



FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Fisheries sector plays a vital role in Manipur's economy through employment generation, economic support and ensuring nutritional and food security. The fisheries economy of our State has undergone rapid structural changes during the last two decades. The vast technological options available to fishers led them for a fast shift from traditional to improved seed production and culture practices in inland fisheries.

Owing to its massive lakes, wetlands, marshy lands, reservoirs, rivers and rivulets etc. fisheries have always played a significant role in Manipur's economy. Currently, this sector provides livelihood to more than 5 lakhs people within the State. Nevertheless, this is a sector with untapped potential. So far, the State has been able to harness only 18,000 hectare out of 56,461 hectare for fish farming. Plenty of water bodies stocked up in the reservoirs located in three hill districts of Manipur are not yet utilized for fisheries activities.

In keeping with Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) - effective governance of 'Blue Economy' would mean striking a balance between effectively utilizing fisheries to meet consumer demands and sustain livelihoods of fishing communities on one hand and preserving the ecosystem on the other. The Centre through its schemes envisions leveraging an investment of more than Rs.50,000 crore in the next five years that includes contributions from states, beneficiaries, and financial institutions.

The recently concluded Blue Revolution Scheme launched in 2015-16 with Rs 3000 crore outlay, for over five years, made vital contributions towards the sector's development. To address the critical gaps in fisheries infrastructure, the government created the Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund in 2018-19 with an outlay of Rs.7,522 crore.

The fisheries sector has witnessed three major transformations in the last few years - growth of inland aquaculture, specifically freshwater aquaculture, mechanization of capture fisheries and the successful commencement of brackish water shrimp aquaculture. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in 2020-21 with an investment of over Rs 20,000 crore for five years towards the sector's development. As compared to previous years, there has been a 34% increase in the budget for fisheries sector in 2021-22.

Manipur Chief Minister has set a vision for sustainable development of fisheries sector and rolled out Loktak Livelihood Mission, Sareng Project, setting up of Fish Feed Mill, Seed Farms, One Crore ranching of fish seeds and fingerlings in Loktak Lake. Some of the initiatives have started reaping rich dividends recently. More ambitious plans are in the pipeline. The day is not far off when Manipur witnesses self sufficiency in fisheries production and achieve transformation in local aquaculture spectrum.


(Heisnam Balkrisna Singh)

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Chief Editor

Heisnam Balkrisna Singh, MCS
Director, IPR

Senior Editor

T. Ramesh Singh, Deputy Director (P/P)

Manager of Publication

Yanglem Geeta Devi

Editorial Board

W. Phajatombi Devi, MCS, Addl. Director (IPR)

L. Ashok Kumar Singh Deputy Director (HQ)

Oinam Shyamo Singh, Translator

Design

Banabanta Ngangom, DEO

Rakesh (NEST)

News

Inputs from NEWS Section, DIPR

Photographs

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Contact

DIPR Manipur

Nityaipat Chuthek, Airport Road

Imphal West, Manipur

email: editomn2day@gmail.com

www.diprmanipur.in

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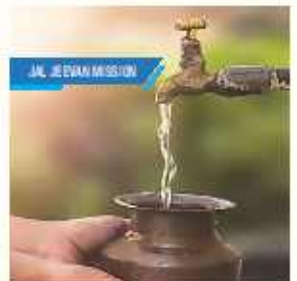
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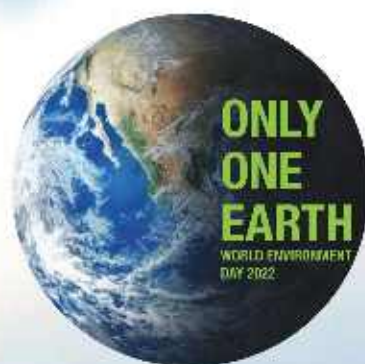
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EACH ONE
PLANT ONE



Earth faces a triple planetary emergency; the climate is heating up too quickly for people and nature to adapt; habitat loss and other pressures mean an estimated 1 million species are threatened with extinction; pollution continues to poison our air, land and water.

The way out of this dilemma is to transform our economies and societies to make them inclusive, fair and more connected with nature. We must shift from harming the planet to healing it. The good news is the solutions and the technology exists and is increasingly affordable. #OnlyOneEarth is the campaign for World Environment Day 2022, same as the World Environment Day Theme in Only one Earth during Expo '74 at Spokane, United States. It calls for collective, transformative action on a global scale to celebrate, protect and restore our planet.

The State Government is targeting to plant 75 lakh saplings across the State within the August month of this year. The initiative is being taken up as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to mark 75 years of Independence. The State Level observation in Manipur was organized by the Directorate of Environment & Climate Change.

To ensure achievement of the plantation target of the Government, the need to allocate each college in the State, with the task to carry

out plantation drives at one hill located in valley areas, the Government has continued planting tree saplings provided by Horticulture and Forest Department while the expenses are to be borne by Forest Department. The Government is also seeking support and involvement of all sections of people, Local Clubs and different Riders' Groups in the initiative to mitigate the degradation of environment and climate change.

Tree plantation has started to carry out at around 300 hectare of land under the Green Manipur Mission so far and the plantation drive is still going on. 300 crore of rupees had been allocated for conservation of water bodies at Lamphelpat.

Speaking about the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) where the World Environment Day was observed, it is worth mentioning that household wastes from 73 drains, along the Nambul River, are brought to the Treatment Plant through pipelines. The treated water would be used for irrigation covering 43 hectares of adjacent agricultural land. The rejuvenation of other rivers is also in the pipeline. The public need to be supportive by not dumping waste into the river; instead put the waste in a dustbin so that it could be collected from their residence by concerned authorities helping in the making of a Green Manipur into reality.

Many women were seen involved in the World Environment Day observation. The Forest and Environment Department is

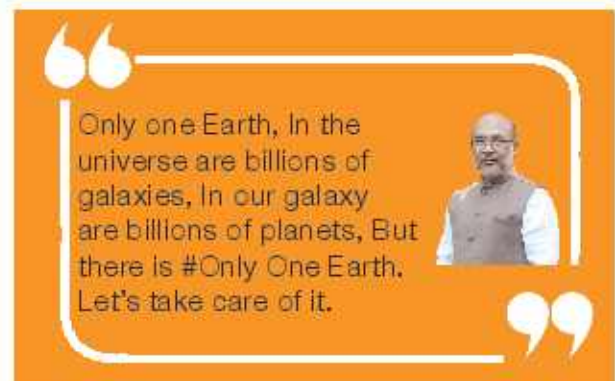
taking up steps to revive around 1384 number of spring sources and also to conserve around 1591 number of water bodies in the State. The Department is setting up a plan to rejuvenate major polluted rivers of the State. The Government has chalked out a plan to set up a Sewage Treatment Plant at Porompat for treatment of waste generated from Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), by sideling the waste from flowing into Kongba River. This would help in preventing pollution of the river. Expressing concern on the temperature rise in the State owing to climate change, the public should start planting trees and take part in conserving nature.

