

DMU fiasco: It is the Higher Edn. Dept that is responsible and not the University authority

IT News
Imphal, Jan 14:

The press clarification by the Deputy Secretary of the Higher & Technical Education, Govt. of Manipur in connection with the present fiasco at Dhanamanjuri University turns out as a desperate attempt to blame the University authority instead of accepting the department's failure in rendering their service to convert the University into a full-fledged state university. On the other hand, the six student bodies that includes MSF, DESAM, KSA, SUK, AIMS, etc. also strongly condemn intimidation by the Deputy Secretary stating that there is no question of instigating any students to take up agitations, as the agitation is a spontaneous response from students or student bodies which care about the fate of the Dhanamanjuri University.

In connection with the press clarification by the Deputy Secretary of Higher & Technical Education made available to media houses, Convenor of the six-student body Shukham Bidyandana

said that the clarification is a desperate attempt by the department authority under the advice of the Education Minister to mislead the people and the DMU community to conceal their negligence by throwing the ball to the court of the university authority.

Speaking to media persons at the office of the KSA at Khuyathong here in Imphal today afternoon, Bidyandana said that the clarification came out hours after Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had stated that his government will leave no stone unturned to save and solve the issues encircling the DMU and the students' demands. The student leader said that when the Chief Minister himself had stated that his government will do everything to protect and solve all issues how could the Deputy Secretary of Higher & Technical Education say that the Minister of Education and the Department of Education have no role in applying 12B of the University or any of the Colleges.

In the press meet attended by all leaders of the six students' bodies, Bidyandana

further said that the State Cabinet in its decision taken on 24.11.2021 had approved the bifurcation of the 600 posts (387 teaching+213 non-teaching posts) existing in the 5 (five) Constituent Colleges of DMU along with employees who ever desires to be transferred to the newly established Dhanamanjuri University. It also stated that as approved in the State Cabinet decision taken on 21.11.2022, 362 posts of teachers (Assistant Professors and Associate Professors) have been bifurcated to Dhanamanjuri University vide Order dated 24.11.2022. The process of bifurcation of non-teaching posts including Principals is under process.

However, as there were many errors either because of typo mistakes or repetition of names, the DMU authority had written time and again to correct the mistake at the earliest possible time soon after the university got the list. However, it was only on 12-01-2023 that the revised corrected list was issued with a revised operational guideline for employee related issues after bi-

furcation from the Directorate of University & Higher Education, Manipur to Dhanamanjuri University has also been notified on 12.01.2023.

"The clarification itself is a clear indication that showed that the department of University and Higher Education is responsible for not sending the application for getting 12B status to the UGC", Bidyandana said.

"It is the Education Minister Th. Basanta Kumar and the Commissioner of the Dept. of Higher & Technical Education, the department that is responsible for the delay in sending the application for getting 12B status to UGC and not the DMU authority", the Convenor of the six students' bodies told the media persons.

Meanwhile, the Registrar of Dhanamanjuri University, Dr. Nivedita Larenlakpam has sent a letter to the Secretary of the University Grant Commission (UGC) requesting to declare Dhanamanjuri University fit to receive Central assistance under Section 12(B) of the UGC Act, 1956 yesterday evening.

Manipur related with Mahabharata in no way: IEDUCO

IT News
Imphal, Jan 14:

Manipur has its own unique history and polity since time immemorial, says a release of the Imphal East District United Clubs' Organisation (IEDUCO) reacting to India's home minister Amit Shah's baseless speech categorising Manipur as a part and parcel of Ved Vyas' Mahabharata. Questioning if there were another Amit Shah's Mahabharata in which he decided related Manipur with the Indian epic of

Mahabharata during his speech at a public meeting held on 6 January 2023 at Moirang, the IEDUCO lamented over such an irresponsible statement of one the greatest leaders of present day India. Narrating how early humans settled in Manipur during the evolutionary period, the IEDUCO urges pseudo scholars and false social activists not to malign the social media platform with their whimsical and hearsay stories about the history of Manipur.

Demanding a humble pub-

lic apology from the home minister for his cooked up speech, the IEDUCO put on the floor if the home minister could provide any historical evidences to support his uncaredful statement which has created a sense of agitational mood among the different sections of the Manipur society. Who has instigated Amit Shah to make such politically immature statement may be taken as the another side of the story in the decades old troubled-history of Manipur, the release stated.

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Home coming ceremonies are political puppetry stunts managed by state ruling class to please the Centre - KYKL

IT News
Imphal, Jan 14:

Proscribed group KYKL has mocked the 'state government arranged Home coming ceremony' stating that the home coming ceremonies are political puppetry stunts managed by state ruling class to

please the Centre.

In a statement signed by A. Yaiphaba, Secretary, Publicity and Research, KYKL, the outfit said, "Once again, the state government proved that it is nothing more than a puppet of its Indian colonial masters by staging yet another surrender drama on January 7, 2023".

The outfit clarified that the 13 cadres of KYKL included in the drama are all timid deserters who fled the organization, leaving behind their historical responsibilities. It said slavery was the choice they made over freedom and dignity.

