

Jiribam, Chandel, Senapati and Thoubal District Administration organises 7th edition of Meeyamgi Numit



IT News
Jiribam, Jan 20:

With a view to establish a better connection between the people with the government and gaining more public trust in district administration and the State Government, the District Administration Jiribam today organized the 7th Meeyamgi Numit (People's Day) in respect of Jiribam District at DC Complex, Chingdong Leikai, Jiribam.

Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam W. Malemnganba Chenglei, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam Jameson Hangshing, MCS, Additional Superintendent of Police Jiribam, Emmanuel Fimate, MPS, and other district-level officers of various departments attended the event.

Altogether 19 departments which include Health, Social Welfare, Fishery, Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Agriculture, Sericulture, MSPDCL, PWD, CAF & PD, and Veterinary and Animal Husbandry opened their stalls for delivering public services and public grievances during the day.

Some of the services provided during the event include the distribution of 2 Sprinkler Pump Sets to the selected beneficiaries by the Horticulture & Soil Conservation Department. The department of Agriculture renewed farmer's cards while the department of CAF & PD issued 2 nos of ration cards to the selected beneficiaries under National Food Security Act. On the other hand, the Department of Social Welfare issued 38 Nos. of CMST cards to the selected beneficiaries.

As many as 42 applications of various issues pertaining to the issuance of OBC certificates, Income Certificates, Domicile Certificates and land records, etc., were also received for further necessary action.

Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam heard the grievances of the people one by one and instructed the concerned department officials to redress their grievances.

On the sidelines of the event, Deputy Commissioner

while briefing the media appealed to the general public to come forward and reap the benefits of public services delivery during Meeyamgi Numit being organized by the district administration, Jiribam. He also appeals to the general public to come forward and witness the upcoming Republic Day, 2023 to make the event a grand success.

Unlike other months, public turnout was comparatively slightly low in today's Meeyamgi Numit.

It may be highlighted that the District Administration, Jiribam has been conducting Meeyamgi Numit every month since July 2022. The event is held on every 3rd Friday of the month at the premises of the DC Office Complex, Chingdong Leikai.

On Such days, all officers of the district including SP, DFO, ADC, SDOs/BDOs, and other district-level officers attend the event. The main highlight of the event is the opening of stalls by the District Level Officers (DLOs) to facilitate interaction with the public.

The public is informed of the event in advance by the publication of notification in the local media. People from all walks of life are invited to meet the DLOs of various government departments for on-the-spot redressal of their grievances.

Apart from addressing the needs of the citizen, Meeyamgi Numit although with its conception just a year ago provides a ray of hope and opportunity to the common masses for the redressal of their grievance at the earliest. In the lines of Jan Sunvais, Lok Adalat, Janata Darbar prevalent in other states, Meeyamgi Numit has carved a niche in the governance of the state by way of advocating transparency, a public-friendly approach, and citizen-centric governance.

The District Hill Leaders & Meeyamgi Numit for the month of January 2023 was held at Multipurpose Hall, Mini Secretariat, DC complex, Chandel today.

contd. on page 4

Women Footballer Bala and Panthoi felicitated; Bala appointed as Inspector



IT News
Imphal, Jan 20:

International footballer Ngangom Bala and Goalkeeper of the Indian Football Team, Elangbam Panthoi was honoured today at the Chief Minister's Secretariat today by the Chief Minister of Manipur, N Biren Singh. Bala was honoured by appointing her to the post of Inspector of Manipur Police.

The State government has been honoring the state athletes, sports players, and Olympians for bringing glory to the nation and the state, CM Biren said.

It may be mentioned that Bala Devi was the first footballer from India to play for a European Club. Also, she was the first woman footballer

from India to secure a contract with a foreign club, Scottish Club Rangers FC in January 2020 for a period of 18 months which was extended for another six months recently. Bala Devi currently holds the name of the highest goal scorer of the Indian Women's Football Team and was named twice the All India Football Federation Women's Player of the Year in 2015 and 2016. She was also named the AIFF Women's 'Footballer of the Year', for the year 2020-2021.

Chief Minister N Biren Singh said, "The state government of Manipur has been encouraging and honouring the homegrown athletes, players, and Olympians for bringing laurels to the nation and Manipur."

The Indian Team forward, Bala Devi who plays for East-

ern Sporting Union expressed her gratitude to the Chief Minister of Manipur for her appointment as an Inspector in Manipur Police, recognizing her contribution to the field of sports.

The People's Chief Minister has been giving jobs to players thereby encouraging and acknowledging their contribution when it is very difficult for players in groups to land a proper Government job, she said.

Panthoi, who currently plays for Eastern Sporting Union won the Indian women's League Best Goalkeeper for the year 2017-2018 and in December 2022, underwent training cum trial along with Bala Devi at Spain at the Spanish Segunda Federation outfit Malaga.

RSS General Secretary to visit Manipur

IT News
Imphal, Jan 20:

General Secretary of Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) Dattatreya Hosabale is visiting Manipur on a four day visit here in Manipur. As per official source the RSS general secretary who arrived here in Imphal today will address a public meeting on January 22 at 4 pm on the topic "Netaji, Azad Hind Fauj, and Indian Freedom Struggle", at the central hall of GP Women's College, DM University.

The public lecture organized during the four day visit of the GS RSS is being organized jointly by Intellectual Forum of North East (IFNE), Manipur Chapter and GP Women's College on the eve of Parakram Diwas.

Hosabale is also visiting the INA Memorial Complex at around 8.30 am of January 23 to attend the 126th Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. There he will pay floral tribute to Netaji as a part of the Parakram Diwas celebration.

Governor and others greet on 52nd Statehood Day

IT News
Imphal, Jan 20:

Governor of Manipur, La Ganesan sends greetings on the occasion of the 52nd Statehood Day of Manipur. In his message to the people of the state on the occasion, Governor La Ganesan said, "I take privilege in extending heartiest greetings to the people of the State on the auspicious occasion of the 52nd Statehood Day. Shoulders to shoulder with their brethren elsewhere in the country, people of the State have been steadfastly marching towards the destined goals of all-around welfare, happiness, and satiety. This momentous occasion is significant because while we get an opportunity to reminisce about past achievements, we also re-dedicate ourselves to greater efforts for the times ahead."