The observation of World Environment Day under the theme "Only One Earth" had made the whole world a family, making every citizen take responsibility to save nature. Stressing on the need for a collective responsibility in giving a true meaning to the World Environment Day, everyone need to plant a tree today.

It may be mentioned that World Environment day aims to halt the degradation of ecosystems, and restore them to achieve global goals. Only with healthy ecosystems can we enhance people's livelihoods, counteract climate change, and stop the collapse of biodiversity. A call to action to combat the accelerating species loss and degradation of the natural world is the need of the hour.

As a part of the programme, the Chief Minister led the other dignitaries in planting tree sapling at the STP site. World Environment Day Stickers and T-shirts and Caps were also released. Brand Ambassador, CM's Green Manipur Mission Miss Valentina Elangbam was also felicitated during the programme. Later, Shri N. Biren flagged off Royal Riders "Motorcycle Rally" to spread awareness on World Environment.

The day was also observed at the Office of Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur, by planting tree saplings at its Office premises by Dr. Rajesh Kumar, IAS, Chief Secretary, Manipur, Shri P. Doungel, IPS, Director General of Police, Manipur, Shri Rajesh Agrawal, IAS, Chief Electoral Officer, Shri N. Praveen Singh, IAS, Additional Chief Electoral Officer, other Officers and officials of CEO's Office. Tree plantation has also been carried out at the premises of the newly constructed EVM & VVPAT warehouses in all Electoral Districts of Manipur, under the supervision of the respective District Election Officers. As a commitment towards conserving the environment, the CEO's Office will move towards completely Single usage Plastic



Free Zone, power usage through Solar Energy, reduce dependence on paper work and promote eco-friendly work atmosphere, in a time bound manner. ,

Pherzawl Forest Division under the aegis of the District Administration organised mass plantation drive at its Camp Office and across the district in connection with world environment day with active involvement of SP, CMO Staffs and other DLOs.

World Environment Day is a reminder of people's power at the grass-root and community level to bring about positive change in the environment. We must shift from exploiting the planet to healing it.

Shifting cultivation in steep hill slopes of



the region resulted in landslides, ecological imbalance and soil erosion. There is a need of carrying out mass tree plantation on either side of Churachandpur-Tipaimukh Road, as vegetation cover will prevent occurrence of landslides.

Bishnupur Forest Division also observed World Environment Day by organizing a mass plantation drive at Maibam Lotpa Chingning Awang Leikai in Nambol. Deputy Commissioner, Bishnupur Shri Lourembam Bikram, SP Bishnupur Shri N. Herojit Meitei, Divisional Forest Officer Bishnupur Dr. Rebika Soibam Chanu, village elders, youths, students, district forest officials and staff took part in the plantation drive.

The goal of conservation is to regulate our natural resources in a sustainable manner. Disturbance in the natural habitat in Loktak Lake resulted in the reduction of fish species over a period of time. The biodiversity of Loktak Lake must be maintained by way of not polluting our rivers and lake. The people should develop a sense of ownership towards protection of the environment which encompasses a wide gamut of forests, rivers, lakes, wildlife, flora and fauna.

Maibam Lokpa Ching has huge potential for eco tourism and the gathering to scale up promotion of a healthier environment in order to immensely benefit from it is needed. The forest department require providing more seedlings to interested youth clubs

and people interested in conservation in the future too.

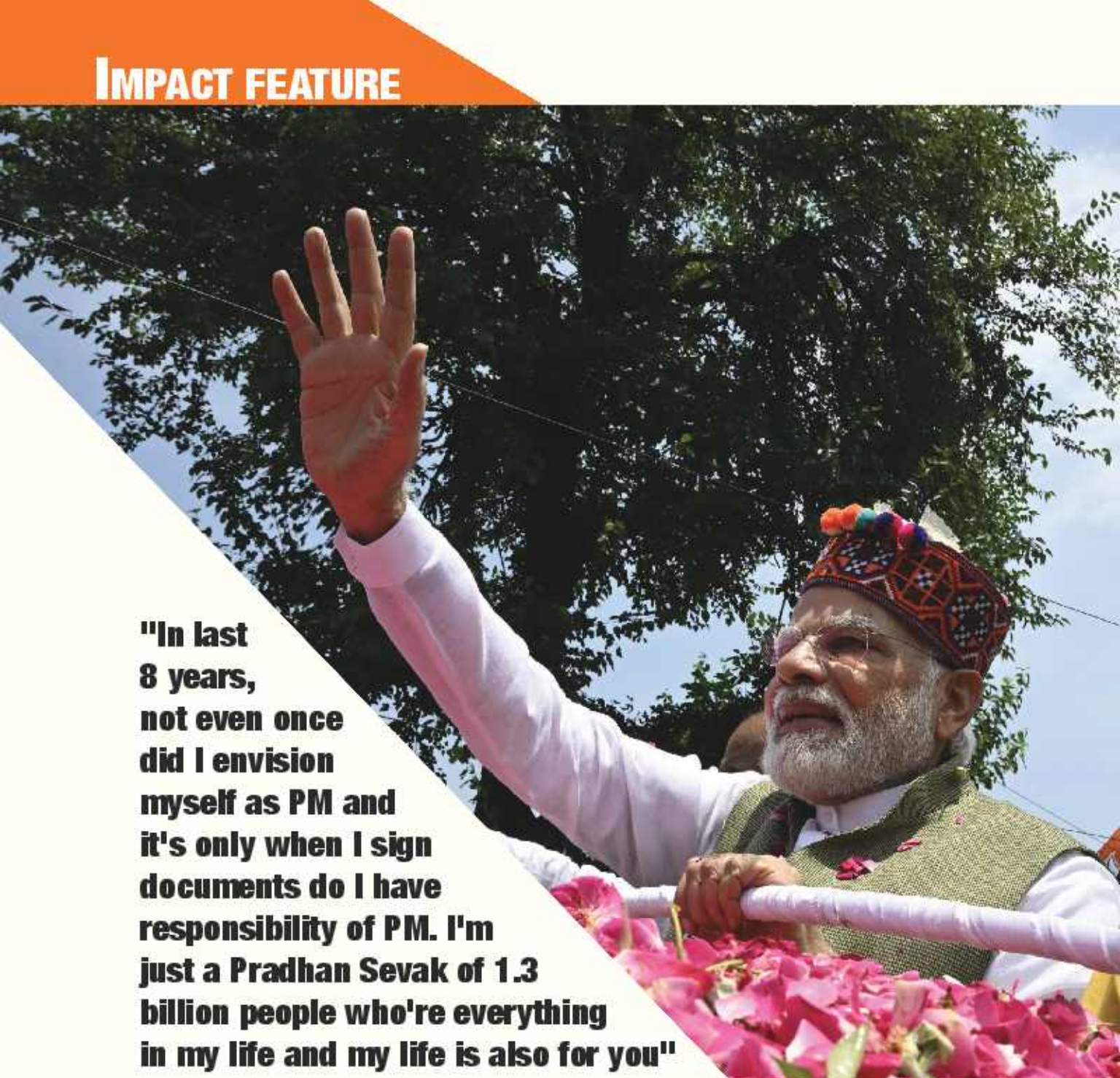
As part of the World Environment Day, 44 Assam Rifles under the aegis of 22 sector AR/IGAR (East) conducted various activities to spread awareness about the threat to the environment due to rising pollution levels and climate change. The battalion initiated a mass plantation drive to plant 11,000 saplings in Tamenglong & Kangpokpi district. For beautification of roads, various ornamental flowering