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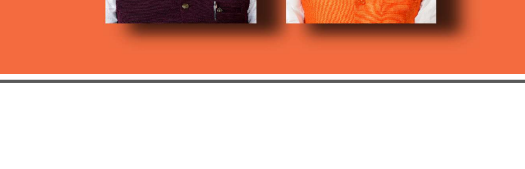
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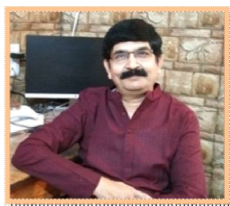
MOST IMPROVED SMALL STATES OVERALL									
RANK	STATE	SCORE OUT OF 100	RANK 2019	RANK 2020	RANK 2021	RANK 2022	RANK 2019	RANK 2020	RANK 2021
1	MANIPUR	1210.5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	MIZORAM	1477.6	2	5	6	4	2	5	4
3	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	1412.6	7	9	9	2	3	9	2
4	SIKKIM	1241.1	3	6	5	6	4	6	5
5	NAGALAND	1286.9	5	4	2	3	5	4	3
6	PUDUCHERRY	1388.1	8	10	8	7	6	10	7
7	MEGHALAYA	1384.1	4	3	7	5	7	3	6
8	TRIPURA	990.5	6	2	1	1	8	2	1
9	GOA	914.2	10	7	4	0	9	7	0
10	DELHI	814.8	9	8	10	10	10	8	10

TOP PERFORMERS IN MOST IMPROVED CATEGORY		
RANK	STATE	APPEARANCES IN TOP 5* (2016-2022)
1	MANIPUR	45
2	MIZORAM	41
3	NAGALAND	37
4	ARUNACHAL PRADESH	34
5	MEGHALAYA	33
6	SIKKIM	33

IT'S A HAT TRICK FOR MANIPUR THIS YEAR AS MOST IMPROVED STATE TOPPING 8 OUT OF 12 CATEGORIES



Seva Asmakam Dharma



By: Vinod Chandrashekhar Dixit

Indian army day is marked every year on 15 January to remember the event when General KM Cariappa became the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of Independent India. The Indian Army celebrated its 75th Army Day. Kodandera M. Cariappa took over as the Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from General Butcher. He was an army officer with a distinguished career in the British Indian Army and later the Indian Army. In 1919, he joined the army when he received the King's Commission with the first group of Indian cadets. Before taking charge as Army chief, he administered the country's army on the west during the Indo-Pak War of 1947. He had a vital contribution to various re-attaining territories in Kargil. The story of his appointment is also very interesting. The story goes something like this – Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was having a meeting with senior army personals and cabinet ministers. He suggested that the post of first army chief should be given to a British officer because Indian officers have no experience in handling such a post. One of the army personnel present their, objected to this and said that, “as we also don't have the experience of leading a nation, so we should appoint a British person as our first Prime Minister.” After hearing this, Nehru realised his mistake and asked the person that would he like to become the first army chief? On this he suggested the name of Lieutenant general K.M. Cariappa who was also present there and thus he became the first army chief.

The day reminds us that independence wasn't just a fight of one day but a lengthy process. Indian Army Day is celebrated to recognise the efforts of this Man of Principals. He was known for his compassion & discipline. He inspired generations by demonstrating the highest standards of patriotism. It is said that, lucky are those who get selected for Indian army. With countries like the US, China, and Russia, our nation's army is one of the biggest armed forces in the world that operates on “Serve others before self” as its ultimate agenda. Discover more about the Indian Army Day's history, significance, and celebrations.

As we all know, Indian army has a long and glorious history. Therefore, it is difficult to talk about everything in such a limited space. It would not be wrong to say that there would be no India without Indian Army. It is the backbone of the country. It is also one of the few institutions left in the country which could be considered as completely neutral and reliable. India became an independent nation after gaining freedom from British rulers in 1945 after almost 200 years. During that time, the country was experiencing a lot of chaos & riots as many refugees and people were migrating from Pakistan. Even though the country got freedom from British rulers in 1947, it didn't have the official reins of the Indian army in its hand until two years later, in 1979. Finally, on the day of 26th January 1950, the Constitution of the country was declared, and India became a republic country. Soldiers are one of the greatest assets of any country. They are the guardians of the nation and protect its citizens at all costs. The primary mission of the Indian Army is to ensure national security and national unity, to defend the nation from external aggression and internal threats, and to maintain peace and security within its borders.

We have taken for granted that someone is always deployed to guard our borders while we sleep in our cosy homes or there will be someone to take the bullets of the enemies and terrorists for us. We sleep comfortably in our homes because we know that even if we are not alert, there are some people who are always aware so that we can be safe. These people are part of the country's Army. The first priority of the Indian Army is to cater for the security of the nation, its unity and integrity, defence from any kind of external aggression and internal threats, and to keep peace and security within the borders. The Army also manages rescue missions at the time of natural disasters, calamities or any other disturbances, displaying their humanitarian face. Let us patch our ways and start giving real respect to the soldiers otherwise a time may come when there will be no one to defend our motherland. Long live India and long live Indian army.

Frontier Nagaland Movement - Marching towards Amicable, Legislative, Sustainable “Solution”



By: Dr. Aniruddha Babar

Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah Ji already highlighted a “clear road-map for amicable, legislative and sustainable solution for Eastern Nagaland,” to the talk team of the Eastern Nagaland People's Organisation (ENPO) during their meeting in Delhi. As I have been reiterating on numerous occasions, the final aim of the Frontier Nagaland Movement is to “restore the constitutional rights” of the people of the Eastern Nagaland region and therefore, the solution as and when comes should be of inclusive nature in confirmation with the demands of our eastern people in the national interest.

Anything less than what is amicable, legislative and sustainable may not have any constructive existence in the political life of Eastern people and our nation. Also, it is truly understandable that the center will make sure that any “constitutional entity” that may be constructed as a result of the “solution” will not in-fact be any kind of “liability” on the union but rather an “asset” to the nation and constructive-impactful contributor to the nation building process and national growth momentum.

As Eastern people, we very well know that we are backward not by choice but by artificially manufactured circumstances, we are poor not by choice but by artificially manufactured circumstances and we have been excluded for more than a century not by our choice, but by artificially manufactured circumstances. In every time and space, these “artificially manufactured” circumstances have always been “Political” in nature which brought us on our knees and we remained on our knees till we are finally made to be awakened to our “Constitutional and Legal Rights” in our independent nation.

