

## Anusuiya Uikey appointed as new Governor of Manipur

IT News  
Imphal, Feb 12:

Sushri Anusuiya Uikey, governor of Chhattisgarh, was appointed as the new governor of Manipur by President of India Droupadi Murmu on Sunday.

Anusuiya Uikey will be replacing La Ganesan, who has been appointed as the governor of Nagaland.

Uikey was the governor of Chhattisgarh from July 16, 2019 to February 12, 2022 prior to becoming the 18th governor of Manipur.

Hailing from Chhindwara in Madhya Pradesh, the 66-year-old Uikey had been taking part in social and political activities since her student days. She served as a Rajya Sabha MP of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from 2006 to 2012 during which she was a member of several parliamentary committees. Uikey has also served as vice-chairperson of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh extended a hearty welcome to Uikey on being appointed as the new governor of the state.

"A hearty welcome to Smt Sushri Anusuiya Uikey Ji on being appointed as the new Governor of Manipur. I am confident that the people of Manipur will see great progress under your leadership. Also, I extend best wishes to Shri La Ganesan Ji on his new post as Governor of Nagaland," he tweeted.

Anusuiya Uikey (born 10 April 1957) is a politician and currently serving as the governor of Manipur & formerly of Chhattisgarh. She was elected to the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly from Damua in the 1985 Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly election as a member of the Indian National Congress. She became Minister for Women and Child Development in Arjun Singh cabinet. By 1998, she had crossed over to BJP and was its losing candidate in 1998 Vidhan Sabha election from Damua.[1] She became a member of Rajya Sabha from Madhya Pradesh



in 2006.

President Murmu on Sunday announced 13 gubernatorial appointments, which include some governors being reshuffled.

The other new governors' appointments in North East India are Lt. General (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik, as Governor of Arunachal Pradesh, while Lakshman Prasad Acharya will be the Governor of Sikkim. CP Radhakrishnan will be the Governor of Jharkhand and Shiv Pratap Shukla will be the Governor of Himachal Pradesh. Gulab Chand Kataria has been appointed as Governor of Assam and Justice (Retd) S.

Abdul Nazeer as Governor of Andhra Pradesh, while Biswa Bhushan Harichandan, the current Governor of Andhra Pradesh has been sent to Chhattisgarh.

La. Ganesan, Governor of Manipur has been appointed as Governor of Nagaland. Bihar Governor Phagu Chauhan, has been appointed as Governor of Meghalaya. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Governor of Himachal Pradesh has been appointed as Governor of Bihar.

BD Mishra (Retd.), Governor of Arunachal Pradesh was appointed as Lt. Governor of Ladakh, after the President accepted the resignation of Radha Krishnan Mathur.

## Unknown gunmen fired several rounds at MPCC VP house

Dictatorship type of government would not last long – O Ibohi

IT News  
Imphal, Feb 12:

Unknown miscreants opened fire at the residence of Vice-President of Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee Harehwar Goshwami, at Wangkhei Konsam Leikai at around 12:40 am of Sunday.

The miscreants fled from the scene in a vehicle after firing ten rounds at the residence of Harehwar Goshwami. A total of ten blank cartridges of 9mm pistol were recovered from the spot.

A case has been registered by Porompat police and attempts are on to arrest the persons responsible for the attacks.

Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee strongly condemned the attack at the residence of its Vice-President and the recent arson attempt at its office located at Congress Bhavan.

Addressing media in a press conference held today at the residence of MPCC VP, Harehwar Goswami, Okram Ibohi, former Chief Minister and who is also leader of opposition, said that different form of attack has been facing by the party in the last few days. On February 10, some unknown miscreants had hurled petrol bomb and



burned waste material outside the gate of Congress Bhavan. And after this, some unknown miscreants had fired several gun rounds at the residence of MPCC VP Harehwar Goswami.

Ibohi said, "We highly suspect that the recent attack to the MPCC was done just for expressing few opinions in television discussion on the current burning issues of the state. Proper investigation is needed to find out the people behind the attack. Such incident of attack and intimidation is rampant with the present government".

Democracy has lost its true meaning in the state of Manipur with the advent of the present government. For how

long will the current form of democratic government will last in Manipur owing to the present disturbing political scenario in the state, Ibohi said.

Freedom of Speech and Expression has become a joke and people are afraid to express their views and opinions, as the present BJP government are always ready to take action against anyone who spoke or act against them, condemned Ibohi and said this dictatorship type of government would not last long in the state.

It may be mentioned that the Congress Party organised a sit-in-protest against the police for registering an FIR against MPCC youth wing president N Popilal for

criticising the present government in a local news discussion on the issue of War on Drugs. The sit-in-protest also condemned the arson attempt by unknown miscreant at its office gate on the night of February 10.

Interestingly it is worthwhile to mention that a team of police team allegedly ransacked the house of Ningthoujam Polpilal at his Phayeng residence on February 10. This action from the police came after two Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha Spokesperson M Sureshkumar and its Secretary Alex were assaulted by unknown gunmen on their way to Lamphel and were beaten black and blue.

## Jaswant Singh as new Chief Justice of Tripura High Court; He will retired on February 22

Agency  
New Delhi, Feb 12:

The Central Government has notified the appointment of Justice Jaswant Singh as a new Chief Justice of Tripura High Court. He is set to retire on February 22.

Jawant Singh name was proposed as the Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court in September 2022 as replacement for Justice Muralidhar, whose transfer as the Chief Justice of the Madras High



Court was recommended. The Centre withheld approval for

the transfer for Justice Muralidhar. Hence, the collegiums recalled the proposal to elevate Justice Jaswant Singh as Orissa High Court Chief Justice and proposed him instead as Tripura High Court Chief Justice on January 25.

Law minister Kiren Rijiju announced the appointment on Twitter. Justice Singh is the second senior most judge of the Orissa High Court and will take over from acting Chief Justice Amamath T. Goud of

the Tripura High Court.

Since Justice Singh is due to retire on February 22, the collegiums has also proposed the appointment of Justice Apareesh Kuamr Singh, judge, Jharkhand High Court, as Tripura High Court Chief Justice after Justice Jaswant Singh's retirement.