Despite some vicissitudes and constraints, the State has made steady progress toward fulfillment of the identified objectives. Significant increases in literacy, the spread of higher education, and a host of other welfare measures have distinguished the people's efforts during the past few decades.

Every developing society faces problems. Our State is no exception. Our optimism emanates from a strong determination, to overcome the obstacles, which characterises the people's endeavours.

On this solemn Day, let us reiterate our resolve to reach new milestones in the years ahead. Since progress in isolation cannot be imagined, this is also an appropriate occasion to express our solidarity with the rest of the country for attaining the National objectives of development through harmony, peace and unstinted fellow-feeling, said the message by the Governor.

Also, Th. Basanta Kumar Singh, Minister of Education/Law & Legislative Affairs also sends greetings and warm wishes to the people of the state on the occasion. The message by Th Basanta Kumar said, "On the eve of 51st Statehood Day of Manipur, I convey my warmest greeting to the people of Manipur."

On 21st January 1972 Manipur became full-fledged state under the North Eastern Region (Reorganisation) Act 1971. On this occasion I would especially urge the younger

sons and daughters to come forward and move ahead at a fast pace with a double engine of development.

Let us pray for the constant progress of the state. Let us pay tribute to the sacrifices and efforts of each and every person who contributed to attain the glorious goal of Statehood.

I wish prosperity, happiness and well being to the people of Manipur."

And Awangbow Newmai, Minister of Water Resources & Relief and Disaster Management in his message to the people on the occasion, extend his warmest greetings and best wishes to the people of Manipur on the occasion of Statehood Day, 2023.

It added, "Manipur attained Statehood on 21st January, 1972 and became a full-fledged State of the Indian Union. Statehood day is remembered by the people of the State with pride and happiness. Let us all unite to take Manipur to greater heights of progress and prosperity. I wish peace and prosperity to all and hope that our State continue to attain success and scale new heights of growth in the times to come."

Tripura Polls: ECI orders probe into Political clash, Asks State CEO to get report from DGP

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 20:

A political clash broke out in Tripura, only hours after the dates for the assembly elections were announced on Wednesday. Now, the Election Commission of India has asked the state chief electoral officer to get a report from the DGP about the incident and this has to be submitted by 3 pm on Friday (January 20).

"Election Commission of India has ordered an inquiry into the incident of political violence in Jirania sub-division of West Tripura district reported on January 18. The Election Commission of India has asked the chief electoral officer, Tripura, to obtain a report from DGP Tripura through the chief secretary, Tripura, and submit it by 3 pm on January 20," the Tripura CEO said in a series of tweets.

The ECI had announced on Wednesday that the northeastern state will go to polls on February 16 while the counting of votes will take place on March 2.

Hours after the polls were declared, the Congress alleged that 15 party workers and functionaries, including AICC general secretary Ajay Kumar, were injured after a group of "BJP-backed goons" attacked them during a bike rally in Tripura's Majlisapur constituency. Police, however, said the attacks were carried out by unknown miscreants in West Tripura district, and "10 party workers were injured".

While announcing the polls, chief election commissioner Rajiv Kumar had said the ECI was committed and duty-bound to conduct free, fair, violence-free and inducement-free elections.

"There is no place for violence in a democracy, we are working towards a violence-free election. There are only a few states where pre-poll and post-poll violence happens. The commission has spoken to the local authorities and all efforts will be made to ensure peaceful elections," he had said.

On Thursday, a three-member CPI(M) delegation led

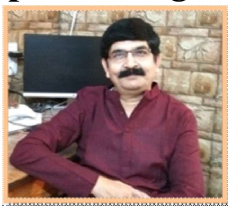
by its general secretary Sitaram Yechury met the ECI and submitted a memorandum, asking the poll body to undertake emergency measures for conducting a free and fair poll in Tripura, especially in view of recent violence.

Another incident, that of the murder of a Tipra Motha worker, was also reported from the poll-bound state six hours after the dates were declared. The Tipra Motha Dal has accused the BJP of carrying out the act.

Police said a Tipra Motha leader from the Surma assembly constituency was returning home after a day's work, when he was attacked by unidentified miscreants. His car was first vandalised following which he was dragged out of the vehicle and fatally attacked on the head.

Tipra Motha chief Pradyot Kishore Manikya Debbarma appealed for peace in the build-up to the election and questioned the Election Commission's claims of "zero violence".

How technology is preventing train accidents?



By: Vinod Chandrashekar Dixit

The frequent train accidents reveals the fact that the increasing number of train accidents is alarming and is also a symptom of the rot within. These are needless deaths, which happen only in India which is really disgusting. In order to prevent the recurrence of such mishaps, the modernisation of safety equipment, the maintenance of track and signals, the re-training and fitness of the staff, especially drivers, their assistants, guards, and those at the stations need to be improved. On the one

hand, safety measures are out of place and, on the other, safety awareness is abysmally low among people. How many of us know what to do in cases of emergency? Our Railway Minister needs efficient, adequate and trained staff too, for turning the vision into reality. As evident due to trains derailment and accidents, our country faced lot of loss the precious lives of passengers, private & public property as well as caused fear in the minds of commuters to refrain from using rail journeys to reach their destination.

It is a fact that railway traffic has grown disproportionately to railway infrastructure, particularly railroads and routes. There are serious flaws in the scheduling of trains on some routes. So much so that the Railway system would not be able to handle the traffic on certain routes if all trains were to run as per schedule. Every year we introduce new trains without improving the infrastructure. While a probe has been ordered, and compensations announced, the history of Indian Railways is not very bright when it comes to safety.

It has become a routine for the Railway Ministers and officials to rush to the scene of accident, express their sorrow and opinion for its cause, announce ex-gratia payments to the victims' families and initiate an inquiry, and there ends the matter. It is clear that the phenomenal advance in modern technology has not led to the upgradation of safety to the desired extent.

In addition to use of new technology for improvement, great need is to felt to look after the manpower behind the rail in terms of providing better facilities in incentives, promotions, trainings, healthcare, accommodation and proper rests to shift workers and imparting yoga & meditation for their well-beings and also devise mechanisms to comfort their families, which play pivotal role to bring mission of Railway Minister's dream and mission comes true.