Frontier Nagaland Movement is undoubtedly a political movement. The root cause of the inhuman situation in which Eastern people have been living for more than a century is “political” in nature and therefore

the medicine and cure will in-fact be also “political”. Since the formation of the state of Nagaland, our Eastern people never had any say in the policy making affairs of the state of Nagaland.

Nagaland state assembly could be the best example to study as to how unequal distribution of the assembly seats resulted in the gross, naked violation of the constitutional rights of the Eastern Naga people which have been guaranteed to each and every citizen of India. Since the formation of state of Nagaland, political representation of the Eastern people was always much lesser than the political representation of the “forward” tribes in policy making mechanism and processes. Therefore, whatever policies and decisions were made in the assembly were always influenced by the “tribal interests”, “tribal influences”, “intertribal-intra tribal dynamics”, “tribal nepotism & favoritism at the cost of governance of the state and the constitutional rights of the Eastern people. Such a mess gradually gave birth to “epic corruption” that completely destroyed the State of Nagaland.

The “corruption” in the state further auto-generated bad policy making and equally bad execution mechanism which undoubtedly created an “irrevocable” impact over Nagaland but the most severe and deadly impact has been witnessed in the Eastern region (my personal experiences and research). Even after the formation of the state of Nagaland, Eastern region remained backward, because it was kept backward through the policy channels (official/unofficial) routed from Kohima which even New Delhi failed to bypass and as a result our Eastern people remained “empty stomach”, their own money, rightful development money guaranteed by the constitution could never reach to them.

Eastern Naga people and their MLAs and political representatives are undoubtedly victims of the “Political Caste System” formed in state. No matter what one desires, a well-crafted system never permitted the Eastern MLAs play with it in the best interest of their own people. Moreover, we cannot deny the fact that Eastern MLAs too performed their role in keeping their own people backward, they too have taken advantages of the ignorant and uneducated mind of their own people but the fact still remains that those MLAs were remained minority in the State assembly and the real power was never “vested” in their hands. This is what Nagaland taught me, I hope my understanding is crystal clear.

As a Lawyer and a Political Theorist I believe that there is nothing that is impossible for the “State Power” at least in a country like India which runs under one of the best Constitutions in the world. State is such a huge machinery, it can do anything and everything provided there is a strong will but the state of Nagaland has failed its own people on all fronts.

Sometimes it's said that entire Nagaland is backward. I refuse to accept this notion. Entire Nagaland may be backward, however its Eastern region was systematically “kept” backward for reasons best known to the “system”. Since I know Eastern region much better than any Indian or any forward Naga, I can responsibly say that it is the richest region in India. Eastern people have been made to seat on “dormant wealth”.

If Government of Nagaland could have developed the eastern region systematically (sustainable development) in last sixty years (with the help of money that New Delhi has been regularly and continuously sending as well as technical support from other government agencies) not only Nagaland but entire northeast region would be leading the entire nation forward. Let us take an example of ITC Dan at Pangsha, it looks like a haunted place. There is one Army post at ITC commanded by a Major and what else you can see there is nothing but abandoned structure, broken shades, mountain ranges, one beautiful Church in Myanmar and other distant habitations spread over the vast mountain range. Why Kohima failed to take advantage of the super-strategic location of ITC DAN and develop the region? We have three international trading centers in eastern region-if developed, can change the destiny of Eastern people and the face of entire India. Eastern Nagaland is a power house cum huge reservoir of “dormant” state revenue which Kohima failed/refused to handle.

Story of the Eastern Nagaland is full of tragedies. It is infested with extreme poverty, HIV-AIDS, unemployment, Drug addiction, Alcoholism, Human trafficking and Illegal Weapons as well as Drug trade. This face of the eastern region deserves to be changed. Why should people suffer because of failed state machinery? Why should people not exercise their Constitutional Rights? Our people are citizens of India, now it is the duty of Central Government to come forward to rescue our people.

The liberation of eastern people lies in the formation of separate constitutional entity-it could either be separate state or union territory or

any other unique system within the constitution of India that could grant eastern people separate Legislature with Cabinet headed by Chief Minister, separate Executive headed by Governor or Lieutenant Governor, separate Administration headed by Chief Secretary and separate Judiciary with extended full protection under Article 371 A(1)(a).

The new entity will have to be sustainable which we all know is fully possible considering the high potential that eastern region holds and its contribution (for e.g. Mon 275.14 Lakhs, Tuensang, Kiphire, Longleng total 669.42 Lakhs contributed as revenue in the year 2018-19 ref. Dept. of Finance, Govt of NL report) to the state exchequer.

As I have stated on many occasions during consultations, public meetings and through my articles, there is no legal, constitutional or political barrier exist that could deter formation of the new, separate constitutional entity for the Eastern Nagas, however, we have to wait for the outcome of ongoing negotiations with Ministry of Home Affairs. Eastern Leaders and the Government of India will definitely come out with a “constitutional model” which will be amicable, legislative and sustainable.

Constitution of India has protected the rights of Eastern Naga people. Let us trust the constitutional process. There shall be victory of the people.

And I, Dr Aniruddha Babar- Son of The East, give a clarion call to all the people in Nagaland who believe in life, human values, human rights, justice and the spirit of Constitution of India to come forward and support the cause of Frontier Nagaland-a political movement of broken, helpless, invisible people in their own god gifted capacity. It is not a tribal movement, it is a movement of defeated human beings, gearing up for a FINAL VICTORY to achieve constitutional justice and to reclaim human personality.

O' GOD give me this boon, To never shirk from doing what is right

To never fear when I go to fight to restore my people's rights

To ever have the confidence to win

Let my heart learn through the ordeals of life

To have the desire to remember your name incessantly

And when the time come

Let me lead my people bravely to the land that they dream-The Frontier Nagaland

(The author is a Professor, Dept of Political Science, Tetso College, Nagaland)

Tips for Preventing Cold Weather Acne



By: Shahnaz Husain

Nothing much blooms in winter, but acne may be an exception.