shrubs are being planted by the battalion. Further Bougainvillea & Hibiscus saplings were planted along Rani Gaidinliu Vatika on Khongsang- Tamenglong road. Along with the plantation drive, an awareness rally with various placards on environment protection was taken out on Khongsang - Tamenglong road. To commemorate the day, a cleanliness drive at the water reservoir at Tamenglong was also organised, further spreading the message of a clean environment.

There is only one earth and each one of us has the power and responsibility to spark change needed for the people and the planet. The contribution of trees in preserving the environment should not be ignored. Conserving the environment and mother earth by following the slogan "Each one, Plant one" is to be acted upon at the moment.





"In last 8 years, not even once did I envision myself as PM and it's only when I sign documents do I have responsibility of PM. I'm just a Pradhan Sevak of 1.3 billion people who're everything in my life and my life is also for you"

Narendra Modi, Shimla, 31st May, 2022

**MANIPUR JOINS
NATION CELEBRATING**

GARIB KALYAN SAMMELAN



On completion of eight years of the Union Government, the nation celebrated "Garib Kalyan Sammelan" where the Prime Minister interacted with beneficiaries of various schemes/programmes of the Central Government on 31st May, 2022. Manipur also joined other parts of the country, in celebration of the 'Garib kalyan Sammelan' in the State capital, District Headquarters and other places. Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh attended the State level function of the "Garib Kalyan Sammelan" at City Convention, Imphal, on 31st May, 2022. The Chief Minister was virtually connected with the programme held at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh where the Hon'ble Prime Minister addressed the Garib Kalyan Sammelan. Addressing the State level function, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh said the 'Sammelán' is a meaningful function as it is organised to get feedback on the various centrally sponsored schemes over the last 8 years by the government.

Looking into the Prime Minister's efforts and schemes during the COVID Pandemic to help the people of the country, the Prime Minister is a real friend of the Indian public. The Prime Minister thinks only of India's public, especially the poor and the State government's main concern is about how to deliver and ensure that the schemes of the Prime Minister reach the beneficiaries at their doorsteps.

This is the reason why the 'Go to Village', 'Go to Hills' missions were started and why the Government have placed Prabharis for all 68 blocks in the State. Achievements of centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in the State may be highlighted here. Under PMAY (Grameen), pucca houses are being built in three installments. A total of 29,386 houses have been targeted under Phase I, Phase II (2019-20), Phase II (2020-21) and Phase II (2021-22), out of which 14,886 have been completed so far. Under PMAY (Urban), 55,804 houses were approved and Rs. 333.12 crore released out of which 4,486 houses have been completed. Under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, a beneficiary gets Rs. 6,000 per year through DBT in three installments. Out of 6,19,208 beneficiaries registered, 5,08,410 beneficiaries have received payment till date. Under the PM Ujjwala Yojana launched in 2016, altogether 1,59,555 LPG connections have already been provided in the State and under Ujjwala 2.0 launched in 2021, another 28,083 LPG connections have been provided. Under POSHAN Abhiyan, altogether 11,510 Anganwadi Centres have been registered. Smart Phones and Growth Monitoring Devices have also been distributed to Anganwadi Centres.

Under PM Matru Vandana Yojana which provides Rs. 5,000 to pregnant and lactating mothers in three installments, there are 56,982 beneficiaries and altogether Rs. 24.27 crore has been already disbursed. Under the Swachh

Bharat Mission (Grameen) launched in 2014, Manipur has declared open defecation free State in 2018 and 4,51,566 Individual Household Latrines and 102 Community Sanitary Complexes have been constructed. Out of the targeted 43,644 beneficiaries, 39,245 beneficiaries have access to sanitary latrines under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban).



Under Jal Jeevan Mission, the Prime Minister is aiming to provide drinking water to every household in the country by 2024, but for Manipur, the government is trying to reach the target much earlier. In the State, the Jal Jeevan Mission is being taken up in 2,256 villages covering 4,51,566 rural households. When this mission was launched in 2019, only 6 percent of households had access to tap water in the State, which has now reached 69 percent.

Altogether 380 villages have become Har Ghar Jal Village with 100 percent tap connections. Meanwhile, it may be mentioned that a video film explaining and highlighting the achievements of various government schemes was also exhibited during the function. Selected beneficiaries of government schemes also shared their experiences during the function. The beneficiaries thanked and lauded Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh for working towards their welfare and for the schemes.

Union Minister of State for External Affairs & Education, Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, also attended the nationwide interaction programme of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi with various beneficiaries of schemes taken up by the Government of India through video-conferencing. For Imphal West District, the interaction programme was organized by ICAR-Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Imphal West at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre, Lamphelpat, Imphal.

There had been a strong political turbulence in the country before the coming of Shri Narendra Modi led Government at the Centre. Because of the state of affairs, momentum of development was very slow but since 2014, after the coming of the BJP led government at the Centre, many developmental activities had been taken up at a strong pace. Now is the time to recapitulate the developmental activities targeting inclusive and sustainable benefits to the people taken up by the government. There had been many laws during the British regime that hampered the development in the country but as many as 1,500 such acts have been scrapped by the government. Regarding Arm Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA, 1958), the Narendra Modi led government is actively considering to replace the act with a new humanitarian law. On Act East Policy, there will be more economic activities in the state as a gateway to Southeast Asia under the policy. More than 180 welfare schemes had been introduced so far targeting all sections of the society. The vision of the government - 'minimum government, maximum governance' aims to cover all sections of people for providing maximum benefits. A new Land Reform Act may be introduced which will benefit the farming community in the country. Beneficiaries from Imphal West District who had availed the benefits under various schemes shared their experiences during the programme.

