page 1 13th Foundation Day of IGNTU....

The Chief Guest of the august gathering, Prof. N.S. Hari Narayana Moorthy, expressed his happiness in being a part of the celebration and also congratulated the organizing committee and the RCM fraternity. He dwelled largely on the message conveyed by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and remarked that it is a matter of pride to be a part of IGNTU, whose area of operation is wide in scope by virtue of being a national university. He stressed that the founding of IGNTU was to uplift the conditions of the tribal brethren in India through knowledge and education, and also to promote and conserve the declining tribal culture and tradition. He wished the RCM fraternity the best in its academic pursuits.

In his Presidential Address, Prof. Ng. Ngalengnam briefly narrated how RCM was established at Tribal Research Institute, Imphal in a single room providing MPhil in Political Science in 2009. Gradually, more subjects and courses were added. Then for some time, RCM functioned from classrooms in Adim Jati Complex, Imphal. Finally, in 2017, it shifted to its permanent campus. At present, there are five departments such as Political Science, Social Work, Sociology, Tribal Studies and Computer Science. Except for the departments of Sociology and Tribal Studies, the rest provides not only Master's degree but also PhD degree. Prof. Ngalengnam observed that although the pace of infrastructure development of the campus was slow, it has steadily progressed catering to the needs of the students. It has a well functioning library and sports complex. And at the moment, two hostels for male and female students are nearly completed. He advised the students to have faith in the institution and the well-qualified teachers and be a part of the advancing nation. Finally, he extended his warm regards and gratitude to the Vice Chancellor of IGNTU, Prof. Prakash Mani Tripathi for his encouraging words, wisdom and love. He also encouraged all the staffs of RCM to make this institution a reputed place of learning for the entire humanity.

Put Education to the Centre...

As a result, students in Latin America and South Asia missed about 12 months' worth of learning, McKinsey estimated, while students in North America missed only about four months' worth of learning. In the United States, high-poverty schools tended to spend more time learning remotely, as did Black and Hispanic students, which had the effect of widening economic and racial gaps: On the National Assessment of Educational Progress test, Black students lost 13 points in math, compared with five points among white students. According to Andrew Ho, a professor of education at Harvard and an expert on education testing, each point lost on the exam translates to about three weeks of learning. So a student who lost three points in math could catch up in as little as nine weeks, while a low-performing student who lost 12 points would need 36 weeks."

A report of the Centre for Education Policy Research at Harvard University, NWEA, and CALDER at the American Institutes for Research published in May 2022 and titled *Consequences of Remote and Hybrid Instruction During the Pan-*

demic writes: "Since the pandemic started in March 2020, multiple reports have highlighted large declines in students' math and reading achievement as well as widening gaps by race and school poverty. If allowed to become permanent, such losses will have major impacts on future earnings and intergenerational mobility." And "the shifts to remote or hybrid instruction during 2020-21 had profound consequences for student achievement. In districts that went remote, achievement growth was lower for all subgroups, but especially for students attending high-poverty schools. In areas that remained in person, there were still modest losses in achievement, but there was no widening of gaps between high and low-poverty schools in math (and less widening in reading)."

Such are the additional burdens imposed by the pandemic in any society even in the advanced countries like the United States of America. One can readily imagine the costs that must have been imposed in a society like Manipur's where the relative governance quality is also highly questionable. Even if we confine to the relative ex-

amination only to India, it must be accepted that the social absorption capacity of shocks is much poorer in Manipur than say in Mumbai/Hyderabad/Delhi. Ipso facto, any carelessness to the issues of education today would be much costlier in Manipur than elsewhere in the years to come, and this in turn would increasingly compromise the future capability to address the issues today. It should also be remembered that the learning crisis has been there even before the recent pandemic.

I would certainly reiterate that Emphasising Education more than anything else is imperative in Manipur today. While, for example, the War on Drugs is only a way of addressing localised problem and chasing after certain individuals and groups, the case of Education is altogether different. Education is to be provided today and the need for this is both wide and deep. War on Drugs is a case of chasing the mice eating into our rice-stocks, the problem of education is one where a Tiger is getting ready to engulf the whole society. Which one Manipur endeavours to face head-on on a priority basis – the Mice or the Tiger?