Acne is a chronic skin condition that can remain troublesome all year around. However, the problem could

aggravate considerably, especially during the winter season.

Winter, a season known for its low humidity levels makes, the most superficial layer of our skin (epidermis) go dry which leads to acne breakouts.

Winter tends to be the driest time of the year, accompanied by dry skin that eventually increases sebum production, a type of oily and waxy substance that the small glands of the skin secrete. Sebum helps keep your skin properly moist and supple, but too much can make the cells stick to each other. This can lead to clogged pores and acne breakouts.

Luckily, winter acne is both treatable and preventable

Where clogged pores and acne are concerned, prevention is better than cure. Cleansing is very important

to prevent clogged pores, especially since oily skins attract more impurities. The pores have to be free of hardened oil. Use a cleanser, which is specially formulated for normal to oily skins. A cleansing lotion or face wash may be used. For oily skin problems, like spots, pimples and acne use a medicated soap or cleanser, which helps to remove impurities without disturbing the acid-alkaline balance.

An astringent lotion is also an integral part of cleansing of oily skin, as it not only reduces oiliness, but also shrinks the pores. After washing the face, wipe it with an astringent lotion, using cotton wool. If it is too harsh, mix the astringent lotion with rose water in equal quantities and use it. Or, use a rose-based skin tonic. For oily skins, rose water can be mixed with cucumber juice in equal quantities also helps to cleanse and close the pores.

Exfoliation is an important as-

pect in the cleansing of oily skins to cleanse the pores. This involves the use of scrubs, which should be rubbed gently on the skin and washed off with water. They help to remove dead skin cells, refining the pores and keeping them free of hardened oil. They also improve the skin texture. You can make a scrub at home by mixing oats with rose water and applying it on the face. Rub gently with circular movements and wash off with water. This not only helps to prevent blackheads, but also to close the pores gradually. However, do not use scrubs on pimples and acne. Also, avoid using soap and water several times a day.

You can also mix oats with egg white and apply on the areas with open pores twice a week. Wash it off when it is dry. This would work like a scrub and also tighten the pores. Dry and powdered orange and lemon peels can also be added to facial scrubs and masks.

In winter, an oily skin may also need a moisturiser, since the cold weather tends to aggravate dryness. However, avoid applying heavy and oily creams. You can apply a light moisturising lotion. Or, apply aloe vera gel. It moisturises the skin without making it oily. It also makes the skin soft and smooth. One must keep in mind to pick a moisturizer that suits their skin type.

A Vitamin C serum would help an oily skin and prevent clogged pores. Vitamin C is rich in antioxidants, keeping the skin healthy, while serums are light and normally water-based and are thus ideal for oily skin. Orange peels are a rich source of Vitamin C. In fact, the peels are said to contain more Vitamin C than the fruit itself. Dried and powdered orange peels can be used in scrubs and masks, to absorb oil and tighten the pores. Grind fresh orange peels into a paste. Add oats and rose water and apply the pack

on the face to benefit minimize pores and even blemishes.

Diet is important. If the system is congested, it reflects on the skin. Keep the system cleansed by including fresh fruits, raw salads, sprouts, whole grains and yogurt in your daily diet. Drink 6 to 8 glasses of water daily. Add the juice of a lemon to a glass of tepid water and have it first thing in the morning.

There are various benefits offered by flaxseed oil. Apart from health benefits, flaxseed oil can do wonders for the skin. It has abilities to hydrate the skin and enhance the texture of the skin by making it smooth and decreasing the dryness and irritation of the skin.

Exercising pumps more oxygen in the body that eventually helps in keeping the skin healthy and glowing. Moreover, it will also help in keeping you warm and active.

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

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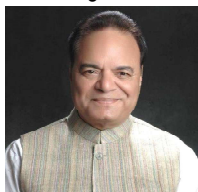
Congress MP dies of heart attack during Bharat Jodo; yatra suspended for a day

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 14:

Congress MP from Jalandhar Santokh Singh Chaudhary died on Saturday after suffering a cardiac arrest during Rahul Gandhi-led Bharat Jodo Yatra in Punjab. He was 76. Leader of Opposition in the Punjab assembly Partap Singh Bajwa said that Chaudhary was walking along with a fellow MP from Kerala and suddenly collapsed.

"He suffered a massive cardiac arrest," Bajwa said. Chaudhary was rushed to Phagwara civil hospital in an ambulance after suffering heart attack.

"Santokh Singh Chaudhary, aged 76, Congress MP from Jalandhar, passed away from a sudden cardiac arrest during the Bharat Jodo Yatra this morning. We extend our deepest condolences to his family," Jairam Ramesh, Congress general secretary in charge of communications said in a tweet. "There will be some changes in schedule of the yatra which will be shared



shortly."

Ramesh later said that the yatra has been suspended for 24 hours.

Expressing shock and grief over Chaudhary's death, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said it was a "great blow to the party and organisation."

Punjab chief minister Bhagwant Mann tweeted, "I am deeply saddened by the untimely death of Congress Member of Parliament from Jalandhar, Santokh Singh Chaudhary. May God rest his soul in peace."

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla expressed condolences on the demise of Chaudhary and said that the parliamentarian was always vocal on is-

suues of public interest.

"Condolences on the demise of Lok Sabha MP from Jalandhar Shri Santokh Singh ji. In his long public life, he was always vocal on issues of public interest. Discipline in the House was the specialty of his personality. May God give peace to the departed soul. My condolences to the family members," Om Birla said in a tweet in Hindi.

Gandhi expressed shock over the sudden demise of Chaudhary saying "he was a down to earth hardworking leader, a pious person and a strong pillar of the Congress family, who dedicated his life to public service from Youth Congress to Member of Parliament."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday expressed his condolences on the demise of Congress leader MP Santokh Singh Chaudhary, who died of a heart attack while attending the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Punjab's Ludhiana.