Shri Th. Biswajit Singh, Minister for Agriculture, Power, Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Science & Technology, Government of Manipur also participated in Prime Minister Narendra Modi 's interaction programme with scheme beneficiaries 'Garib Kalyan Sammelan' at Panchayat Bhavan, DC Office Complex, Porompat, Imphal East District . The district-level event was linked with the national event at the historic Ridge Ground in Shimla wherein the Prime Minister interacted with the beneficiaries across the country through video conferencing.

Minister Biswajit interacted with beneficiaries of the Imphal East district. Altogether 20 beneficiaries each of the 16 Government Schemes totalling over 400 participated and shared their experiences and gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi for coming up with such "People-Centric" schemes.

Massive awareness was carried out regarding the Government Schemes so that more and more intended beneficiaries can avail the benefit of the schemes 'Garib Kalyan Sammelan', a novel public programme to mark the completion of eight years of the government led by the Prime Minister, was organized across the country at State Capitals, District Headquarters and Krishi Vigyan Kendras. The Sammelan conceptualizes elected public representatives across the country directly interacting with the public in an endeavour to get feedback about the various welfare programmes being run by the government.

Churachandpur District joined the rest of the country in celebration of 'Garib Kalyan Sammelan', Prime Minister's interaction programme with beneficiaries of various schemes/programmes, at YPA Hall, Hiangtam Lamka. The District level event was presided over by Shri Letpao Haokip, Hon'ble Minister (TA & Hills, Horti

Soil Conservation). Minister Shri Letpao Haokip urged all concerned to judiciously implement and avail welfare schemes of the State and Central Governments. He said that it is now time to put an end to misusing/ mis-implementation of Government schemes and programmes and rather avail such schemes to the full advantages of the targeted populace.



Eligible beneficiaries of various schemes to get themselves enrolled and avail the facilities to the maximum. Churachandpur has led other hill districts of the State in many fronts the denizens of the district should lead others in proper and judicious implementation of Government schemes and programmes too.

The Thoubal District Administration also organised the Garib Kalyan Sammelan and Interaction program with the Prime Minister at the Counting Hall of Deputy Commissioner Thoubal. Shri Y. Khemchand Singh, Minister MAHUD, RD & PR was the Chief Guest of the function. Shri Th. Radheshyam, MLA Heirok AC and Adhyaksha Thoubal Zilla Parishad Hasina Begum were the other dignitaries of the function.

District Administration Bishnupur also joined the nation in the Garib Kalyan Sammelan with Hon'ble Prime Minister's interaction with beneficiaries of various schemes/ programmes through virtual mode at Kiyamba Shanglen in Bishnupur. Speaking



on the occasion, Shri Govindas Konthoujam, Minister of Public Works Department and Youth Affairs & Sports, said that the interaction was being held to understand how these schemes had brought about ease of living for the citizens. He added that it would also help in exploring the possibilities of convergence and saturation. Reiterating the slogan Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas, he added that sincere implementation of the schemes will result in overcoming poverty; ensuring sustainable livelihood means for unemployed youths and also bring about overall development in the district.

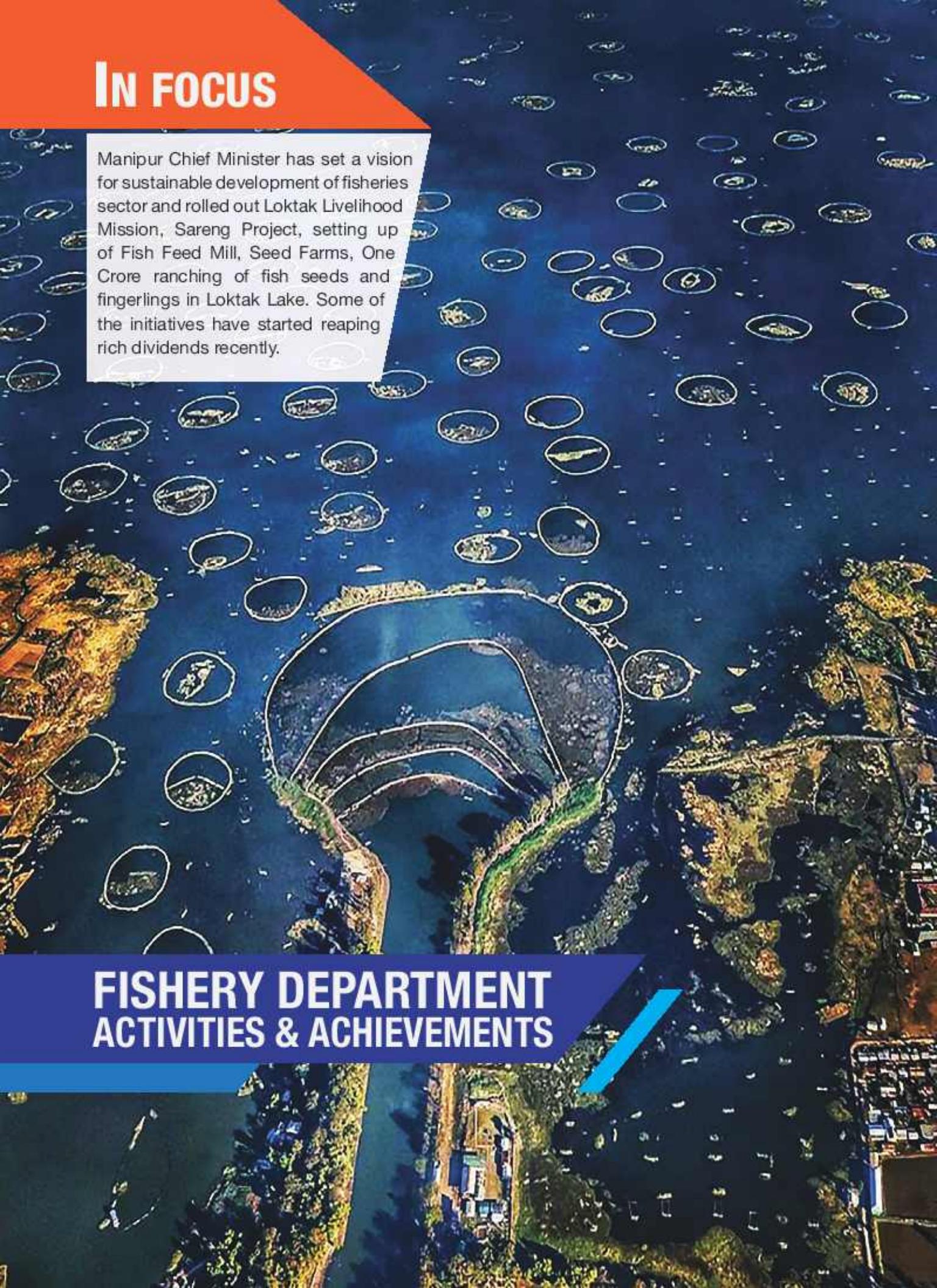
Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Skill, Labour, Employment & Entrepreneurship and Fisheries Departments Shri Heikham Dingo Singh graced the "Garib kalyan Sammelan" at Chandel District organised by the District Administration Chandel at Multi purpose Hall, Mini Secretariat, DC Office Complex. Shri Heikham Dingo Singh said that the Sammelan was being organised as part of the ongoing Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav celebration. The Hon'ble Minister further expressed his happiness in seeing the improved road and other infrastructure of the district.