Justice Jaswant Singh originally belongs to Punjab and Haryana High Court and is at present the second senior judge of the Orissa High Court.

## Assam Rifles conducts lecture on Drug Abuse

IT News  
Imphal, Feb 12:

As part of War against Drugs, Moreh Battalion of Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) conducted a lecture on drug abuse for youth of T' Minou Village, Tengnoupal district on 11 February 2023.

The lecture was aimed to motivate and educate the youth & villagers of the ill effects of drug

abuse. The lecture highlighted the functioning of anti-national elements and drug proliferation activities carried out by them. Local youth were briefed about the repercussions and affect of drugs on life & society as a whole.

Total 45 youths from the village attended the programme and pledged to ensure a drug free environment.

## Free medical camp held

IT News  
Imphal, Feb 12:

As part of the ongoing week-long Dhanvanthri Seva Yatra, National Medicos Organisation Manipur (NMO) in association with Seva Bharati Manipur and Seven star youth club Kharasom has conducted a free medical camp at Kharasom Primary School today.

ENT, Eye, Medicine, Paediatric, surgery and gynaecology specialists from RIMS and JNIMS participated in the camp while, 211 locals from Kharasom village, Chingkei Khullen and Salakhei availed free medical care and treatment.

## With India matches in Manipur, AIFF wants to set a positive example

Courtesy: News18  
Kolkata, Feb 12:

It's a crying shame that Manipur, the cradle of Indian football, has not hosted the senior national team all this while. Over the years, the state from the northeast has produced over 50 senior international players, men and women, and currently has the most number of players for a state in the Indian Super League (ISL), I-League and Indian Women's League (IWL).

Referred also as the conveyor belt of football talent in India, Manipur's love for the game and healthy popularity of the sport in the state is by default rather than design. There's a football club in ev-

ery nook and corner of Manipur. Regional newspapers every day are littered with news of one or the other local football tournaments, launched and run by locals. Thousands play the game every day, competitively, resulting in a healthy supply of professional footballers.

The senior Indian team is the ultimate dream for most of them, and soon they will have the national team playing in their own backyard. The All India Football Federation (AIFF) has decided to host Team India's next tri-nation friendly tournament against Myanmar and Kyrgyz Republic in Manipur in March. The matches will be played in the capital Imphal on 22, 24 and 26 March during the FIFA in-

ternational window. This will be the first time the India senior national team will be playing in Manipur.

While making the announcement, AIFF president Kalyan Chaubey said the decision was in line with the federation's recently launched roadmap 'Vision 2047', to "take quality football to the furthest corners of the country".

Elaborating further on the same, AIFF secretary general Shaji Prabhakaran told Firstpost that the federation also wants to thank Manipur for its rich contribution to Indian football by taking India matches to the northeast state.

"It's a way to say thank you," Prabhakaran said. "It's not like we have just decided

to host a game in Manipur. They deserve it. It will only help football become bigger there. It's an opportunity to say thank you to Manipur for all that they have done."

There's another aspect that AIFF hopes to achieve by hosting senior national team games in Manipur, one of the best performing football states in India. The AIFF wants Sunil Chhetri and Co playing in Imphal to be seen as a positive example for other member associations. The messaging is clear; states, that successfully manage to grow the game and culture of football, can attract the national team.

"Yes. This will also show that as a state if you are progressing in football, you can also become an attractive lo-

cation," Prabhakaran added.

While AIFF remains committed to growing football across India and helping all member associations develop, more initiatives could make their way to the northeast in order to further strengthen the footballing culture and facilities in one of the best performing regions for the sport in the country. Apart from Manipur, Mizoram has also been regularly producing a high number of elite level footballers.

"Northeast overall as a pocket is very vibrant for football, however, for strategic decisions we need to take a stock of everything and we will be making deep dives for our research. But it's (India matches) not a one-off, there will be other initiatives to bring

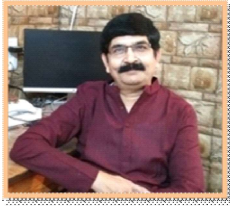
in more value and to get the best out of the northeast," the secretary general said.

"Coach education is one of the areas where we will like to focus so that there are enough coaches. They have passion for the sport, and if we add some capacity building they will be able to contribute in a bigger way. These areas are the strength of Indian football and we need to strengthen them further to improve the overall outcome."

Taking the game to a new market could also open up new commercial avenues and help AIFF add to its revenue, but Prabhakaran said that is not the priority at the moment. The focus is on strengthening the footballing ecosystem.

contd. on page 4

# The most beautiful thing a woman can wear is confidence



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

India is a source, destination and transit country for women being trafficked for the use of forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Women are being held in debt bondage and are very vulnerable to forced labor working in rice mills, brick kilns, and agriculture and in embroidery factories. Interestingly, a television debate concluded that divorce rates and women empowerment are directly proportional. Empowered though, women's status has not been any better, thanks to

honour killings, call-centre atrocities, female infanticides and you name it. Imagine a world without it! The world of work is changing, and with significant implications for women. On one hand, we have globalization, technological and digital revolution and the opportunities they bring, and on the other hand, the growing informality of labour, unstable livelihoods and incomes, new fiscal and trade policies and environmental impacts—all of which must be addressed in the context of women's economic empowerment.

It has rightly pointed out that "Single means much more than living life your way". It is found that a single woman faces many psychological and emotional hurdles because of the traditional views of society. The class of single women with a new status may be the direct result of the new concept of women's development. One would find that facilities in our country to welcome this new trend are still inadequate and young women will have to be trained for such a possibility. There are many single women who are self-confident and have a positive self-image. Women prefer to stay single because it gives them the right to live the way they liked and utilize their income the way they wished. In India, a good number of women have begun to remain single and they have valued their independence regarding physical matters and decision making. Our society needs to change, to help the single women to stand on their feet with dignity and pride. The phenomenon of being single either by choice or by circumstances, is a deviation from traditional expectations but both the family as well as the women themselves need to redefine their concept of suitability of a marriage partner. Inter-cast or inter-religious marriages could be encouraged as this would broaden the range of choice of partners. Society should stop exploiting them and respect their right to be happy and independent.