Sports

Durand Cup 2022: Youthful Kerala Blasters FC face Mohammedan SC challenge in first quarter-final today

Agency Kolkata, Sept 9:

A young Kerala Blasters FC side will face a stern test against hosts Mohammedan SC as they take on the Kolkata giants in the first quarter-final of the Durand Cup at the Salt Lake stadium in Kolkata on Friday.

The talented and young Blasters side have shown they are capable of turning the tables on the best in Indian football on their day and they will hope they can cope with the challenge of Mohammedan SC who have been in top form in the Durand Cup so far. The winners on Friday take on the winners of the third quarter-final between Mumbai City FC and Chennaiyin FC, which is scheduled for Sunday.

Mohammedan will enjoy home advantage with about 40,000 plus supporters expected to cheer them from the

stands. The hosts will also benefit from the fact that they have not had to travel like the Blasters have from Guwahati and so will be relatively fresher.

Mohammedan will also be in a confident mood having qualified as group toppers from Group A, which also had the likes of Bengaluru FC in it, besides defending champions FC Goa. They have a settled look to their side with all positions well covered and Trinidadian talisman Marcus Joseph has not only been scoring but has turned out to be a lethal creator this year which bodes well.

KBFC on the other hand have qualified as the second team from Group D behind Odisha FC. All matches of that group were played at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium in Guwahati.

Kerala lost to a clearly superior Odisha FC but held out for a good draw against

Sudeva FC and then beat NorthEast United FC, before stunning Army Green for a place in the last eight. They are a side brimming with young talent in all positions.

The combination of Mohammad Aimen and Mohammad Azhar are a handful with the former striking three times in the tournament so far and is currently among the top scorers. Mohammad Ajsal is another talented centre-forward in their team which is also blessed with highly proficient Tejas Krishna at the back with captain Sachin Suresh as a house under the Blasters bar.

In addition, one of the goals of the tournament has been scored by their talented left-wing back Aritra Das and Vibin Mohanan, an India age-group international, has been marshalling resources from midfield with aplomb. The group also gives the impression that they have been play-

ing together and enjoy playing together, factors so important in a team sport like football.

Polish Manager Tomasz Tchorz however was aware of the quality of their Friday opponents and was guarded in the pre-match presser saying, "We are happy to take part in this tournament. And we are hungry to do good here. The motivation for tomorrow's match will be that we are going to play against a good team in the I-League. Our team will be ready to show their talent. The supporters who are going to come and support us, I just want to say that we are going to give our 100%. Definitely Mohammedan will be having more supporters but it won't matter. We are ready to fight on the field."

A highly competitive fixture in front of a full house awaits us on Friday and it will set the tone for the knockouts going forward.

Iga Swiatek downs Aryna Sabalenka to set up Ons Jabeur US Open title showdown

Agency New York, Sept 9:

An emergency bathroom break powered world number one Iga Swiatek into a US Open final showdown with trailblazing Tunisian fifth-seed Ons Jabeur on Thursday.

Two-time French Open champion Swiatek advanced to the first US Open final of her career after coming from behind to beat Aryna Sabalenka 3-6, 6-1, 6-4 at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

The victory sent the 21-year-old from Poland into a Saturday final with Jabeur, who thrashed France's Caroline Garcia 6-1, 6-3 in Thursday's other semi-final.

Sabalenka, the sixth seed from Belarus, looked poised to create an upset after a dominant first set performance in which she broke Swiatek no fewer than three times.

But Swiatek was rejuvenated after a quick dash to the bathroom following the opening set.

"I kind of needed to go,"



Iga Swiatek will face Ons Jabeur in US Open final on Saturday.

Swiatek said. "For sure I felt lighter. I'm sorry — that's disgusting."

Swiatek also said the break had helped her analyse the flaws in her first set performance.

"I tried to use that time to think about what to change because I remember when I was younger all I would do in the bathroom between sets after I lost was cry."

"But this time I could think about what to change and actu-

ally problem solve."

The break did the trick as Swiatek raced through the second set to level the match and then punished a late collapse from Sabalenka to close out a gutsy victory.

Sabalenka, who was up a break and leading 4-2 in the final set, was left distraught by the defeat. She later appeared at a press conference with mirrored sunglasses on and a baseball cap pulled over her face.