IN FOCUS

Manipur Chief Minister has set a vision for sustainable development of fisheries sector and rolled out Loktak Livelihood Mission, Sareng Project, setting up of Fish Feed Mill, Seed Farms, One Crore ranching of fish seeds and fingerlings in Loktak Lake. Some of the initiatives have started reaping rich dividends recently.

FISHERY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES & ACHIEVEMENTS



IN FOCUS



The Department of Fishery, Government of Manipur was established for proper harnessing of vast natural fisheries resources viz. lakes, beels, swamps, etc. and augmenting fish production in order to meet the growing demand of fish. The Central and State sponsored schemes envisage increase in production and productivity of sufficient quantities of commercially important fish both indigenous and exotic species. Conservation of natural lakes and beels from extinction due to siltation of the bottom of the lakes and ecological changes is also primary responsibility of the State Fisheries Department.

Manipur has a total water area of 56,461 hectare but at present only 18,000 hectare is being utilized for fish farming. There are also a large number of reservoirs, hill streams and riverine where fish farming can be taken up. Loktak lake, the largest fresh water lake in the entire North East Region having an area of 287 sq. km. and its adjoining catchment area of 980 sq. km. constitutes about 50% of the total fish production of the state.

Fish is the staple diet of majority of people of Manipur. Fisheries provide income and livelihood for lakhs of people besides generating employment. The annual fish production in the State is estimated at 36,000 MT against annual



H. Balkrisna Singh, MCS
Director of Fisheries, Manipur

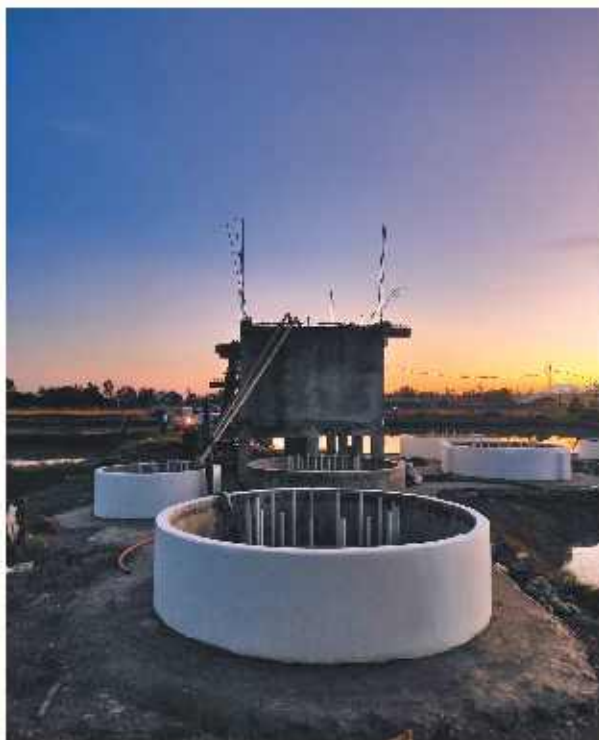
consumption requirement of 56,000 MT. The State spends around Rs.300 crores per annum while importing fish from outside Manipur.

PROMINENT SCHEMES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES SECTOR

- (A) Development of Inland Fisheries & Aquaculture: The scheme was implemented in 5 (five) hill districts and one valley district of Manipur with funding provided by the North East Council, Shillong in 2016-17. The scheme has benefitted a total of 351 fish farmers and reclaimed an area of 175.3 hectare by developing fish ponds for fish production.
- (B) Blue Revolution (2017-18 & 2018-19): Blue Revolution is a centrally sponsored scheme which has benefitted 1078 beneficiaries (312 in 2017-18 & 766 in 2018-19) in 16 districts of Manipur by (i) establishment of carp seed hatcheries, (ii) construction of seed rearing ponds, (iii) cage culture, (iv) fisherman house, (v) Recirculating Aquaculture System (RAS) and (vi) new ponds with one time input cost.
- (C) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (2017-2020) : The scheme implemented with funding provided by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India has benefitted about 900 fish farmers

in 16 districts of Manipur by developing water-logged / swampy areas through reclamation and renovation activities and paddy cum pisciculture in 5 (five) hill districts of Manipur.

- (D) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) : Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana is a centrally sponsored scheme under Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India. During the first phase of the implementation of the scheme since 2020-21, a total of 1563 fish farmers have benefitted by establishment of fresh water finfish hatcheries, new rearing ponds, grow out ponds, input support for fresh water aquaculture, integrated fish farming (paddy cum fish culture), installation of cages in reservoirs, small biofloc and integrated development of reservoir at Khuga Dam. During the implementation of the scheme, a total of Rs.1564.10 lakh has been transferred to the bank accounts of beneficiaries through Direct Benefit Transfer.



- (E) Loktak Livelihood Mission : The Loktak Livelihood Mission is an initiative of State Government which was started since 2018 with a total project cost of Rs.1464.05 lakh for improving the livelihood of people living on the periphery of the majestic Loktak lake of Manipur. It aims at increasing the income of fish farmers by utilizing fisheries resources such as marshy lands in and around the lake in scientific manner without affecting the lake's eco system. As on May, 2022, a total of 20 cage culture units and 12 pen culture units have been installed at the periphery of the lake for improving the livelihood of about 300 fishermen. Other components of the scheme, namely, establishment of Mini Feed production unit, Seed production units etc. would also improve the fisheries sector immensely.

The State Fisheries Department had been holding annual Fish Fair cum Fish Crop Competition since 1976 to encourage fish farmers of the State to scale up fish production and reduce import of fish by rewarding cash prizes to fish farmers with highest production. During the Fish Fair 2021, the total production of fish was increased to 1,24,540 kgs.

The Department also encourages the banks operated in the State to give loans to fish

IN FOCUS



farmers who are desirous of developing fisheries by holding KCC camps in all the districts. During the year 2018 to 2021, banks have extended credit facilities to about 513 fish farmers.

In order to achieve optimal utilization of existing government fisheries resources by scaling up fish production, the State Fisheries Department has leased out around 2000 hectare of fisheries ponds to individual fish farmers and FICs and mobilized about Rs.50.00 lakhs per annum realised from lease fees.