Crimes rates against women are much higher in big cities than in either small cities or rural areas. Time has helplessly watched women suffering in the form of discrimination, oppression, exploitation, degradation, aggression, humiliation. In a country where women and girls are traditionally revered as the Mother and the Goddess, this is simply unacceptable. A society that is unable to respect, protect and nurture its women and children loses its moral moorings and runs adrift. The major lacuna in the laws is that they are not gender neutral. Many women and their family members, therefore, misuse them to settle scores, intimidate and harass the husband and his family. It is not uncommon to project self-inflicted injuries as assault by husbands. Sensitivity training and knowledge of the rights of women and children are another vital need and must be made mandatory for all law enforcement agencies. To increase the reporting of such cases at first we need to empower the women and children. They must be educate on their rights and encourage them to come forward to register the cases. There are many violent cases but due to stigma in the society very few are reported. The problem cannot be solved by the government alone but by a national awakening involving the entire country and civil society. A nationwide campaign is needed to reignite India's core values and traditions that respect and nurture women.

# Government has to rethink its vigilance on the 'Popgee' case in good faith



By: Paojakhup Guite

2023 is risen! The first two months of the New Year have notoriously witnessed two infamous, tectonic incidents in the state of Manipur in a quick succession.

The last week(s) of January saw the introduction of a policing/surveillance system as part of poppy cleansing campaign by the state government under Chief Minister, Shri N. Biren Singh's pet project, "War on Drugs 2.0".

The first week(s) of February gripped the government apparently with its worst form of influx of non-citizens across the porous Indo-Myanmar international border along the state of Manipur.

I have clubbed here the two infamous cases of Poppy and Refugee as "Popgee", which has to be pronounced as POP-JI (and, not as PUB-G though). The two cases are at their apogee, thus merited attention of the state government in its fight against drugs on a war footing.

### The root-shoot complex

One of the policy failures of the government in its fight against poppy is evident in ignoring the root-shoot dichotomy of the plant. Doing that would have helped in a total elimination of poppy by now. Therefore, government in its beginning lacked a structured and well-defined strategy in dealing with the arguably 'elimination' drive against poppy plantation, primarily in the hill districts of Manipur. The irony of the drive is that it was merely apparently aimed at 'destroying' rather than 'eliminating' poppy. The *raison d'être* of the campaign is to root out the herbaceous plant. But, the government explicitly has directed its campaign by destroying only the shoot part of the plant. Ergo, it is clear that the government's initial step is tantamount to the proverbial "putting the cart before the horse". The 'root'

is notional and implicit; it's something not to do with the literal meaning of the root system of the plant where one should literally pick out the roots of poppy. To eliminate or for that matter, root out the alleged illegal poppy plantation in totality, the government should have begun its focus on the root system right from its inception (WoD, 2018). The government arresting village Chiefs/Chairmen who are accused of giving a go-head to villagers to plant/cultivate poppy is like treating the symptoms and not the cause. In other words, it is part of the government's shoot-out strategy in its attempt to eliminate the illegal plant. For the drive to be more effective, the government has to begin from scratch by introducing novel initiatives—awareness campaign, alternative livelihood and the like. Given the potentials of WoD 2.0, government stands a good chance to succeed with the root-strategy rather than the shoot-out strategy. Better late than never.

### The Panopticon Metaphor

The stern action of the Government of Manipur against the poppy cultivation (Plantation) is mired in controversy of its legality for the dearth of empirical evidence to prove it globally. The controversy revolves around its medicinal value. Undoubtedly, poppy *per se* is not an abusive substance. However, it's proven fact that poppy has unintended insurmountable ramifications on morality though in a lesser degree as compared to that of local made liquors.

Most recent, the State government took up a bold step by putting Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) like drone in place to spy the areal acreage of poppy plantation across the rugged mountains in some hill districts of the state. This is unfortunate as far as the civic life of a democratic citizen is concerned.

The drone is a surveillance system (Foucault, 1970) which draws from Jeremy Bentham's work on the Panopticon discourse in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Jeremy Bentham, an English philosopher and social theorist in the mid-1700s, invented a social control mechanism that would become a comprehensive symbol for modern authority and discipline in the western world: a prison system called the Panopticon. Michel Foucault, a French intellectual and critic, expanded the idea of the panopticon into a symbol of social control that

extends into everyday life for all citizens, not just those in the prison system. At a time privacy is incorporated in the Constitution as a Fundamental Right, introducing a drone will bring more questions than solutions.

The Government should rethink to adopt an effective solution to eliminating Poppy cultivation in the State. Cutting it in the bud won't do. The figurative root part initiative has to be taken very sooner than later.

### Environ[Man]

Post-ice age, environment and man sustain their interdependence through ecological balance. With Agricultural Revolution, man began eating into the environment. Worse is that, with Industrial Revolution man started destroying environment to tap the natural resources, thus turned human beings into a consumer society. In a way, Science and Technology is worsening the pace of destruction of ecology.

Interestingly, WoD 2.0 is well-equipped with Sc& technology. Just as Natures like river is personified and given a rightful claim to be protected by humankind in New Zealand, the same way soil can be given the same treatment in our case. Knowing this fact, the government has given a due concern for the protection of environment in a holistic manner. However, it fails to recognise that it plays a second fiddle in destroying the quality of soil by using a drone for spraying a chemical(s) to uproot the illicit poppy. One should always keep in mind that the cultivators have done badly enough in polluting the soil by using different chemicals over again and again. The government is also not transparent in what kind of chemicals it uses. If the government of Manipur had actually deliberated on the use of aerial spraying of chemicals for the destruction on poppy plants in Manipur, it should have highlighted both the merits and demerits of the plan (Wakching Lai, The Frontier Manipur).

In the name of protecting forests, the government has missed out on subtleties of the soil, for which its purpose is said to defeat by itself.

### Semantic Slipperiness of 'influx'

At the backdrop of the fast pacing of WoD 2.0 Campaign, there emerged a mass immigration issue in the state. The influx happened on the porous Indo-Myanmar international border across Manipur segment.