"Pained by the passing away of MP Shri Santokh

Singh Chaudhary Ji. He will be remembered for his efforts to serve the people of Punjab. Condolences to his family and supporters. Om Shanti," the prime minister wrote in a tweet.

The Congress leader was taken to Phagwara's Virk hospital, where he was declared brought dead. Rahul Gandhi paused the yatra to reach the hospital after receiving the news. The yatra has been suspended for the day.

The Punjab Congress chief said that the Yatra has been suspended for tomorrow (Sunday) too, as the last rites of the Congress MP Santokh Singh, will be held tomorrow.

"Yatra is suspended for today. Tomorrow, last rites will be held. I haven't spoken to Rahul Gandhi yet but we all feel that after last rites we'll start the Yatra. Till last rites it'll be suspended," said the Punjab Congress chief.

Meanwhile, Bharat Jodo Yatra commenced on September 7 last year from Kanyakumari and will culminate on January 30 in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar.

GSI organised awareness programme on Loktak Lake towards geotourism perspective



IT News
Imphal, Jan 14:

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, Geological Survey of India, State Unit: Manipur-Nagaland, Imphal Camp office and Regional Training Division, GSI, Shillong under the aegis of Addl. Director General & HoD, GSI, NER, Shillong, organised an awareness programme on "Loktak Lake: A Geo-Tourism Site of India" at Thanga Salam, Bishnupur district, Manipur.

The prime objective of the programme was to create awareness and highlight the scientific importance of this lake among visiting tourists, students and the general public. This will also help to conserve the site and aid the upcoming generations to be aware of such geological developments. Officers of GSI briefed on the geology and tectonic evolution of Manipur with special emphasis on Loktak Lake, a geotourism site

and the need to conserve it. To mark the event moments, T-Shirts, pamphlets were distributed to the participants and posters were displayed at different popular sites around the lake.

Loktak Lake, the largest natural freshwater lake of North-eastern India, characterised by floating islands, known as Phumdis and has been designated as a wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention in 1990. Geologically, Loktak Lake belongs to the Quaternary deposits and occupies the youngest morphostratigraphic sequence amongst the Quaternary deposits of Manipur with its origin as a part of lacustrine Imphal valley. Its relative age is Late Holocene to Recent. The programme was attended by the Principal, teaching & non-teaching staffs and students of Thanga Hr. Secondary School, Bishnupur district, Manipur along with official/leaders of local clubs.

During the programme invitees expressed their deep concern over the extensive overgrowth of *Phumdis* (aquatic plants) and the deteriorating condition of the lake since the past few decades. They stressed that only through geological/scientific knowledge the lake can be preserved to its natural pristine beauty. They expressed their sincere thanks and appreciation for the step taken up by GSI in sensitizing the local populace. They wish and look forward to more of such awareness programme to be conducted in near future.

GSI is the premier organisation of Earth Science in India that studies various aspects of the mineral potential of the nation, evolution of life, fossils, earthquakes etc. GSI is also the nodal agency for landslide studies in India. The various activities and significant achievements of the organisation are available in the official website (www.gsi.gov.in).

Southern Command Investiture Ceremony Held in Bengaluru

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Jan 14:

The Investiture Ceremony of the Indian Army's Southern Command was conducted at Madras Engineers Group & Centre, Bengaluru (Karnataka) with spectacular parade on Thursday and Friday.

Lieutenant General Ajai Kumar Singh, General Officer Commanding in Chief, Southern Command presented the gallantry and the distinguished awards to 40 Army personnel and 24 Units of Southern Command for their outstanding contribution in various field, an official statement read.

The grand Investiture Ceremony witnessed an impres-

sive march past by six contingents from Madras Engineers Group & Centre, Madras Regimental Centre, Bombay Engineers Group & Centre, Mahar Regimental Centre and Artillery centres (Nashik and Hyderabad) culminating into many major attractions such as Weapon and Equipment Display, Motor Cycle display, Combat Free Fall and Flypast by Army helicopters from Army Aviation unit.

The Army Commander during his address, congratulated all the awardees and the recipients of unit appreciation for their meritorious service and exhorted all to continue their pursuit for excellence. He also encouraged all ranks to

emulate the valour, courage and the dedication displayed by the award winners to make the nation and the Indian Army proud.

Lieutenant General Ajai Kumar Singh also highlighted the critical role of Southern Command being the oldest and the largest Command of the Indian Army covering nearly 40 % of Indian landmass and spread over nine States & three Union Territories. The Southern Command has withstood the test of time and successfully participated in numerous operations with distinction, he added.

After the presentation ceremony, he interacted with all the award winners and their families and conveyed his

gratitude for their phenomenal dedication and commitment towards the service of the nation and also for their outstanding achievements in the line of duty. The Army Commander also interacted with the veteran's present during the ceremony and expressed his appreciation for their rich legacy, tradition and the contribution rendered by them. He reaffirmed the commitment of Southern Command towards the welfare and well being of the veterans.

The Southern Command Investiture Ceremony was held at Bengaluru for the first time. Similarly the Army Day Parade 2023 will be held in Jammu on Sunday.

India reports 179 new Covid cases in a day

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 14:

India has reported 179 new Covid cases and single death in the last 24 hours, the union health ministry data stated on Saturday, taking the total number of cases to 44.7 million and 5,30,726 deaths so far. The country's active caseload declined to 2,227 cases.

Covid cases are constantly

declining across the country with Karnataka reporting 162 active cases while Kerala with 1340 active cases. Maharashtra has 143 active cases, Odisha 94 cases, Rajasthan with 35 cases, Tamil Nadu has 56 active cases; Uttar Pradesh has 19 and West Bengal has 52 active cases.