The State Fisheries Department has taken up initiative to revive Pengba, an indigenous fish species which is declared as State Fish. *Wallago Attu* which is locally known as 'Sareng' is the most favourite fish of the Manipuris. It once thrived in the fresh waters of Manipur but got extinct due to ecological changes after commissioning of Loktak Hydro Electric Project and

installation of Ithai Barrage. The State spends few crores of rupees every year while importing ice laded Sareng from outside the State. In order to revive Sareng in Manipur, the State Government have initiated Sareng Project by giving financial assistance to the fish farmers for procuring fingerlings, feeds etc. since 2021.

Fish Ranching in Loktak Lake and other water reservoirs in the State is a calendar event taken up by State Fisheries Department to develop fisheries and increase the livelihood of people.

PROBLEMS / CHALLENGES & WAY FORWARD

1. Production of economically important fish seeds produced from local hatchery units are inadequate. The State is heavily dependent on import of fish seeds from outside the State.
2. Establishment of Pen / Cage Culture units in large and medium water areas need to be strengthened.

3. Establishment of RAS (Recirculatory Aquaculture System) in Government Fish Farms as well as private sector for augmenting fish production.
4. Development of Paddy-cum-Pisciculture in hill districts.
5. Installation of Mini Feed Mills in valley districts.
6. Reclamation of shallow peripheral marginal areas of natural lakes, beels and other derelict water areas in 5 (five) valley districts of Manipur which are not fit for paddy cultivation, be converted into ponds for scientific fish culture.
7. Conservation of declining and endangered fish species of Manipur.
8. Enforcement of strict regulations against illegal fishing methods in lakes, wetland and water bodies.
9. To strengthen the existing infrastructure of Inland Fisheries Training Centre (IFTC) at Lamphelpat.
10. Budgetary support for continuation of Loktak Livelihood Mission, Sareng Project and training programmes of Fish Farmers.

FISHERIES TRAININGS

One Year Certificate Course on Inland Fisheries Development and Management

The Inland Fisheries Training Centre, Lamphelpat in Imphal West District, Manipur a One Year Certificate Course on Inland Fisheries Development and Management every year commencing from the month of September with an intake capacity of 40 students including candidates from Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland etc. well as In-service candidates working in the Directorate of Fisheries, Manipur. The selection is based solely on merit basis, the performance of the 12th

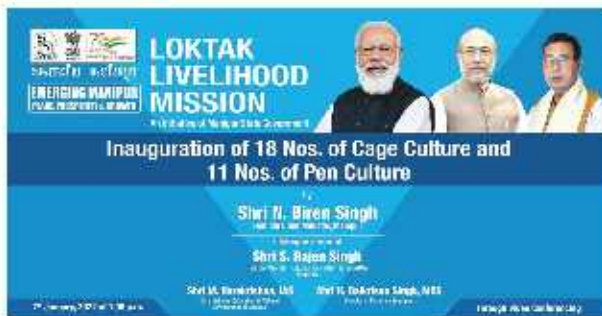
ANNUAL FISH FAIR-CUM-FISH CROP COMPETITION

Sl. No.	Year	Target of production (in kg.)	Production (in kg.)
1.	2015	80000	82,054
2.	2016	85000	87,742
3.	2017	85000	92,587
4.	2018	90000	86,617
5.	2019	90000	94,955
6.	2020	95000	66,802
7.	2021	90000	1,24,540

Science (PCB). The purpose of the training is to improve the technical knowledge in the field of fisheries and aquaculture. A stipend is also being provided to each and every student of Manipur. The training programme has been conducting since 1974.

The Inland Fisheries Training Centre, Lamphelpat in Imphal West District, Manipur is manned by well experienced and trained personnel of the Department who got trained from different institutions/training centres of the Central Institute of Fisheries Education (Deemed University), Mumbai and its branches at Luknow, Barrakpore (West Bengal), Hyderabad & Kakinada (Andhra Pradesh), etc. Some of the staffs were also trained in the field of Fisheries Technology at Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT), Cochin and College of Fisheries, Lambuchera, Agartala (Tripura) under the





Central Agriculture University, Iroisemba, Imphal. The training Centre is situated in a 6.50 hectares area of the State Fisheries Department, Manipur in the campus of District Fishery Office, Imphal West, Manipur. It has its own farm for field work of the trainees. Trainees are taken to different places both inside and outside the state as a part of exposure visit/study tour programme to various Central Institutions such as Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI), Guwahati (Assam), Central Institute of Capture Fisheries Research Institute, Barrakpore & Central Institute of Fisheries Education Extension Centre at Salt Lake, West Bengal, Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Bhubaneswar, Orissa, etc.

Four Year Bachelor of Fisheries Science (B.F.Sc.) Degree Course at College of Fisheries, Lembucherra, Tripura under Central Agricultural University – Imphal.



The Department nominates 9 (nine) candidates from the State as state nominees every year for pursuing 4 Years Bachelor of Fisheries Science (B.F.Sc.) course after conducting a competitive entrance examination. The intending candidates should have passed 12th with PCB as main subjects with 50% marks for Gen/OBC and 40% marks for SC/ST/PWD/In-service candidates. Out of the 9 seats, 2 seats have been reserved by the College of Fisheries, Lembucherra for OBC candidates belonging to Non-creamy layer. The state provides stipend and book grant to the state nominated candidates.




 100 DAYS ACTION PLAN




Launch, Flag off, Distribution, Inauguration &
 Laying of Foundation Stone of 16 Developmental Projects
 in Manipur under "100 Days 100 Action Plan"

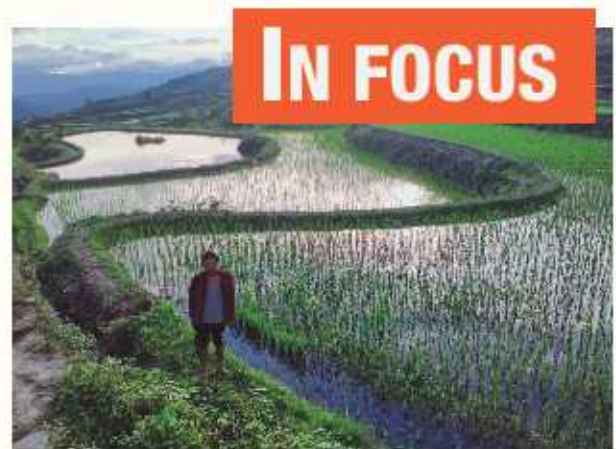
by
Shri N. Biren Singh
 Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur

13th June, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
 City Convention Centre, Imphal East, Manipur






**ACHIEVEMENTS OF
 DEPARTMENT OF FISHERY**



IN FOCUS



STATE LEVEL FISH FAIR CUM FISH CROP COMPETITION

Fish, the most favourite delicacy of the Manipuris

Fish is one of the essential parts of the daily diets in Manipur, with fish farming practiced in around one lakh hectares as the state is blessed with a good aquatic eco system. Since time immemorial, majority of people in Manipur developed fondness for fish as a favourite delicacy. Manipuris rear fish in ponds, lakes, reservoirs, rivers etc. for perennial supply of water is available throughout the year. Inland fisheries constitute a major sector in Manipur's economic development. Lakhs of fish farmers depend upon fishery for their livelihood.