Some pessimists have misread this with keeping poppy issues in mind. Their argument is that the wave of Golden Triangle has reached Manipur, so the immigrants sneaked into the state so that they can carry out a huge poppy plantation freely in India (Manipur). Therefore, they have dubbed them as illegal immigrants or refugees and the like without a proper understanding of the terms. This is unfortunate and bereft of humanity.

It's a common sense that our neighbour country has been under the grip of Military Junta since February 2021. Chin state and the Sagaing Region of Myanmar are bordering India, and they are the ones which have been offering the fiercest resistance against the Military Junta. The non-bonafide influx who have fled to India (Manipur) are traced to these regions of Myanmar. They have to be given a humanly treatment keeping aside all the derogatory tags like refugees, because this has had connotations on the border tribes of India (Manipur).

As per media reports, it is learnt that Government has done enough to deal with this issue in a very sensitive manner. On humanitarian ground, the government has to think twice of its act in arresting and putting them in confinement. It would be wise on the part of the Government of Manipur to accommodate them in a very co-ordinated manner. It is advisable to the government to either give shelters to them anywhere it deems convenient or let them settle in the border villages where they were arrested from. In this direction, the government has to work in collusion with the CSOs and village chiefs of the border areas in question. The government should buy time for Myanmar to return to normalcy and only after that only can it deport them to their country which they had fled. This will speak volume about Manipur in particular and India at large in a very humanity way to the international community. It is noteworthy that the Myanmarese influx have expressed their note of gratitude to the people of Manipur for having been handled in a very positive way.

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## Prevention, treatment and rehabilitation: 3-level approach against drugs 25 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) dedicated to the Nation's service

By: Dr. Virendra Kumar

The 'Magnitude of Substance Use in India' Report, was released in 2019 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) and the National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), AIIMS, Delhi that showed increasing trends of drug use in India. Several drugs have been a part of the tradition and continue to be so in some parts of the country, even today. However, the use of drugs has spread beyond traditional use and is surfacing as an issue of abuse among youth. As per medical research, it is accepted that drug addiction or substance use disorder is a chronic, relapsing health condition caused by a multitude of genetic, biological, environmental and lifestyle-related factors and can be cured by a combination of approaches such as counselling, lifestyle changes and medical treatment involving medicines. Therefore, responding to drug problems in any society requires an informed, multi-pronged strategy that simultaneously addresses the drug supply and reduction of drug demand.

On the occasion of International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, the Hon'ble Prime Minister tweeted "I laud all those working at the grassroots to eliminate the menace of drugs from our society. Every such effort to save lives is vital. After all, drugs bring with it darkness, destruction and devastation".

The government's NCORD mechanism has assisted in addressing drug use on a greater level. Its direction and convergence have led to unified action by all agencies and stakeholders confronting substance use on a single platform.

On 15 August 2020, a community-driven mass movement campaign, *Nasha Mukh Bharat* Abhiyaan of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, was launched against substance use in 272 vulnerable districts of the country. As a second step of this mass movement, another 100 vulnerable districts were added to the list in 2022.

Since its inception, *Nasha Mukh Bharat* Abhiyaan has made enormous

changes in drug demand reduction with the help of stakeholders who actively envision and work for better community outreach through advocacy-related activities. To date, more than 9.3 crore people have been sensitized on substance abuse, including more than 3 crore youth and more than 2 crore women; and more than 2.7 lakh educational institutions have participated in this mission.

The *Nasha Mukh Bharat* Abhiyaan, hand-holds women, children, educational institutions, and civil society organizations to lead and become the torchbearers in this course of action. The campaign has a strong force of more than 8000 master volunteers, who are trained and sensitized to deliver the message of adverse effects of using drugs, course of redressal and rehabilitation for those struggling with the substance in the most distant sectors. A range of events like marathons, folk musicals, local sports events, boat or cycle rallies and numerous other activities are organized to connect with the masses in regional languages and more culturally, engaging ways to create a more profound impact and eventually affect the demand for substances. It commits to partner with higher educational

institutions, universities, campuses and schools in reaching out and identifying dependent populations; by focusing on counselling and providing treatment facilities in hospitals and rehabilitation centres along with capacity-building programmes for service providers, the campaign is an end to end resolution to the increasing trends in drug usage.

The National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction, the umbrella scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, provides financial assistance to state governments, union territories, NGOs/other voluntary organizations, districts and government hospitals for preventive education, awareness, rehabilitation treatment, to integrate those at the margins of the society back into the mainstream and provide them substantial support to live a life of dignity. There are 341 Integrated Rehabilitation Centres for Addicts (IRCAAs), 49 Community-based Peer-Led Intervention (CPLIs), 72 Outreach and Drop in Centres (ODICs), and 14 District De-Addiction Centres (DDACs) across the country, providing free-of-cost facilities to the people struggling with the menace of drugs. The idea is to offer a helping hand to those on the margins,

help their families and social circles understand the challenges, and provide a positive space for them to thrive.

In this tally of progress, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is now ready to add 25 Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) in collaboration with National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC) AIIMS, New Delhi.

Ministry dedicated 25 addiction treatment facilities to the nation, under the banner of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment-led campaign, *Nasha Mukh Bharat* Abhiyaan. The 25 ATFs are located in government hospitals across the country and will be scaled-up further to cover most cities and districts in the country. The types of hospitals range from district hospitals in Simdega, Jharkhand or Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh to larger academic institutions like Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh or Sher-i-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Binnina, Kashmir.

These Addiction Treatment Facilities (ATFs) will be established in government hospitals across 125 districts and provide treatment to addiction patients as part of the general healthcare framework. The Ministry

of Social Justice and Empowerment fully funds the scheme and supports the participating government hospitals in the provision of trained health professionals, free of cost, medicines, and sustainable infrastructure support services.

As the Minister of Home Affairs said in the Parliament, "Our government's policy is very clear, those consuming drugs are victims. We should be sensitive towards them and give victims a conducive atmosphere for their rehabilitation." The issue of substance use is a more significant social problem that cuts across sections of society across age groups, gender, communities and regions and affects families and the personal growth of individuals. It requires a multi-pronged strategy to simultaneously address the issue of demand for substances by providing opportunities for rehabilitation, dismantling the stigmas associated with those engaged and by effectively ingrain the idea of 'no first touch of drugs' among the youth. The campaign successfully draws on these ideas and seeks the support of the masses to come forward in attaining the goal of '*Nasha Mukh Bharat*'.