But safety hardly seems to improve. Has any action taken on various inquiries instituted by railways in the past after accidents? No! Successive governments have ignored warnings given by expert committees and engineers of the Indian Railways on track safety and maintenance. Every time a major train accident occurs, we get down to postmortem on the reasons that caused the accident. Every time a serious accident occurs, the Railway Ministry announces a probe. While chanting the development mantra, the Railways should take care not to compromise safety. The Railways should allocate sufficient funds for passenger safety and learn from other countries, if necessary. Let us stop the blame game and focus on safety measures so that these accidents can be avoided in future. It is only the common man who has to pay the price for all this with his life. It is time for a systemic overhaul, including safety measures, on a war footing. The Indian Railways needs to launch 'Zero Accident Mission' in a definite time frame.



By: M.R. Lalu

The Supreme Court's latest observations on the conversion menace calling it a 'serious issue' finger-point on the dangerous trends of illegitimate religious conversion activities in India. Various denominations of Christianity are going hammer and tongs with their universal missionary might to convert people to their fold. Through their centuries of history the semitic religions give us inscriptions on the ruthless demeanours of their organised conversions by literally misleading people across the globe or in some cases with the strength of their sophisticated weaponry. India has always been subjected to such hard-nosed cruelty of cultural invasions by semitic religions. Christianity in India has a representation of 2.5% of the total population while Islam constitutes more than 16%. India's more sparsely populated North East holds a relatively large share of Christian population. With massive conversions being carried out among the tribal population of Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Meghalaya, the Christian missionaries established strong dominance in this region. Arunachal Pradesh also holds a large number of Christian population irrespective of its Indigenous Faith activities gaining momentum.

About 37% of the Christian population represents the Catholic Church in India and the remaining populace is scattered among different denominations. The legal efforts made by Ashwini Upadhyay, an advocate in the Supreme Court brought the conversion menace in the purview of the apex court and the court for all good reasons told the petitioner not to politicise the issue while it upheld the

The Conversion Menace

seriousness of the matter. The court in effect agreed to the fact that fraudulent conversion activities are happening in India and in many places innocent Hindus are trapped into the dubious version of spirituality through miracle crusades or lured uncontrollably that poverty of people became a strong weapon for the missionaries to mount their harvest. Kerala holds the single largest Christian population in India. It has the credit of being the place where Christianity had set its footprints first. Comprising about 20% of the state's population, Christianity is one of the most effective political forces in the state.

Why conversion? Religions busy in conversion are besieged by the theological belief that their Gods hold the key to salvation and the only path that leads to heavenly liberation is offered by their practices. The political attitude behind religious conversion is the most dangerous. Semitic religions believe in increasing the number of followers by any means. And Hinduism, for that matter offers a polytheistic belief system which is capable to assiduously grant liberty to the follower to whichever deity he feels suitable for him to follow. It offers a bandwagon of deities to those who follow the principles of Hinduism and that is the main reason behind its non-acrimonious behaviour and it is hesitant to vociferously espouse it as the most glorious religion. The essential political view that is playing behind the conversion mechanics is to divide the world into two as believers and non-believers.

In the disguise of charity and service, Christianity has always been adopting a diplomatic shrewdness while it spread its conversion activities. It never denounces Hinduism forthrightly. It pretends to accept the value system that the Hindus follow at the first place and later comes out with its dubious plans to demean the Hindu way of life and try to establish its power bringing a fuller and confusing version of ultimate solace to the problems that a normal person encounters. The Christian theology espouses love for humanity periph-

erally but the deepening impact of the version of conversion it runs on the non-believers is a profound proof for its expansionist mindset. Why is conversion spiritually a nasty idea? Leaving the political aspirations of the semitic religions aside, let us look at the spiritual fallout of conversion. Greatness of any faith depends on the spiritual depth and purity of its belief systems and its ability to convince people about its unfathomable values and wonderful practices. Emboldened by its one book, one God and one prophet theology; churches across the globe remained a political power-group to mobilize their unsuspecting activities which later would turn out to be platforms for massive conversions. Failing to provide a cultural variety, Christianity in the lands where once it was dominant, began to shrink and face adverse situations.

The Supreme Court's observation saying the 'issue at hand was very serious' was a crucial remark on the conversion lobby that takes asylum behind veiled magnanimity and charity. The court appreciated the idea of charity but it questioned its concealed intentions. Appallingly, Christian theology with its western mindset can be seen in conflict with the pluralism of Hinduism. It was at war with everything that questioned its authority. Global human history tells tales of persecution run on the indigenous people by the united missionary mindset and its hanky-panky interventions. India's appeasement politics have often been supportive to the conversion lobby. The danger emanates from the political side of Christian theology and its candid authorisation of proselytization as an act of divine intervention is the real issue that the Indian religions are to be aware of.

Why conversion is a menace? Conversion happens as part of a global agenda. Pope John Paul II during his visit to India and while addressing an interreligious gathering said that religious freedom constitutes the very heart of human rights. His three-day visit to India witnessed him present his global agenda. He said

that the inviolability of human rights is such that individuals must be recognized as having the right even to change their religion. But he was least bothered about the indoctrination that the conversion process would take a person through. The convert, in a way, is seduced to not give any heed to his inner-consciousness and the churches all over the world deliberately deny a clean line between indoctrination and inner-consciousness. Mahatma Gandhi had extensively written against religious conversions and his views underscored the need of a convert to follow his own ancestral faith with deep understanding rather than getting converted.

The Anti-conversion Bill passed in many states with its clear objectives defines why conversion is objectionable. 'No person shall convert or attempt to convert either directly or otherwise any other person from one religion to another by use of misrepresentation, force, undue influence, coercion, allurement or by any fraudulent means or by marriage, nor shall any person abet or conspire for conversions.' Gandhi, in his article in the Harijan eloquently calls conversion a grave error and the greatest impediment to the world's progress toward peace. India's innate wisdom, according to him, considers different religions as beautiful flowers from the same garden or they are the branches of the same majestic tree. Indoctrination to the extent of turning the converts against their own ancestral faith and declaring war against it is the biggest challenge in every society. Swami Vivekananda seemed to have a clear idea on the deliberate denial and disrespect with which the missionary interventions happen. "Every man going out of the Hindu pale is not only a man less, but an enemy the more" he said. Conversion activities, with all their mendaciousness, became a threat to the country's cohesive religious existence. There cannot be double standards while dealing with this menace.