The country conducted over 1,47,467 tests in the last 24 hours.

Under the Covid vaccination drive, more than 220.16 crore

vaccine doses have been administered to people across the country so far. In the last 24 hours, around 52,577 vaccine doses were administered.

Meanwhile, INSACOG under the supervision of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) is keeping a close watch on the Covid situation in the country and continues to do constant genome sequencing to track any new variant.

Holistic development of students without the study of humanities not possible



By: Vijay GarG

A few minutes into a discussion to convince the head of a private university in India about the importance of restructuring the language curriculum, I realised he had programming languages in mind, while human languages were my concerns. He dismissed the discussion by stating "as I always think about significant things like 'these' (these being C, C++, JAVA, and PYTHON), I didn't understand that you're talking about English and French". By then I was familiar with the ecosystem of Science & Technology (S&T) institutes and was not surprised by the elitist attitude underlined by the use of the word 'signifi-

cant' and the subservient reality that faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (HSS) were subjected to.

As John Hildebidle says it is not easy to establish the relevance of the "innumerate mole" called humanities in the 'techno-jungles' of science and technology institutes.

For some, humanities and social sciences are subjects that are shallow which encourage research without producing any visible outputs. For many, HSS is a service department and the faculty of HSS can teach anything other than Sciences, Maths and Technology. Many of them do not even distinguish between the numerous disciplines that exist under the umbrella term humanities and social sciences, thereby over-generalising the concept of 'specialisation'.

Those who fail to understand the actual role of humanities or liberal arts in education consider this discipline, says John Hildebidle, as a "blend of providing a way for high-powered scientific workers to relax and offering some ill-defined moral instruction." "S&T counterparts of humanities often

wonder what these fascinating topics are researched in an HSS department without producing tangible output. They question, as Pramod K. Nayar rightly points out, the social usefulness of the humanities stream and the research by evaluating them in terms of the contribution to the society, to the knowledge community and to the parent institute. The touchstone here is the measurable, laboratory-based, experimental research framework that generates concrete results. The intellectual labour that the HSS faculty and scholars undertake becomes incomprehensible as there is usually a complete closure to anything that cannot be objectively measured, quantified and experienced.

Humanities departments in S&T institutes are an overlooked entity as they are forced to fit within the criteria that are designed for the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) departments. As Costa underscores, by ignoring the specificities of humanities discipline, the system forces the department to belong to the evaluation framework designated for the STEM

departments. This results in diminished social impact and deviation in research orientation in the field of humanities.

The architecture of the S&T institutes in terms of documentation is not conducive for the needs of research in humanities.

After all, what could go under 'consumables' when a researcher in literature submits a project proposal!

Structurally, HSS department exists as a stand-alone entity inside the vistas of an S&T institute. Bynno means can one argue that humanities discipline produces morally sound and ethically perfect humans.

The conversation between Albert Einstein and Rabindranath Tagore on the nature of reality back in 1930 is worth mentioning here. True genius sees beyond the superficial and understands the obscurities and impossibilities in offering definite characteristics to the phenomenon called 'truth'. Towards the end of a series of interesting exchanges about spirituality and scientific truth, about the abstract and the concrete, Einstein said to Tagore: "Then I am more reli-

gious than you".

The scientific temperament which endorses the importance of finding truth through objective, experimental, scientific method also values the abstract, philosophical, subjective positionality that thinkers absorb in their process of finding truth. The reality in the present world is worrying though. Perceptions and perspective generation are not given importance in the S&T Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) as the focus is more on product than the process. The pursuit of absolute truth often becomes a pseudo search because researchers fail to understand the ultimate goal of any research: the common good of humanity.

While discussing the distinction between education for profit making and that for a more inclusive type of citizenship, Martha Nussbaum foregrounds the role of humanities in enabling democracies to deal responsibly with the global challenges.

It is through the learning of literature, liberal arts, and languages that students develop their perspectives and ac-

knowledge diversity that exists in a multicultural world in which they function. Of course, studying/researching the STEM subjects is important as it helps create a world that is worthy of living as Jared Van Duinen maintains; but human imagination and higher order thinking skills were the pivotal factors that triggered all inventions and discoveries. The fast-developing framework of Design Thinking emphasises the role of creativity and critical thinking. Artists and nuclear physicists are collaborating in the world's largest particle physics laboratory. Various S&T institutes have gradually begun to recognise the value of humanities and allied disciplines. IIT Gandhinagar established a Centre for Creative Learning back in 2017 and in the first week of October 2022, by integrating Art into the STEM stream, a STEAM mission was announced to educate over 1 million children in India.

This transformation from STEM to STEAM is still not recognised by many S&T institutes in India even when they endeavour to implement the new education policy - NEP

2020 — that emphasises the importance of humanities in all disciplines.

Haim Ginott, a Holocaust survivor and an educational psychologist, in his famous work writes to the teachers: "I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no man should witness: gas chambers built by learned engineers, children poisoned by educated physicians, infants killed by trained nurses. So, I am suspicious of education. My request is: help your students become human. Your efforts must never produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, and educated Eichmanns." Global citizenship, multicultural competencies, higher order thinking skills and 21st century skills are all aligning well with the humanities discipline and without recognising the quality research that is definitely interdisciplinary in nature and the teaching that focuses on the philosophy, ethics and the very art of living, S&T institutes will not be able to foster holistic development of their student community.

KLO chief 'surrenders' before Assam Rifles, heads to Delhi for peace talks

Courtesy: EastMojo
Tinsukia, Jan 14:

Kamtapur Liberation Organisation (KLO) chief Jeevan Singha, alias Jeevan Koch Timir Das, has reportedly surrendered before security forces in the Longwa region along Indo-Myanmar on Friday and is likely to join "peace parley" with the centre and state.