(The author is a Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment)

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# Turkey Syria earthquake: Death toll passes 30,000, hopes dwindle

Agency  
Ankara, Feb 12:

According to reports the death toll from the devastating 7.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria earlier this week surpassed 30,000 on Sunday.

In Turkey, the number of people killed has risen to 21,848, according to Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Speaking in the southeastern city of Sanliurfa on Saturday, Erdogan added that 80,104 people were injured. Similarly, in Syria, the total number of deaths stands at 3,553, including 2,166 in rebel-held areas in the north-west, according to the White Helmets civil defense group.

There have been 1,387 deaths in government-controlled parts of Syria, according to Syrian state media. The total number of injured people in Syria across all affected territories stands at 5,273, with 2,326 in government-controlled areas and 2,950 in the rebel-held areas, reported.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited the Turkish Embassy in Ukraine on Saturday and honored the memory of those who died as a result of the devastating earthquake that took the lives of more than 25,000 people.

"Please accept my sincere condolences from me personally and on behalf of the people



of Ukraine. The awful tragedy that took so many lives in one moment caused deep pain in our hearts. We share the pain of the Turkish people and help in this difficult time. Eternal memory to the deceased. We wish those who suffered, a quick recovery," Zelenskyy said.

He also spoke with Turkish Ambassador to Ukraine Yagmur Ahmet Guldere during his visit.

Zelenskyy said in his address on Saturday that the State Emergency Service of Ukraine is helping with debris removal in Turkey.

He added that the Ukrainian Embassy is looking into information about Ukrainian nationals in Turkey who may have been impacted by the earthquake. Rescue operations are over in rebel-held areas of

northwest Syria, the White Helmets volunteer organisation said. Relief efforts there have been complicated by a long-running civil war.

The Syrian government approved sending aid to the rebel-held territories Friday but did not provide specifics. Workers in Turkey are still trying to pull survivors from the rubble - and there have been some harrowing stories of success. But some organizations paused rescue work due to security concerns Saturday.

Recovery in Turkey after the devastating earthquake has now entered the "humanitarian phase," according to Jamie LeSueur, the head of emergency operations at the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies.

As his team moves on from search-and-rescue operations, the greatest needs for those affected in Turkey continue to be food, health and water, LeSueur told CNN from Gaziantep.

"We've now entered into the humanitarian phase. That is going to last for a couple of months, where we'll still try to meet people's basic needs," LeSueur said.

The United Nations aid chief described this week's devastating earthquake in southern Turkey and north-western Syria as the "worst event in 100 years" to hit the region.

The official, Martin Griffiths, made the remark to reporters during a visit to Kahramanmaras, Turkey, on Saturday.

"The response as you

## Turkey-Syria quake deaths to top 50,000: UN relief chief

Agency  
Kahramanmaras, Feb 12:

The death toll from a massive earthquake in Turkey and Syria will "double or more" from its current level of 28,000, UN relief chief Martin Griffiths has said.

Griffiths arrived on Saturday in Turkey's southern city of Kahramanmaras, the epicentre of the first 7.8-magnitude tremor that upturned millions of lives in the pre-dawn hours of Monday.

He said of the death toll in an interview with Sky News on Saturday: "I think it is difficult to estimate precisely as we need to get under the rubble but I'm sure it

will double or more."

"We haven't really begun to count the number of dead," he said.

Officials and medics said 24,617 people were killed in Turkey and 3,574 in Syria. The confirmed total now stands at 28,191.

Tens of thousands of rescue workers are scouring flattened neighbourhoods despite freezing weather that has deepened the misery of millions now in desperate need of aid.

The United Nations has warned that at least 870,000 people urgently need hot meals across Turkey and Syria. Up to 5.3 million people may have been made homeless in Syria alone.

Almost 26 million people have been affected by the earthquake, the World Health Organization (WHO) said as it launched a flash appeal on Saturday for \$42.8 million to cope with immediate health needs.

Turkey's disaster agency said more than 32,000 people from Turkish organisations are working on search-and-rescue efforts. There are also 8,294 international rescuers.

"Soon, the search and rescue people will make way for the humanitarian agencies whose job it is to look after the extraordinary numbers of those affected for the next months," Griffiths said in a video posted to Twitter.

have seen here, and as your viewers have seen, is also unique," Griffiths added. "There has never been an international response, a Turkish response to a natural disaster as we see here in these terrible days."

Meanwhile, Germany has also suspended rescue and relief work at the site of a deadly earthquake in Turkey due to security concerns, following a similar move by Austria earlier Saturday, reported.

The German Federal Agency for Technical Relief (THW) stopped its rescue operations due to a change in the security situation in the Hatay region, the organization said in a statement Saturday.

It had been operating with International Search and Rescue (ISAR) Germany, in coordination with Turkey's Disaster and Emergency Management Agency (AFAD).

"In the last few hours, the security situation in the Hatay

region has apparently changed. There are increasing reports of clashes between different groups. The search and rescue teams of ISAR Germany and THW will therefore remain in the joint base camp for the time being. ISAR and THW will resume their work as soon as AFAD deems the situation to be safe," read the statement.

The Austrian Army also cited security risks in suspending its operations, reported.

## Quality research and new innovations are need of the hour - Professor R.K. Uppal

IT Correspondent  
Bathinda (Punjab), Feb 12:

One day National Webinar was organized by Indian Economic Association with Collaboration of The Zomorin's Guruvayarappan College, Pokkunnur, Kozhikode, Kerala. The theme of the conference was to analyze and discuss the different funding sources and the way to apply for the Projects, Postdocs, Doctoral fellowships, etc. Professor Rk Uppal, Principal, Baba Farid College of Management and Technology, Bathinda, Punjab was the resource person in this webinar. The organizers, Dr. Rishikesh, Dr. B. Rajani , Principal, Zamorin's Guruvayarappan College, Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey ,

Conference President, IEA, Dr. D. K.Asthana, General Secretary IEA, Dr. J.S. Sindhu , executive member of IEA, Dr. A.K. Tomer and Dr. Remmiya Rajan highlighted the significance of the webinar.