(The author is a Freelance Journalist/Author of 'India @ 75- A Contemporary Approach')

Village Deprived of Health Facilities

(Due to the shortage of doctors, the villagers are forced to take the services of bogus doctors)



By: Vijay GarG

Due to this, thousands of people die untimely due to lack of better treatment. Statistics show that apart from allopathy, there is a dearth of homeopathy and Ayurvedic doctors in the villages. Due to lack of health facilities and doctors in the villages, thousands of people die untimely every day due to lack of treatment. The claims of the central and state governments to provide better health facilities have no ground but they are not visible. Yes, there has been some improvement in the last few years, but not enough to be considered satisfactory. It is worth mentioning that even today, apart

from the acute shortage of health facilities in seven lakh villages of the country, the appointment of doctors has been far less than the requirement.

Tamil Nadu is the only state where health services in villages can be called satisfactory. States have enacted strict laws a few years ago to meet the shortage of doctors in villages, yet most of the new doctors refuse to serve in their villages. The irony is that doctors pay crores of rupees fine every year for breaking the undertaking filled for the job, but refuse to provide service in the villages. It is noteworthy that only twenty percent of the doctors of the country are working in rural areas. Due to this, the availability of doctors in the villages remains nominal. According to the Medical Council of India, the reason for this is that the government does not have any map of it.

On the other hand, the Indian Medical Association says that doctors do not want to go to villages because primary health centers and CHC Facilities are not available. There is an acute shortage of operation theatres, anaesthesia doctors, pathologists and technicians in the villages. Apart from this, there is a lack of accommodation and necessary furniture for the doctors posted at the health centers in the villages.

contd. on page 3

Solid Waste Management : An Outline of State Supervision

By: Sarojini Rout

The solid waste management has attained highest importance in the recent era globally but the practices of basic concepts on waste disposal are often neglected. In this age of globalization with rapid growth of industrialization it is more necessary to understand the future at risk. Our future generation at its priority, we must keep an eye on how we are going to save this earth to be known a better one. It is very important to understand the factors responsible in harming the ecosystem until how we are going to fight and manage to reduce the risk. Starting from educating school & college students, adding it as a subject would help to understanding the waste management at its better arena with immediate effect could be implemented on local level.

Awareness on waste management and its disposal was lacking and there is an urgent need to eradicate this issue since many organization lacks in understanding and taking crucial steps forward actively to minimize the risk. Starting from commercial industry to corporate every department must have a mandate curriculum to minimize future at risk. With this research we are going to understand the risk factor until how we as a responsible one need to understand the management procedure. Not just subtracting everything at one night, however making sure that every bit of a day counts towards a better waste management planning with rapid actions to be followed to make sure at least we reduce some factor

responsible towards harming the environment.

Previously WorldBank.Org also published one prominent research on solid waste management in the year 2020 with outbreak of Covid-19. On medical waste management and how recycling waste management would help to maintain sustainability in our planet despite corona-virus outbreak with lot of disposal in place and present. Business Insider published an article on Covid waste management, how the medical industry can rid of the waste alongside measures taken place with active proposals in place to reduce waste and promote recycle. According to UNEP Report 2020, from response to recoveries-reviews, practices for managing waste from healthcare facilities, households and quarantine locations accommodating people with confirmed cases of COVID-19. Alongside UNEP jointly produced by the international Environment Technology Centre of UNEP and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies the report considers various approaches, identifies best practices and technologies and provides recommendation for policy-makers and practitioners to improve waste management over the long term.

This research is designed not only to describe the features and significance of solid waste management but also the future aspect of how one can eradicate and take necessary action needed with robust planning and measures. The procedure involve the following:

Research Design, Sample and Sample Techniques, Instrumentation, Validation, Administration of the instrument Data Analysis Techniques, Surveys. Surveys would help understanding the ground realities of the action taken on various waste management institute.

This study will be based on commercial surveys and ground report published on either official websites or covered by News Media agencies. Above research design are suitable for this research because it is going to make use of a questionnaire to illicit information from the respondent. Through surveys we will be able to capture ground report and will have authentic information in hand. With thorough interaction with the respondents, we will be able to find ground challenges and additional information will be added in case required to add in research paper and analysis.

The population of the study consists of approximately 5-10 Area as respondent were selected on the basis of their ground activity conducted & published in past years. The respondent will be the core authentic source to be identified as the sample alongside the area.

A sample size of 10 Solid Management location were selected to know the process and procedure how the management takes place alongside interactions with 5-10 experts were also included to know the ground reality and challenges. Statistics will also be analysed on the basis of ground report collected. Pearson Correlation

techniques will also be added to analyse the sample collected from the source.

The instrument for this study is questionnaire will be constructed through the report based on publications by experts on Newspaper, Magazine, Websites etc. Various Environment enthusiast or Columnist articles will also be used to find the hindrance as well as the trends of how solid waste management are taking place from area to area. Study on E-Waste management will also take place looking at the industrial IT markets trends on disposals of electrical items.

The validation will be determined by expert judgement of the supervisor. The judgement will be sought to guarantee that each of the items in the instrument measured what it was supposed to measure. The final draft will be adjudged valid by Project Supervisor alongside suggestions to be added and adhere during the field survey. If any sought of correction needed later will be added under the research paper.

A total of 20 Copies of the questionnaire will be administered to the respondents.

Data collected will be analysed using frequency table, percentage and mean score analysis based on location wise survey and responses from the respondents.

[The author is a Research scholar, BSc from Manipur University, MSc (Environmental Science Gold medalist) and B. Ed from Delhi]

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PM distributes 71,000 appointment letters under Rozgar Mela via video conferencing



PIB
New Delhi, Jan 20:

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi distributed about 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits in Government departments and organisations via video conferencing today. The Rozgar Mela is a step towards the fulfilment of the commitment of the Prime Minister to accord the highest priority to employment generation. The Rozgar Mela is expected to act as a catalyst in further employment generation and provide meaningful opportunities to the youth for their empowerment and participation in national development.

The Prime Minister also interacted with the appointees on the occasion.