Manipur has a total water area of 56,461 hectares but at present only 18,000 hectares is being utilised for fish farming. There are also a large numbers of reservoirs, hill streams and riverines where fish farming can also be

taken up. Loktak Lake, the largest fresh water lake in the entire North East Region having an area of 287 Km² and its adjoining catchment area of 980 Km² constitutes about 50% of the total production of the State. Of the 56,000 metric tonnes of fish required for consumption in the state only 36,000 metric tonnes are being produced by the fish farmers of the state annually while the remaining gap is filled by importing it from other states. The implementation of Centrally Sponsored Schemes like, Blue Revolution, Aquaculture Programmes under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and State Sponsored Scheme namely, Loktak Livelihood Mission have covered significant areas of water bodies available in the State under fisheries activities by reclamation of marshy lands, installation of Cage Cultures and Pen Cultures in fresh water lakes and reservoirs, adoption of fish-cum-pisciculture, etc.

RESULT OF ANNUAL FISH FAIR CUM FISH COMPETITION - 2021 (in order of merit)

A. Highest Producer in Individual Category

1. Salam Rohendro Singh, Laphupat Tera
2. Ningthoujam Basanta Singh, Khordak
3. Ashok Tongbram, Thanga

B. Highest Indigenous Fish Producer

1. Ningthoujam Basanta Singh, Khordak

(C) 20 (Twenty) Consolation Prize Winners:

1. H. Ranjit Singh, Heingang Makha Leikai
2. N. Nillachandra Singh, Thanga
3. N. Premkumar Singh, Nambol
4. Praising Zimik, Khamelok
5. O. Ramananda Singh, Khordak
6. H. Rabi Singh, Keirenphabi
7. Th. Premlata, Upokpi
8. O. Joy Singh, Khordak
9. Amakcham Suresh Singh, Nambol
10. Khaineh Haokip, S. Ganpijang
11. L. Plshak Devi, Ningthoukhong
12. Kh. Rakesh Singh, Samushang
13. L. Purna Singh, Kameng
14. L. Adaphro, Mao Taphao
15. S. Kulla Mangang, B. Vengnom
16. Keipha Akham Maring, Kaziphung Vilalge
17. Y. Romio Singh, Langmeidong
18. M. Bimolchand Singh, Wabagai
19. Pantijok Malangmei, Khoupum
20. NL. Hmelni, Japhou

D. District Officer with Highest Fish Production (Hill/Valley)

1. Smt. O. JIbanlata Devi, DFO, Imphal West (Valley)
2. Shri E. Rameshwor Singh, DFO, Churachandpur (Hill)

E. Total Fish Production in the Annual Fish Fair - 1,24,540 kilogram against a target of 90,000 kilogram.



Fish Fair cum Fish Crop Competition - An Annual Gala Event

Traditionally, the majority of people in Manipur consume fish on the occasion of Imoinu Iratpa Festival in January and the Ningol Chakouba Festival every year. Imoinu Iratpa is a ritualistic and spiritual offering of fish and fresh vegetables to Goddess Imoinu for economic progress and prosperity of every household. Ningol Chakouba is also an annual festival celebrated in the month of October-November which fosters cordial relationship between brothers and sisters. Every brother will invite his sister(s) to a grand feast mostly of fish items and present gift items. Fish constitutes primary delicacy of the grand feast. Hence, the demand for fish is very high on the occasions of Imoinu Iratpa and Ningol Chakouba festivities.

Every year, Fisheries Department, Government of Manipur hosts Fish Fair-cum-Fish Crop Competition on the eve of Ningol Chakouba Festival in the month of October-November in the heart of Imphal city. The primary objective of the fish fair is to boost fish production in the State, facilitate and encourage the fisherman to sale fish grown in their farm ponds and make available to the general public at an affordable price. In fact, Fish Fair-cum-Fish Crop competition is one of the biggest annual events organized by

IN FOCUS



the Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur one day ahead of Ningol Chakouba Festival since 1979. This fair is a befitting tribute to the Manipuri people particularly to the Ningols (sisters) of Manipur. The State Chief Minister and host of cabinet ministers attend the Annual Fish Fair. Participants who are mostly individual fish farmers and farmers representing Co-Operative Societies take part in it. During the fair, fishery scientists and experts give lectures pertaining to adoption of new scientific techniques of fish rearing, aquaculture, pisciculture, bioflock and other latest scientific fish rearing technologies.

Main feature of the annual State Level Fish Fair cum Fish Crop Competition is sale of different types of home grown fish at an affordable rate at a price duly fixed by the department and provision of free transport facility to the fish farmers participating the Fair by the State Fisheries Department. The fish farmers of the state under their respective District Fishery Officers and Chief Executive Officers (FFDAs) participate in the fish fair.

Most interesting aspect of the annual Fish Fair is awarding cash incentives to the fish farmers and registered cooperative societies

which contribute with the highest fish production during the particular year. Every year, best participating fish farmers and co-operative societies are awarded cash reward of Rs. 1.00 lakh, Rs.70,000/-, Rs.50,000/- respectively as per the volume and size of their fish production. Besides, the highest indigenous fish producers are also awarded a cash reward of Rs.20,000/- and consolation prizes @ Rs. 10,000/- each to 20 fish farmers. Different varieties of fishes like Indian Major Carps i.e. Rohu, Catla, Mrigal, Grass carp, Common carp, Silver carp and exotic carps including indigenous fishes like Ngaton, Pengba and Khabak are on sale during the fish fair. Cash incentive is also given to the District Fishery Officer (DFO) who made the biggest fish production during the year.





As a part of the ICAR-CIFRI's flagship programme, officials of Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) in association with the State Fisheries Department have released around 20,000 fingerlings of Manipur State Fish, 'Pengba (*Osteobrama Belangeri*)' at Sendra island along the Loktak Lake today for in situ conservation on 15th March, 2022. The programme for ranching of Pengba fingerlings in Loktak Lake in phased manner has been carried out under the initiative of Dr. B. K. Das, Director of ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore, West Bengal. Shri H. Balkrisna Singh, Director of Fisheries, Manipur led the officials during the ranching programme.