Dr. Uppal explained about Projects, doctoral fellowships, Senior Fellowships, and Post-doctoral fellowships, also gave a brief note on the various research funding agencies that exist for Science and Social Sciences stream, and also Types of research projects, and gave a fleeting note on the NITIAYOG. He also explained the eligibility for applying for projects, and how to select the theme for projects, also elucidated about the major research project of IAS Shnila, IBA Mumbai. Also enlightened

about the world research projects such as the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Department of Science and Technology, University Grants Commission, Department of Bio Technology. Also explained how to collaborate the research with other Universities and also the ways to apply for research if the university/institution is not under 2f and 12b how it could collaborate under research universities. There was a brief description of how to prepare a research proposal and how the evaluation is done for a proposal. The proposal should have an introduction, statement of the problem, review of related literature, what are the gaps in the research, how the



study is different from earlier studies, etc. Also explained brief summary of the budget estimates and pointed out that the proposal should include the brief summary of the biodata of the faculty and the detailed documentation of the college/institution he/she works with.

Dr. Uppal is an accom-

plished academician, a distinguished author, a collaborative researcher, a frequent reviewer, discussant, and an effective mentor to young scholars. Dr Uppal's contributions to the societal benefits of mankind are beyond speculations. His zeal to bring about change is an inspiration to every young student and researcher to work in a way that helps the world and brings us closer to the idea of global peace. He is an embodiment of passion, perseverance, excellence, critical thinking, and professionalism. This dozen of economics hails from a very small town near Bathinda District in Punjab and has commenced his teaching career by joining D.A.V. College, Malout in 1987 as a part-time lecturer and rose to the

present-day position of Professor-cum-Principal. in the most exalted institution, Baba Farid College of Management and Technology (Punjab). His research fervor and academic zeal primarily focuses upon banking and finance. He authored Seventy Two books and many of his books are serving as text and reference books in many professional programmes being run by Indian colleges and universities. He was instrumental in suggesting the reforms in banking and financial sector through e-technology. Prof Uppal has made global records by completing the Maximum Number of Major Post-Doctoral Research Projects on Banking and Finance and has registered his name in the India

Book of Records, Asia Book of Records, International Book of Records, and World Book of Records. He has guided several Ph.Ds and over five dozen M.Phil candidates. He was awarded Honorary D.Litt by reputed Business Universities. His monumental work encouraged various national organizations to honor such an inclusive academic and research stalwart with Jewel of India Award, Best Educationist Award, Shatijay Shiromani Purskar, Pride of India Award and Excellent Research Award, Best Economist Innovative Award, Eminent Social Scientist Award, Amity Excellence Award, Top 10 Thinkers Award-2022 , Punjab Rattan Award-2022, and Best Researcher Award-2021.

## How to Practice JEE Main Computer-Based Mock Tests at Home



By: Vijay GarG

JEE Main is amongst the most difficult entrance exams, especially for students who aim to study at India's best engineering colleges like IITs and NITs. To crack these exams, the students should be ready with the right exam preps. Taking mock tests is the best way to strengthen your JEE preparation. If you're attempting JEE Main online for the first time, we recommend you take Computer Based Mock Tests at home.

It is very important to un-

derstand the way Computer Based Tests and their features work before giving the JEE online test. Otherwise, on exam day, you will be busy figuring out about the CBT interface, but if you give online mock tests, you will be familiar with everything. This will save you time, and you will be able to perform better.

What is a Computer Based Test or CBT?

Let's find out what CBT is in JEE. CBT is the short form of Computer Based Online Test. You just have to follow the instructions of the online test while attempting JEE online, you can either use a laptop, computer, or tablet. In the JEE examination, you don't have to write long answers or ask for extra sheets, rather you will be attempting objective type-in numerical questions.

If you have previously taken JEE exam or previous year's papers, mock tests, or sample tests, you might be already familiar with the pattern. But nowadays,

you can also give online mock tests to experience real interfaces. Here are some of the features of Online Mock Tests:

The approach for attempting CBT is different from pen-paper exams.

The questions appear on the screen along with the options.

For answering the questions, students have to click on the correct options and move to the next question.

Students are also provided with rough sheets for problem-solving exercises or rough work.

Tips to Practice JEE Main Computer-Based Mock Tests at Home

**1. Read the Instructions Carefully**

Students get extra time to read the instructions, so if you think skipping instructions will give you more time to give the examination, you're probably wrong. The instructions will give you important information and tips you need to know to attempt the exam.

**2. Read the Question Paper Thoroughly**

If you have appeared for online exams, one thing you may notice is that the next question only appears after answering the previous question, there's no option to view the entire question paper. However, in JEE online exam or mock test, you get an option to view the entire question paper, so that you can read all the questions in advance.

The best strategy to score better in JEE Main 2023 is to read the question paper and then decide which part or questions you want to answer first.

**3. Generously Use the Review it Later Features**

The best thing about JEE online test interface is, it indicates the answer status of the questions. You can go back to the questions that have not been visited or answered. If you are not sure about the answer, set the question for reviewing later (mark for review and next). You can go back to the ques-

tion later and then make changes accordingly.

**4. Change the Language of the Question if You're Unable to Understand it**

In case you're facing difficulty in understanding the question, you will find an option to change the language of the question. You will find an option "change language", understand it well, solve the question and move to the other question.

**5. Be Careful About the Numerical Values**

For practicing numerical questions, you can solve JEE practice tests, and JEE Mains Mock test online. On your the of your JEE Exam, you will be practicing calculations on the rough sheet, so make sure that you're writing the correct values. One wrong value can give you a wrong answer, leading to negative marking, and loss of time.

**6. If You're Not Completely Sure about the Answer, Move to the Next Question**

If you're aiming to complete the paper in a short amount of time, you may end up choosing an inadequate answer. Always remember that you should not choose an answer until and unless you are not 100% sure about it. Because you can always come back and answer the question again. If you are worried about dividing time to different subjects equally, JEE sample test paper and online mock tests will surely help you while attempting JEE Mains online test.