Suprabha Biswas from West Bengal who got her appointment letter for Punjab National Bank was the first to interact with the Prime Minister. She thanked the Prime Minister for the quick completion of the formalities of the appointment and the opportunity to

serve. The Prime Minister also asked about her continuing studies. She explained her association with the iGOT module and elaborated upon the benefit of the module. Shri Modi also inquired about the promotion of digital transactions in her job. The Prime Minister expressed his happiness about the girls taking new strides in every field.

Faisal Shaikat Shah from Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir who got appointed as a Junior Assistant in NIT, Srinagar interacted with the Prime Minister and informed that he is the first member of the family who landed a government job. The Prime Minister asked him about the impact of his appointment on his peers. Faisal informed the Prime Minister that his friends are feeling inspired to join a government job. He also conveyed the benefits of iGOT Module. The Prime Minister said that he is confident that thorough youth like Faisal Jammu and Kashmir will reach new heights. He also asked the young appointee to keep on learning.

Vahnei Chong from Manipur got her appointment letter as a Nursing Officer at AIIMS, Guwahati. She said it was her dream to be in the health sector in the Northeast. She, like others, is the first appointee in a government job from her family. The Prime Minister asked her about the obstacles that she faced during the selection process if any and also asked her to share her experience. She also conveyed her desire for continuous learning. She also informed about sensitization and learning about the provisions dealing with sexual harassment in the workplace. The Prime Minister congratulated her for the appointment in the Northeast region and said that the government is committed to the development of the region.

Raju Kumar a divyang from Bihar got his appointment letter as a Junior Engineer in Indian Eastern Railways. Raju, a divyang, explained his journey and conveyed his desire to go further in life. He also talked about the support he got from his colleagues and family. Raju

has done 8 courses on Kamyogi Parambhi course and benefited a great deal from the course on stress management and code of conduct. He told the Prime Minister that he will try for the Civil Services Exam of UPSC. The Prime Minister wished him well for his journey.

Kannamala Vamsi Krishna from Telangana got his appointment letter as a Management Trainee at Coal India Ltd. The Prime Minister noted the hard work and hardships of his parents and the new trainee also recounted his journey and thanked the Prime Minister for the Rozgar Mela. Kannamala Vamsi Krishna also found the module very useful especially as it is available on mobile phones. Modi wished him well and hoped that he will keep on learning in his career.

Addressing the gathering, the Prime Minister remarked that this is the first Rozgar Mela of 2023 which brings the precious gift of employment into the government fold for the 71,000 families. The Prime Minister congratulated the new appointees and noted that these employment opportunities will infuse a new ray of hope not just in the appointees but also among crores of families. The Prime Minister informed that lakhs of new families will get appointed to Government jobs in the days to come as Rozgar Melas are being organised regularly in NDA-ruled states and Union Territories. He informed that the Assam Government organised a Rozgar Mela

30 lakh posts vacant in govt departments, 71,000 job letters distributed too little: Congress to PM

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 20:

The Congress on Friday said the 71,000 appointment letters that Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed to the youth are too little and sought to know where are the 16 crore jobs that were promised to be provided in eight years.

Reminding the prime minister of his promise of giving

two crore jobs every year, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said 30 lakh posts in government departments are still lying vacant.

"Narendra Modi ji, 30 lakh posts are lying vacant in government departments. The 71,000 recruitment letters that you are distributing today are just too little. The process is on to fill the vacant posts. You had promised to give 2 crore

jobs per year. Tell the youth — where are the 16 crore jobs in the last eight years," Kharge asked in a tweet in Hindi.

PM Modi distributed 71,426 appointment letters to recruits in government departments as part of the 'Rozgar Mela' drive and said, "Continuous 'Rozgar Mela' exercises have become the identity of our govt, shows we fulfil what we resolve."

only yesterday and states like Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Uttarakhand are going to organise it very soon. The Prime Minister said that "regular Rozgar Melas have become a mark of this government. They show that whatever resolution is taken by this government is realised".

The Prime Minister said that he could clearly notice happiness and satisfaction on the faces of the new appointees and noted that most of these candidates come from ordinary backgrounds and many are the first to get a government job in five generations in their family. This, the Prime Minister said, goes beyond getting a government job. The Candidates are happy that through a transparent and clear recruitment pro-

cess, their talent has been recognized. "You must have felt a massive change in the recruitment process. In central jobs, the recruitment process has become more streamlined and time-bound", the Prime Minister said.

The Prime Minister said that the transparency and speed of this recruitment process today characterise every aspect of the function of the government today. Modi recalled the time when even routine promotions were mired in delay and disputes. He said that this government has addressed such issues and ensured a transparent process. "Transparent recruitment and promotion generate trust among the youth", he said.

Referring to many government servants taking online

courses on iGOT Kamyogi platform, the Prime Minister said that in addition to official training, this platform has many courses for personal development. He said that self-learning through technology is an opportunity for today's generation. Modi gave his own example and said that he has never allowed the student in him to die. "Attitude of self-learning will improve the capabilities of the learner, her institutions and also the capabilities of India", he said.

Modi asserted "In rapidly changing India, opportunities for employment and self-employment are continuously improving. Fast growth leads to a massive expansion of self-employment opportunities. Today's India is witnessing this."

ICG Evacuates 65 Year Old American Patient From Passenger Vessel

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Jan 20:

A 65 year old American patient needing urgent hospitalisation was evacuated by the Indian Coast guard (ICG) from a passenger vessel off Mumbai Coast and was handed over to the agent of the ship on Thursday.

The Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre Mumbai (MRCC) of the Indian Coast Guard received a message in the morning that an American patient on board MV World Odyssey, required immediate medical attention. The passenger James Douglas

Shirley, aged 65 yrs, suffered retinal displacement and required urgent hospitalisation for surgery.

The cruise vessel MV World Odyssey, with 175 passengers on its way to Mombasa, Kenya, was about 230 Nautical miles from Mumbai. Soon after the message was received, an ICG ship C-439 was dispatched with medical team and the patient was safely evacuated and handed over to vessel's agent in Mumbai for further medical management at Global hospital an official statement read.

The vessel World Odys-

sey is a Passenger (Cruise) Ship built in 1998 and currently sailing under the flag of Bahamas. She is expected to reach Kenya on January 26.