The development came within five months after two top KLO militants – Kailash Koch, the second most important leader of the outfit and his wife Jugli – surrendered before the DGP of West Bengal police in Kolkata and days after Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma had invited the

outfit for "peace talks".

Formed in 1995 with members of the Koch Rajbongshi community, the KLO has been demanding a separate state encompassing parts of Cooch Behar, Malda, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri districts and stretches of Assam.

Highly-placed sources in the intelligence agency confirmed that KLO chief Singha had surrendered before Assam Rifles in Nagaland. "Singha has been involved in several KLO operations in Assam and West Bengal and had reported imparted arms training to hundreds of youths who joined the outfit," the source said.

Confirming the develop-

ment, another source in a central intelligence agency told this correspondent that the group headed by Singha entered Mon in Nagaland district from their hideout in Myanmar and is heading to Delhi.

"It (the group) surrendered before 27 Assam Rifles camp before proceeding to Delhi," the source said, adding, "Everything is happening secretly."

No agency has issued any formal confirmation.

According to available evidence, the KLO had close ties with ULFA since the days when both outfits operated out of Bhutan, and the latter had imparted training to KLO militants.

In the past year, several BJP leaders in Bengal were trumpeting that the central and Assam governments managed to coax the KLO into joining peace talks and returning to the mainstream, but a top KLO leader's surrender gave an extra edge to Mamata Banerjee and her government.

Assam CM Sarma had claimed that KLO was interested in peace talks and Singha confirmed their desire to join peace talks via a series of video statements issued in 2022.

This development carries political significance and comes amid a political tussle between PM Modi-led centre and Mamata Banerjee-led TMC government in West Bengal.

Transformation of Food Corporation of India to be done on a fast track mode: Piyush Goyal

PIB
New Delhi, Jan 14:

The transformation of Food Corporation of India (FCI) should be done on a fast track mode so that the organisation can continue to help the people, the poor and the farmers of the country. This was stated by Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce & Industry while delivering the inaugural address at the 59th Foundation Day of FCI here today.

In his speech, Goyal directed the Secretary, Depart-

ment of Food and Public Distribution to monitor the transformation of FCI and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) every week and to update him on the status on a fortnightly basis. He said strict action has to be taken against the officers who do not cooperate with or delay the transformation process.

Taking about the ongoing investigation against alleged cases of corruption in FCI, Goyal said that it's a wake-up call for the organisation and assured that no one found involved in corrupt practices will be spared. He said FCI will fol-

low the principle of Zero tolerance for corruption.

Goyal directed the Secretary to institutionalise a mechanism wherein whistleblowers may be rewarded. He called out to all officers and staff of FCI to report any incident of corruption.

Goyal praised the way FCI carried out the world's largest food supply chain system, especially during the pandemic to ensure seamless supply of foodgrains under the "Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana" (PMGKYA). He said that despite Covid pandemic, no one slept hungry in the country.

Contd. from Page 1

Manipur related with Mahabharata.....

Supporting the firm stand of the All Manipur United Clubs' Organisation (AMUCO), the IEDUCO has prepared to defend any hidden agenda of Indian leaders in wiping out the history of Manipur, asserted the release adding that failing to make a public apology over his

Manipur hate-speech would be like adding salt to injury which may infuriate for a larger mass agitation. The release further stated that it was unwise on the part of the home minister to think the Manipur People would be happy over his false speech relating Manipur with India's

Mahabharata. The history of Manipur is in no way related with Mahabharata, says the release urging the close associates of Amit Shah in Manipur to advise the home minister to tender an early public apology to prevent further decimation of the sentiments of the people of Manipur.

Home coming ceremonies are political.....

The statement by the KYKL further said that such drama had been staged many times. The drama cast timid deserters from the ongoing freedom struggle and randomly selected individuals as surrenders to please the masters in Delhi, the statement added and further stated that the Puppet governments must serve the interests of their masters, or else they will lose power and position. It is for this reason that the state should conduct such ceremonies to show the centre that it is doing everything in its power to suppress the current national liberation movement, which is the ultimate goal of the colonial rulers of India.

"Here one must not lose sight of the fact that it is the ruling class who benefit from Indian colonialism while the people suffer greatly. Clearly, this explains why they sustain Indian colonialism. Moreover, every Kanglei citizen should realize that the so-called Homecoming Ceremony will not bring either development or peace to the state. Rather, it is a method used by our ruling elite to earn crores by selling national freedom to Indian colonial rulers."

"In many ways, it is analogous to a servant licking his or her master's boot to gain sympathy and kindness. Isn't this what we refer to as slave morality? Shamefully, they refer to it as "shrewd politics" within their

circle. Perhaps they call it shrewd politics because their power is entirely dependent on how well they serve their colonial masters. The slave morality I refer to here places an emphasis on sympathy and kindness from the masters over dignity and independence. Isn't this what we've seen in the ruling class of Manipur?"

"Therefore, the homecoming ceremony represents nothing more than a pathetic effort by the state's ruling class to demonstrate their endorsement to the Delhi Mandarins in colonizing and suppressing our people. They did this only to further their own interests, not to serve the interests of the people".

7th Armed Forces Veterans' Day celebrated across the country

PIB
New Delhi, Jan 14:

As a mark of respect to the selfless duty of the ex-servicemen & their sacrifices towards the Nation and solidarity towards Next of Kin of the bravehearts, the seventh Armed Forces Veterans' Day was celebrated across the country on January 14, 2023. The celebrations were held at nine locations, with Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh presiding over the main function in Dehradun. Addressing a huge rally of veterans as part of the event, the Raksha Mantri expressed gratitude to the soldiers who have protected the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country with unmatched courage & sacrifice and paid rich tributes to those who laid down their lives in the line of duty. He commended the serving as well as retired Armed Forces personnel who ensure the

country's national security.