**7. Don't Panic in Case of a Computer Shut Down**

You should always be prepared for the worst-case scenario. Sometimes technical issues may or may not take place during JEE Main online exam. If by chance you end up in such a situation where your computer faces a technical glitch, stay calm and ask your parents to fix it. Once it's fixed, the exam will resume from the same point where you once left it. So, it's best to

stay calm and not panic in such situations.

**8. Don't Check out the Timer Every Few Minutes**

To keep you on track and prevent you from spending too much time on a single question, there will be a timer on the left on the computer screen while taking JEE Mains online exam. If you keep looking at it every 10 minutes, it can make you nervous. To keep nervousness at bay, avoid looking at the clock.

Hope these tips will help you while attempting JEE Main computer-based test. It's always a better idea to practice more and more, before any competitive exam, so that you know how to handle situations instead of panicking at the end moment. If you're looking for JEE resources, sample paper, or questions, you can browse our JEE archive section where you will not only find previous year question paper but also their detailed answers.

## Tripura Assembly Elections 2023: Amit Shah seeks votes for BJP 'to save state from triple trouble'

Agency Agartala, Feb 12:

Top BJP leader and union home minister Amit Shah, on Sunday, while addressing a rally in election-bound Tripura, appealed the people of the state to vote for the BJP "in order to save Tripura from triple-trouble".

Amit Shah was referring to the Congress, CPI-M and TIPRA as "triple trouble".

Union home minister Amit Shah alleged that the "triple trouble of Congress, CPI-M and TIPRA will reinstate a regime of corruption", if voted to power in Tripura.

Amit Shah made this statement while addressing a rally at Chandipur for the BJP candidates from Unakoti districts in Tripura.

Amit Shah claimed that development took place in Tripura only after the BJP took over governance of the state five years back.

"Tripura was known for insurgency and unrest, but Modiji (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) brought peace by signing an agreement with the NLF out-fits," Amit Shah said.

He added: "Over 37,000 displaced Brus were permanently re-settled and Tripura is progressing."

"The communists during their 27-year rule didn't do anything for the tribals and now, just to win the elections, the Left has projected a tribal face as their chief ministerial candidate," Amit Shah said.

Shah claimed that the opposition parties in Tripura "have realised that none of them would be able to fight against BJP alone and so the CPI-M has tied up with Congress and passively with TIPRA, in a destructive



agenda that they followed in the past".

"Hundreds of Congress workers were killed by communists during their rule, but just to get power, Congress leaders forgot the pain of their workers and the victim families and joined hands with CPI-M. TIPRA came to an understanding with CPI-M and Congress to divide Tripura," he alleged.

In Meghalaya total 13 thirteen Political Parties including 04 of National status are contesting in the election battleground of 60 member State Assembly.

BJP, Indian National Congress, National People's Party (NPP) and Trinamool Congress (AITMC) are national outfits which have fielded the majority of candidates. Total 375 candidates including 36 Female nominees are in the fray. BJP and Congress contesting 60 seat each while Trinamool Congress has fielded 56 candidates. Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma led NPP has given tickets to 57 nominees.

AIR Correspondent Reports, Other Regional Parties like United Democratic Party (UDP), Voice of The People Party (VPP) and Hill State People's Democratic Party (HSPDP) are contesting on sizeable number of seats. UDP has fielded 46 candidates while 18 candidates of VPP and 11 of HSPDP are in the fray.

The HSPDP is contesting mainly in assembly seats of Ri-Bhoi, East Khasi Hills and West Khasi Hill districts. Some other political parties like RPI, Janta Dal (United) and Garo National Council are also trying their political fortune in the elections.

Besides this 44 Independents are also in the fray. In Nagaland, campaigning for the State Legislative Assembly has gained momentum with leading political leaders campaigning for their respective candidates.

Candidates of different political parties are holding rallies, meetings and visiting house to house in seek of support from the electorates.

Five political parties have

submitted the list of star campaigners for the forthcoming general election. The political parties comprised of 3 national parties – Indian National Congress (INC), Janata Dal (United), and Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) and two state parties – Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party and Naga People's Front (NPF).

A total of 183 candidates including four women candidates from 12 political parties and independent candidates will be contesting in the state general election, which is scheduled on February 27.

BJP has already won a seat following its candidate being declared unopposed from 31-Akuluto Assembly Constituency. The candidates will now fight for 59 Assembly Constituency.

The political parties that are in the fray for the state election includes NDPP, BJP, NPF, Congress, LJP (Ram Vilas), NCP, NPP, RPI (Athawale), JD(U), RJD, RPP, CPI, and Independents.

## Bharat Vikas Parishad organised 2nd Annual Conference

IT News Imphal, Feb 12:



Bharat Vikas Parishad (BVP), Manipur Prant organised 2nd Annual Conference of Manipur Prant today, 12th February 2023 at Rotary Bhawan, Mantripukhri, Imphal. Gajendra Singh Sandhu, National President, BVP, Suresh Jain, National Organising Secretary, BVP, Dr. N. Rajmuhon Singh, Vice Chancellor, Dhanamanjuri University, Imphal and Dr. H. Priyoshakhi Devi, President BVP, Manipur Prant & Director, RIMS, Imphal were the presidium members of the inaugural session in which about 113 members of Manipur prant participated from across the state. Programme started with lighting of the lamp followed by release of an annual souvenir 'SEWA' highlighting the various activities of BVP.

Gajendra Singh Sandhu, National President, BVP said that we speak different languages, follow different traditions and culture but we all belong to our motherland India.

We should build a strong India so that India become a strong nation in the world. Members of BVP should play a very pro-active role to build strong India. Shri Suresh Jain, National Organising Secretary, BVP said that we should dedicate ourselves to help needy persons in our community so that their socio-economic status are uplifted. Various vocational training centre for local artisans should be taken up for economic empowerment of the women in particular. Dr. N. Rajmuhon Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dhanamanjuri University, Imphal praised the various activities taken up by BVP in Manipur more so in saving our environment by planting trees at different places every

year across the state. Dr. H. Priyoshakhi Devi, President BVP, Manipur Prant highlighted the various activities taken up by BVP for anaemia mukt Bharat campaign in Manipur and empowering of housewives and children.