The successful operation and seamless coordination of Maritime Search and Rescue in the Indian Search and Rescue Region by ICG Units and MRCC reaffirmed ICGs capabilities as nodal coordinating agency for M-SAR in the Indian Ocean Region inline with its commitment to the motto "We Protect" an official statement read.

In another incident, the ICG rescued 511 pilgrims of Ganga Sagar mela stranded at

sea in two different ferries, off Kakkdip in West Bengal on Monday. Two passenger ferries carrying 500-600 pilgrims from Ganga Sagar mela were stranded in the sea due to fog and low tide.

The ferry vessels -M V Lachhmati and MV Agramati were ferrying about 600 passengers from Ganga Sagar mela at Sagar Island to Kakkdip. Upon receiving the message, operation teams of the ICGs swung into action and dispatched two air cushion vehicles (hovercraft) from Haldia to Frazerganj to provide rescue assistance, the official statement read.

India 145 new Covid-19 cases, active cases drop to 1,946

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 20:

As many as 145 new coronavirus cases were registered in the country in the last 24 hours, while active cases dropped to 1,946, according to Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare data updated on Friday. With this, the country's overall Covid caseload rose to 4,46,81,650. A drop of 16 cases has been recorded in the active Covid-19 caseload in a span of 24 hours. The death toll stands at 5,30,728, the data updated at 8 am stated.

The active Covid cases

claim a chunk of 0.01 per cent of the total infections while the daily positivity rate was recorded at 0.08 per cent. As many as 4,41,48,976 people have recuperated from Covid while the case fatality rate was recorded at 1.19 per cent. 220.22 crore doses of Covid vaccines have been administered so far according to the Union Health Ministry's website. India had crossed the total count of two crore on May 4, three crore on June 23 last year and four crore on January 25 last year.

In related news, a study published in The Lancet Infectious Diseases says that

individuals with hybrid immunity had the highest magnitude and durability of protection, and may be able to stretch the period before booster vaccinations become necessary. Hybrid immunity refers to immunity developed by combining SARS-CoV-2 infection and vaccination. The effectiveness of hybrid immunity against hospital admission or severe disease was 97.4 per cent at 12 months with primary series vaccination and 95.3 per cent at 6 months with the first booster vaccination after the most recent infection or vaccination, the study said.

Contd. from Page 2

Village Deprived of Health....

The state governments do not pay heed to the reasons given by the doctors' organizations for doctors not going to the villages. Doctors' organizations say that they are not responsible for the lack of better health services in the villages, but the policies of the government are such that the doctors are not ready to render their services in the villages. It is worth noting that doctors' organizations are seen on the streets in protest against government policies, but the state governments are unable to take any such decision, which can remove the acute shortage of health facilities and doctors in the villages.

India has just one bed per 3,100 patients in rural areas compared to China. There is one bed for 18,000 villagers in Bihar, one bed for 3,900 patients in Uttar Pradesh. Simi-

larly in rural areas twenty-six there is one allopathic doctor per 1000 population, while the World Health Organization says that there should be one doctor for every 1000 people. There are seven doctors in India for a population of about ten thousand.

The total number of allopathic doctors registered with the Medical Council of India (MCI) is about one crore. West Bengal is the worst in terms of availability of doctors among the states. According to the National Health Profile, there are only 900 doctors in the rural areas of West Bengal. According to the population, one doctor per seventy thousand people is in Bihar and Jharkhand there is only one doctor per 50,000 populations.

Significantly, the foundation of rural health services rests on primary health ser-

vices, but this foundation itself is very weak. Today only seven lakh MBBS doctors are available to provide service in the country. In such a situation, how to fill the shortage of five lakh doctors and five lakh specialists is a big question. To meet this deficiency, the Central Government has taken some steps. In this, the 'e-Sanjeevani' Medicine' service of the Union Health Ministry has provided three crore telemedicine services has crossed the consultation no. With this, 'e-Sanjeevani Telemedicine' has set a new record of 1.7 lakh consultations in a day.

The Ministry of Health made available mobile dispensary vans for treatment in every village at the time of Corona. This greatly benefited the people in the rural areas of the country. The concern of the

very poor has been removed to some extent by the Ayushman Bharat scheme, but the question is whether it can eliminate the problems caused by the shortage of health services and doctors? Due to the shortage of doctors, the villagers are forced to take the services of quack doctors. Due to this, thousands of people die untimely due to lack of better treatment. Statistics show that apart from allopathy, there is a dearth of homeopathy and Ayurvedic doctors in the villages.

The Central Government provides crores of rupees every year for the promotion of Ayurveda and Yoga. But there is a shortage of qualified doctors to provide services. Therefore, apart from MBBS, there is a need to recruit BMS and Ayurvedic doctors on a large scale. Homeopathy and

Ayurvedic health at the village level If quick steps are taken on the shortage of centres, then people can be saved despite the shortage of doctors in the villages. Here are some suggestions by experts to meet the shortage of MBBS doctors in the country. These include 'Family Medicine', 'Diploma in General Medicine' and graduation in rural healthcare. By moving forward effectively on these three suggestions, the shortage of doctors in the villages can be removed on a large scale. But if better salary and facilities are made available to the doctors, then they will leave after completing their studies. Doctors going to sleep can be banned.

The Union Health Ministry has been talking about taking a practical step to address the problem of lack of

health services in villages for years. This is the formula, after completing five years of MBBS studies, students should be given a one-year specialization course, so that on their deployment in rural areas, such doctors can provide their better services in rural areas without any hesitation, but this does not matter. Then the central government came up with another formula prepared. Under this, doctors with MBBS degree will get admission in Masters i.e. MS or MD only when they will write an affidavit for the mandatory period of posting in villages. The government has added one more thing to it that those MBBS degree students who will give an affidavit, even if their marks are less, they will be given admission in MS or MD. But even after this

tempting formula of the Central Government, no special interest is visible in the doctors providing services in the villages.

So now the question arises whether despite all the exercises, when MBBS doctors are not interested to serve in the villages, what formula will be adopted now, so that the poor health services in the rural areas can be improved? It is difficult to tell how successful the central government is in removing the shortage of doctors in the villages through the 'Family Medicine' course. But if this formula is effective, then the shortage of doctors in the health services of the villages can be controlled to a great extent. But even with all these formulas if what will be done if the health services of the villages do not improve?