Rajnath Singh made special mention of the freedom fighters, soldiers and veterans of Uttarakhand, who have displayed indomitable courage and dedication to safeguard national interests. "Heroes like Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali ji who supported the freedom fighters hailed from Uttarakhand. During the Kargil war, the soldiers of the state played a crucial role by standing strong against the enemy and protecting the country with unshakeable spirit," he said.

The Raksha Mantri added that due to the selfless devotion and sacrifices of the Armed Forces personnel, our citizens feel safe and walk with their heads held high. "Our brave soldiers have made a huge contribution in transforming India's image across the world to that of a powerful and respectful nation. You all are the protectors of our unity and in-

tegrity. You are the assets to the nation. We sleep peacefully because you are awake at the borders," he said.

Rajnath Singh was of the view that pension, medical and other facilities being provided to the veterans are just a small token of the country's respect towards the sacrifices & commitment they have made, assuring them of the Government's full support to their welfare. "Every soldier of today is a respected veteran of tomorrow. It is our duty to ensure their wellbeing and satisfaction," he said.

Reiterating the Government's commitment to ensure the welfare of the ex-servicemen, the Raksha Mantri shed light on the launch of a Defence Pension Grievance Redressal portal for speedy resolution of complaints of the ex-servicemen. He also mentioned the 'Maa Bharati ke Sapoot' website, launched in

October last year, stating that people can contribute to the Armed Forces Battle Casualties Welfare Fund through the portal. He termed it as an important medium to connect the citizens with the welfare efforts of ex-servicemen. He concluded his address by thanking all veterans and serving Armed Forces personnel for their dedication and valour.

Chief Minister of Uttarakhand Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami and Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan also attended the rally. Also present were GOC-in-C, Central Command Lt Gen Yogendra Dimri; GOC, Uttar Bharat Area Lt Gen JP Mathew; GOC, Uttarakhand Sub Area, Maj Gen Sanjeev Khatri; President, Uttarakhand Ex-Servicemen League Maj Gen Mohan Lal Aswal (Retd) and Uttarakhand Sainik Kalyan Mantri Shri Ganesh Joshi and a number of veterans.

Sports

FIH World Cup 2023:

India start title pursuit with 2-0 triumph against Spain

Agency
Odisha (Orissa), Jan 14:

The Indian hockey team began their FIH Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 campaign with an impressive 2-0 win over Spain 2-0 in their opening Pool D match of the tournament at the Birsas Munda Hockey Stadium on Friday.

Amit Rohidas (132) scored India's opener in the first quarter while Hardik Singh (272) netted India's second goal. The win takes India up to the second place in Pool D standings behind England, who beat Wales 5-0 in the other Pool fixture earlier in the day.

Both teams started the match on equal footing and the first 10 minutes ebbed and flowed with the two teams dominating phases of the game. However the final few minutes of the first quarter saw India take control and capitalise with an all-important first goal.

After captain Harmanpreet Singh's shot was blocked by the Spain defence, Amit Rohidas latched onto the loose ball and drove his shot past a helpless Adrian Rafi in the



Spanish goal to score India's first goal of the Hockey World Cup 2023.

It was also India's 200th goal in the tournament. Only Australia, the Netherlands and Pakistan have scored more.

Spain increased their attacking intent to try and restore parity but India goalkeeper Krishan Bahadur Pathak pulled off some fantastic saves to keep India's lead intact. India also created opportunities of their own and found a second goal from a counterattack.

Hardik Singh broke in pace and showed some stunning three-dimensional skills to weave past four defenders. His attempt at goal from a tight angle took a deflection off a Spanish defender and rippled the net. India took a 2-0 advantage into the half-time break.

Shortly after the restart, Akashdeep Singh won India a penalty stroke but Harmanpreet's shot from the spot was just about snuffed on the line by Adrian Rafi. India came close to scoring a third

on several occasions in the third quarter, including from two Harmanpreet PCs, but the scoreline remained 2-0 heading into the final quarter.

India were dealt a blow early in the final quarter after Abhishek was shown a yellow card. The 10-minute suspension reduced India to 10 men and allowed Spain some leeway.

However, the Indian team defended diligently to see the match off. India will play England next on Sunday.



DHANAMANJURI
UNIVERSITY

DHANAMANJURI UNIVERSITY
MANIPUR

PRESS RELEASE

Imphal, the 13th January 2023

The Dhanamanjuri University was established on 6th April, 2018. Since inception, all faculty members (including utilized) and non-teaching staff members of 5 (five) Constituent Colleges (DM College of Science, DM College of Arts, DM College of Commerce, GP Women's College and LMS Law College) have been sincerely taking role in teaching-learning processes and other academic and non-academic activities of the University in addition to their normal duties in colleges. The University was recognized under section 2(F) of UGC Act, 1956. The notification for the direct recruitment of teaching faculty and non-teaching staff was published in the month of December, 2020 and accordingly all the interviews/written test have been conducted and completed.

The University has already initiated the process of declaration of the results of interviews. The Government also assured for the declaration of results at the earliest.

The Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Manipur already notified and issued orders for the bifurcation of all teaching on 24th November, 2022 and the process for bifurcation of the non-teaching staff from the Department of Higher and Technical Education, Government of Manipur to Dhanamanjuri University is also under process. Accordingly, the University authority has submitted the list of incumbents and other information to the UGC to declare Dhanamanjuri University fit to receive Central assistance under section 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956.

The University appeals to all teaching faculties of all 5 (five) Constituent Colleges that the University will shortly notify about the classification of teachers for teaching UG & PG classes. Therefore, all teachers are informed to extend cooperation for teaching UG, PG & PrePh.D. classes as usual in the interest of students until the above said classification is completed.

Sd/-

Dr. Nivedita Lairenlakpam

Registrar

Dhanamanjuri University, Manipur

IT/Advt(B)-14,15