A wheel chair donated by Dr. Nongthombam Muhindro Singh was handed over to a needy person while Prakash of Toribari, Kangpokpi district, a successful broiler poultry farmer, supported by BVP Manipur Prant was also felicitated. Various talks on different subjects were also delivered by Swadesh Ranjan Goswami, Regional President, North East, Prof. M. Premjit Singh, Dr. Ksh. Manglem Singh and L. Guna Singh.

Contd. from Page 1

## With India matches in Manipur...

"Revenue can be one of the outcomes of our initiatives but that is not a priority. Instead, the priority is to strengthen them further because of the potential that they have got and all that they have delivered so far. The local government is also very supportive of football and that is also an advantage," he shared. Speaking of the local government, while announcing the upcoming tri-nation tournament, Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh also spoke about the state wanting to establish a "top-class"

academy with grounds and hostels. He also urged AIFF to provide the necessary assistance. Prabhakaran added that the idea is currently in the seeding stage and by March, in consultation with AIFF, concrete plans for the excellence centre, to be made by the state government, will be laid out. "The chief minister himself being a former footballer wants to take initiatives that can leave a legacy. The state government there doesn't have an excellence center and they rely on SAI. He wants to create an academy that

can produce good players consistently. Currently, we are in the initial stage and by March only we will have anything concrete on this. But it's a great initiative by the CM to create assets that will serve the state for a long," Prabhakaran concluded.

The Indian senior national team's matches in Imphal will be played at the Khuman Lampak Stadium which has a seating capacity of 35,000 and also hosts the I-League home matches for NEROCA FC and TRAU FC in the I-League.

### Sports

## Manipur beat Railways 4-1, Bengal held to 2-2 draw by Delhi in Santosh Trophy

Agency Bhubaneswar, Feb 12:

Multiple-time champions Bengal were held to a surprise 2-2 draw by Delhi, while Manipur rode on Naocha Singh's hat-trick to beat Railways 4-1 in their respective matches in the National Football Championships for the Santosh Trophy here on Saturday.

Last year's finalists Bengal were firm favourites against Delhi in the opening game of the day. But, it was Delhi who took the lead in the seventh minute when Neeraj Bhandari headed home from a corner kick.

Delhi led 1-0 at half time but Bengal struck back through a brace from Naro Hari Shrestha (50th and 61st) to take the lead.

Gaurav Rawat then scored the equaliser for Delhi in the 72nd minute as the two sides shared the spoils.

Bengal coach Biswajit Bhattacharya expressed disappointment with the performance of his players.

"It was a haphazard performance. We played well in some periods of the game, but otherwise



not. I'll put it down to first-game nerves, but there is a lot to improve," said the former India international after the match.

In the second match, Manipur produced a brilliant second-half performance to run away with three points.

A goalless first half saw Manipur dominate the game but finishing let them down on more than one occasion.

However, it all changed in the second half. Pangabam Naoba Meitei cut a perfect corner from the right flank for Naocha to tap into goal from

five yards in the 56th minute. The floodgates opened after that.

Naocha added a second in the 69th minute, firing into an empty net after Subhash Singh's shot had bounced off the post.

Despite Railways' 72nd-minute goal, there was never any threat of a comeback. Naocha got his hat-trick in the 73rd minute and Longvah (90+2) added the cherry on top of a brilliant performance from Manipur.

In another match, Services beat Meghalaya 2-0.

## Real Madrid Beat Al Hilal to Win Record-extending Fifth Club World Cup

Agency Rabat, Feb 12:

Real Madrid lifted the Club World Cup for a record fifth time with a pulsating 5-3 win over Al Hilal on Saturday in Morocco.

Vinicius Junior and Fede Valverde struck twice each, while Karim Benzema also scored on his return from injury in Madrid's spectacular victory over their Saudi Arabian opponents.

Carlo Ancelotti's side, who qualified as Champions League winners last season, had far too much attacking quality for their opponents to handle.

Madrid's emphatic triumph at Rabat's Prince Moulay Abdellah stadium secured their second piece of silverware of the season, after winning the European Super Cup in August.

It also provided welcome respite from their La Liga campaign, where they sit eight points behind rivals Barcelona, who also beat them in the Spanish Super Cup final in January.

Madrid also won three Intercontinental Cups in 1960, 1998 and 2002 — a match between European and South American champions, which merged with the Club World Cup in 2005.

Ancelotti brought Benzema back into the starting line-up



after he had missed the semi-final win over Al Ahly with a thigh injury, with Rodrygo dropping to the bench.

The 35-year-old striker created the opening goal for Vinicius with a short pass to send the Brazilian winger through on goal.

After a frustrating spell in Spain because of racist abuse from the stands and opponents targeting him on the pitch, Vinicius was able to enjoy himself in Morocco, netting in both of Madrid's matches and crowned player of the tournament.

The same went for the team as a whole, glad to take a short break from their domestic battle

with Xavi Hernandez's Barcelona to earn the title of world champions.

Valverde rifled the second goal home through defender Ali Albulayhi's legs, leaving goalkeeper Abdullah Al-Mayoof unshocked.

Former Porto striker Moussa Marega pulled one back for the 2021 Asian Champions League winners, sliding a shot past Andriy Lunin, who should have done more to keep it out.

The Ukrainian goalkeeper, standing in for the injured Courtois, was celebrating his birthday but despite the win he had a game to forget.

For a short period it seemed the Saudi Arabian side were go-

ing to truly test their more illustrious rivals, but Madrid stepped up a gear in the second half and secured an entertaining victory.

Vinicius set up Benzema early in the second half with a stunning cross using the outside of his boot and the French forward made no mistake from close range.

Uruguayan midfielder Valverde netted his second goal after a slick combination with defender Dani Carvajal, finding his form and goals again after a dip in form.

Al Hilal pulled another goal back through ex-Atletico Madrid striker Luciano Vietto, who dinked an effort past Lunin.