India ranked second-largest tourist market for Singapore in 2022

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 20:

In an interesting development, India has been ranked the second-largest tourist market for Singapore in 2022 with 686,000 Indian arrivals. This is according to the data, which was provided by Singapore's tourism authority.

The findings found Indonesia to be the largest tourist market for Singapore with 1.1 million arrivals from the state, while Malaysia acquired the third spot with 591,000 tourists. Singapore Tourism Board (STB) further conveyed that tourists from Indonesia, India and Australia were among the top spenders in the first nine months of the year 2022 with a spending of 8.96 billion Singapore dollars (SGD).

STB also said the country's tourism receipts are estimated to reach SGD 13.8 billion to SGD 14.3 billion for

2022 – which is about 50-52% of the 2019 levels. The country had more than 6.3 billion tourists in 2022, a figure exceeding even the forecasts of between 4 million and 6 million.

As far as travel and tourism sector is concerned, India has become extremely important for Singapore in the last decade. According to Singapore Tourism Board, two areas hold a lot of significance – strong travel trade engagement and innovative engaging consumer outreach projects. It is pertinent to note that STB was among the first National Tourism Organizations to stage an elaborate consumer engagement event in India, during the COVID-19 spread.

STB had hosted a multi-city travel trade roadshow series in India last year, with a large delegation of over 45 stakeholders, aiming to engage and reconnect with trade partners. The name of the

event was 'Deepening Connections, Achieving Together'. Under the outreach programme, STB reached out to five key Indian cities – Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Pune, Hyderabad and Bangalore – to attract more Indian visitors. These trade engagements practices were aimed at strengthening Singapore Tourism's existing partnerships and fostering new ones with tourism stakeholders and the local travel trade fraternity.

India and Singapore share deep bilateral ties, which is characterised by their strong economic, political and cultural relations. Both the nations share a history of cooperation in trade, business and investment. Singapore is also on of the top trading allies and investors of India. Both countries have inked several deals in order to strengthen cooperation in areas including defence, education, and tourism.

UIDAI deliberates on five focus areas including resident centricity and facilitating 'Ease of Living'

PIB
New Delhi, Jan 20:

As Aadhaar saturation has reached near universal among adult population, the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) deliberated on and decided to work on five core areas to provide continued support to residents in their daily lives, further enhance data security, and play a stellar role in furthering the cause of good governance.

The five core areas are – resident centricity, expanding the usage of Aadhaar, security and privacy, continuous tech-

nology upgradation, and collaborate with global economies and support them in their aspiration to achieve SDG 16.9 (provide legal identity for all).

These five focus areas were deliberated in a daylong brainstorming session at Kevadia (Gujarat). Dr. Saurabh Garg, CEO, UIDAI maintained that there is and will always be a continuous focus on how to support residents in improving ease of living, and better their experience in availing services.

The Authority is constantly exploring and adopting ways to expand the use of Aadhaar for both ease of living

as well as ease of doing business. Its sandbox environment will allow startups, professionals, and companies to explore and test innovation applications for increasing the use of Aadhaar. From expanding e-KYC adoption to popularizing offline verification for better service delivery to residents, UIDAI will strive to expand use of Aadhaar in multiple ways.

Aadhaar has emerged as a tool of good governance, of empowerment and service delivery. Since the first Aadhaar number was generated in 2010, UIDAI has issued over 1.35 billion Aadhaars.

Contd. from Page 1

Jiribam, Chandel, Senapati and Thoubal....

It may be mentioned that under the able leadership of the present Chief Minister of our state, "Hill Leaders' Day and the Meeyamgi Nunit" was started in the year 2017 at the Chief Minister's secretariat with the objectives of bridging the hill valley divides and to provide inclusive development, and also to address the problems faced by the people and extend maximum support to the needy people of the state. With the approval of the cabinet, in the districts bring the government services to the doorsteps of the general public.

In today's programme the Deputy Commissioner, Mayanglam Rajkumar gave away various items and cash awards to beneficiaries under various schemes under different departments. As part of the programme books and uniforms were distributed to students of various schools. Other items like water filters, yoga mats, plant medicines, potted house plants, etc. were also distributed to the beneficiaries of various departments.

As usual different departments like Health, Social Welfare, Agriculture, ICDS, and all the other departments of the district rendered services to many individuals in the district. Free medical checkups and COVID vaccination were also conducted by the health department at the venue.

In today's programme ADC Chandel Md. Firoj Khan and SDOs of all three subdivisions also interacted with the visitors and discussed their issues one by one. Applications of various issues related to developmental works and others were received for further necessary actions.

Today's program was attended by DLOs and other officials of the district.

The District Administration



Senapati today organised the District Hill Leaders Day and Meeyamgi Nunit at Multipurpose Hall, Mini Secretariat, Senapati for the month of January.

In today's event, issues relating to Old Age Pension, water supply, electricity, village development, rebuilding of footpath, land encroachment etc. were addressed to Senapati DC Shri Mahesh Chaudhari, IAS and then directed to the concerned department to redress the grievances one by one.

While delivering services to the public, Agriculture department issued 4 Knapsack Sprayer and 3 Micronutrients; 54 Ration Card from CAF & PD; 10 Yarn Card from District Handloom and Textile office and 14 persons were screened for non-Communicable disease by Medical department.

It may be mentioned that the District Administration Senapati has been observing the District Hill Leaders Day and Meeyamgi Nunit since July 2022 on every 3rd Friday of the month and if 3rd Friday happen to be general holiday or public holiday, it will be on 3rd Thursday. For smooth functioning and better coordination, a special dedicated Meeyamgi Nunit Cell is given with WhatsApp No. 9863554329 and email ID: senapatimeeyamginunit@gmail.com whereby anyone can send his/her grievances on the given

WhatsApp no. and email ID prior to every 3rd Friday of the month. On this day, SP, Divisional Forest Officer, Chief Medical Officer, CEO ADC, SDO's and DLO's will be present to settle/ dispose the grievances on the spot. Various public services of beneficiary-oriented schemes will be also delivered by the concerned departments.

In Thoubal, "Meeyamgi Nunit" (People's Day) was successfully organised by the District Administration today at the Counting Hall of Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex for the month of January. As done in the proceeding months, A. Subhash Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Thoubal along with District Level Officers' heard various grievances and demands of the public.

Speaking to the media, Deputy Commissioner said "Meeyamgi Nunit" is a platform to meet and address the grievances of the people. The programme has brought hope amongst the people in the district that the government is continuously working for the welfare of the people. He expressed happiness that large number of people continue to turn up every month to take benefit of various government schemes. He said the District Administration is committed to solve various problems and grievances of the public at the earliest in collaboration with the concern

departments. He said most of the grievances are related to old age pension schemes, CMHT cards and other schemes.

Four CMHT card and one disable certificate were distributed to the beneficiaries by the Deputy Commissioner.

Thirtyfour number of grievances relating to CMHT were registered. Out of this nine were approved for the issuing card by Deputy Commissioner. Twenty five cases of old age pension and eighteen cases of Widow pension were also registered. A total of one hundred ninety one (191) written applications from two hundred thirty eight (238) applicants were received today including the CMHT and pension schemes for Widow & old age and grievances related to other departments like PHED, Police, MSPDC, among others.

Twenty one (21) stalls of different departments were opened to meet the demand of the public including Police, CMO, ICDS, ZEO, MSPDC, Veterinary, Agriculture and Fishery.

In today's "Meeyamgi Nunit", SP Thoubal Jogeshchandra Haobijam, IPS, ADM B. Lokeshor Sharma, CMO Thoubal, Dr. Y. Nokul, all Sub-Divisional Officers, and other District Level Officers of different departments attended the programme to address the grievances of the general public.

Sports

FIH World Cup 2023: India beat Wales 4-2 to finish second in Group; to Play New Zealand in crossover



Agency
Odisha, Jan 20:

India defeated Wales 4-2 to finish second in Pool D and qualify for the crossover match, where they will take on New Zealand, for a place in the quarter-final of the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup here on Thursday.

India took a 2-0 lead through goals from Shamsher Singh (21st) and Akashdeep Singh (32nd) before Wales stunned the home team with twin strikes in a span of two minutes.

Both the Wales goals came from penalty corners through

Gareth Furlong (42nd) and Jacob Draper (44th) as they drew level.

Akashdeep came to India's rescue, scoring a fine field goal in the 45th minute before skipper Harmanpreet Singh converted a penalty corner in the 59th minute.

Both India and England finished with seven points each from three games but the latter topped the pool on account of better goal difference.

In another match, World No. 3 Netherlands on Thursday became the first team to qualify for the quarterfinals of the FIH Odisha Hockey Men's Hockey World Cup 2023, completing

their league engagements with a 14-0 thrashing of Chile at the Kalanga Stadium.

The Netherlands, the three-time winners of the Men's World Cup, finished unbeaten in Group C with nine points from three wins. Malaysia upset the higher-ranked New Zealand 3-2 in another Pool C match to finish second in the standings with six points from two wins. New Zealand, ranked 9th — two spots ahead of Malaysia, ended third with three points as Chile finished with zero points after three defeats.

The Netherlands thus sealed a direct berth in the quarterfinals while Malaysia

and New Zealand will go through the crossover matches.

Having defeated Malaysia and New Zealand in their previous matches, the Netherlands rode on a hat-trick of goals by drag-flicker Jip Janssen, who scored four goals in all, and Thierry Brinkman and a brace of goals by Bijen Koen to secure the biggest win of the tournament so far.

Janssen opened the scoring in the 6th minute off their first penalty corner and then added goals in the 29th minute, 34th min and 44th minutes as the Dutch scored at will against Chile, who were totally outclassed and overwhelmed by their opponents.

Brinkman scored his first goal in the 25th minute and added two more in the 33rd and 5th min, off a penalty corner, to complete his triple. Bijen struck in the 40th and 45th minute as the Netherlands completely dominated the match.

Derek De Vilder (22nd min), Thijs Van Dam (23rd min), Terrance Pieters (37th min), Justen Blok (42nd min) and Teun Beins (58th min) contributed a goal each to the Netherlands' score.

PSG beat Saudi All Star XI 5-4 as Lionel Messi, Kylian Mbappe and Cristiano Ronaldo all score

Agency
Riyadh, Jan 20:

Grimacing in pain from his bruised cheekbone, Cristiano Ronaldo steadied himself before scoring from the penalty spot for his first goal in Saudi Arabia against a Paris Saint-Germain team featuring his old foe Lionel Messi.

Messi had already scored early in Thursday's exhibition game when Ronaldo was flattened boxing-match style by PSG goalkeeper Keylor Navas after about 30 minutes in Riyadh, the city which gained sporting prominence for hosting a world heavyweight championship boxing bout in 2019.

It wasn't Anthony Joshua but Navas who caught Ronaldo flush in the face with his forearm under a high ball.

Both went down like felled boxers. Ronaldo held his head, got back up, did a wide yawn as if to test his sore left cheek, and sent his former Real Madrid teammate Navas the wrong way.

By the end of the first half Ronaldo's cheekbone was



bright apple red but he was all smiles after netting his second goal, smashing in a rebound when his header came back off the post. Poking his tongue out, Ronaldo wheeled away in delight and was mobbed by teammates at the corner flag.

When PSG star Kylian Mbappe checked on the state of Ronaldo's cheek just before the second half, Ronaldo milked the attention from France's World Cup star and pointed to the red mark.

Mbappe smiled at him as if to say "You'll be fine" and Ronaldo raised his arm in triumph like a heavyweight champion.

Messi's Qatari-backed PSG won 5-4 against a combined XI of Saudi Arabian

teams Al Nassr and Al Hilal, captained by Al Nassr's new signing Ronaldo, in front of 68,000 fans at King Fahd International Stadium. Although his team lost, Ronaldo edged perhaps the final instalment of Ronaldo vs. Messi as one of the greatest rivalries in soccer history resumed in an unusual location.

Messi's shot led to a handball and PSG's fourth goal, scored by Mbappe from the penalty spot.

Ronaldo came off to a huge ovation just after the hour mark followed by Mbappe and Argentina's World Cup-winning star Messi, who was warmly hugged by countryman Marcelo Gallardo, coaching the combined Saudi Arabian team.