Pengba is a near threatened indigenous medium carp endemic to Manipur. The State fish species was the major seasonal fish in the State contributing around 40% of the natural fishery some decades back. In the recent past, the population of Pengba declined significantly in the lake and declared 'extinct in wild' as per IUCN Red list though some progressive fish farmers have cultivated it as captive farming. As a step towards rejuvenation of the depleted stock of Pengba in its natural and original habitat, the ranching programme was taken up by the CIFRI and State Fisheries Department and subsequent ranching programmes are also in the pipeline in coming months.

A REPORT ON RANCHING OF ONE LAKH PENGBA FISHLINGS IN LOKTAK LAKE

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh attended a ranching programme aimed at rejuvenation of Pengba (*Osteobrama Belangeri*), State Fish of Manipur in Loktak Lake and distribution of inputs (Cage Net and Fish Feed) at Sendra, Bishnupur District on 11th May, 2022.

Addressing the formal function, the Chief Minister appreciated the concerted efforts and schemes of the ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore taken up in collaboration with local fishermen and the department in trying to protect and revive the indigenous fish varieties of the State.

Out of 54 indigenous fish varieties in the State, we have now only 35 varieties in existence, he said, expressing concern over the environmental hazard caused by human negligence. He strongly deliberated on the public habit of dumping garbage into our rivers which in turn fall into Loktak Lake and making it hard for the fish and other organisms to survive.

Now is not the time for speeches, it is the time to act, the Chief Minister said stressing on the importance of acting on the government's promises and assurances. Sometimes, we seem to forget that there is a democratically elected government formed with the mandate of the people, he said, highlighting obstructions to developmental projects from some quarters. He said that the present government was formed with the full mandate of the people, and further appealed to the people against obstructing developmental schemes.

Explaining the story behind implementation of the Loktak Livelihood Mission in 2018, the Chief Minister said that during his air travels, he noticed a vast tract of swampy area around Loktak Lake lying idle. This gave

IN FOCUS



him an idea to utilize the area for rearing fish by means of pen culture after clearing the phumdis which in turn will be turned into organic fertilizer, he said.

The Chief Minister also said that altogether Rs. 15 crore has already been sanctioned for developmental works for the peripheral area of Loktak Lake and only about Rs. 2.5 crore have been utilized so far.

Highlighting that the shortage of fish production in the State is due to lack of liberation of fish in the lake, the Chief Minister said we are releasing one lakh fishlings, and aim to release around one crore during the month of May onwards. He also made an earnest appeal to the fish farmers to create awareness among the public as well as stop catching fishlings. He also appealed to the fish farmers against using electric current to catch fish.

Shri N. Biren Singh also spoke strongly against encroachment on forest land and Loktak Lake. Stating that out of 12,344

pattadars around the lake, 379 illegal encroachers were found, he said adding that after the Loktak Protection Act was implemented in 2006, no new patta could be issued. He reiterated that stringent actions will be taken up against all encroachers and concerned government officials who were involved in issuing illegal pattas.

The Chief Minister also warned against illegal drug business and illegal poppy plantations. Calling upon all to preserve and save Loktak Lake, the Chief Minister said that Manipur's own existence rests on the existence of Loktak Lake and Koubru range. So it is very important to safeguard Loktak Lake and Koubru Range, he said. He further stressed on the importance of safeguarding our forest cover and added that with conviction and commitment we have to meet all challenges for our future generation.

Earlier, around Rs. 400 crore were utilized for importing fish into the State annually; however, in the past 4-5 years, we have

managed to bring this down to around Rs. 300 crore.

The Chief Minister said that the government needs the support of the people. We need support and sincerity from the public, government as well as officials to bring development, he added. Shri N. Biren Singh further assured that any developmental project to be implemented in and around Loktak Lake will be taken up by properly maintaining the ecological balance as well as with proper consideration of the local public. And at the same time the people should ensure that the ecological balance of the Lake is properly maintained and that there is no illegal encroachment in the area, he said.

He further stressed the need to construct a ring road around the lake to ensure that there is no encroachment around the lake and to improve tourism in the area.

Reiterating that the government will not work against the law, the Chief Minister further appealed to all to support surveys of the Revenue department and LDA.

Director (Fisheries), Government of Manipur, Shri H. Balkrisna Singh stated that due to overfishing in the Loktak lake, the population of fishes are depleting and to supplement the depleting population and as Pengba is declared the State Fish of Manipur, one lakh fishlings are being released into Loktak Lake. Asserting that the fishlings will need at least six months before it is fully grown, the Director appealed to local fishermen to protect them and allow them to grow fully in an undisturbed habitat. He said once these fishlings grow and start breeding, it will help in improving the local economy as well as in preserving the State fish.

ICAR-CIFRI, Barrackpore Director Dr. B. K. Das said the population of State fish Pengba is gradually declining in Loktak Lake and



so ICAR-CIFRI is trying to reestablish its population in the lake. He said that they will mark this day so that this fish can establish its population within 2-3 years in the lake, and at the same time increase the livelihood of the local fish farmers. The programme also included distribution of Inputs including cage net and fish feeds to fish farmers' associations.

The programme was also attended by the Fisheries Minister, Government of Manipur Shri H. Dingo Singh, Thanga AC MLA Shri T. Robindro Singh, MLA Mayang Imphal AC Shri K. Robindro, Keirao AC MLA L. Rameshwor Meetei, Moirang AC MLA Th. Shanti, Chairman Loktak Development Authority, Manipur M. Asnikumar Singh among others. The programme was organised by ICAR-Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore in collaboration with the Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur and Loktak Development Authority, Manipur.



STATUS OF LEASING OF GOVERNMENT AND DIVESTED FISH FARMS

The Manipur Fishery Rules, 1998 provides outright leasing system for government fish farms and divested fisheries or fishery estate on preferential basis to fisherwomen, fishermen, pisciculture co-operative societies for a specific period in order to achieve optimum utilization of fisheries resources by promotion of pisciculture activities, enhancement of fish production and revenue mobilization.

During the year 2021-22, Department of Fishery, Government of Manipur has identified an area of 594.73 hectare of government fish farms and 1445.07 hectare of divested fish farms for outright leasing. A State Level Committee for selection of lessees constituted by the Government has selected 40 (forty) Nos. of fish famers / fishery co-operative societies for leasing of government and divested fish farms on the basis of their competence in fisheries activities, financial soundness, experiences, etc.



SPECIES WISE FISH SEED PRODUCTION 2021-21 (IN MILLION) IN MANIPUR

Sl.	Species	Spawn	Fry	Fingerling
1	Indian Major Carps	157.8	62.3	40.5
2	Indian Minor Carps	112.4	47.2	28.5
3	Common Carp	125.7	63.5	43.8
4	Grass Carp	128.2	51.2	36.3
5	Silver Carp	72.6	29.6	18.4
6	Magur (C. batrachus)	8.2	3.6	3.1
7	Singhi (H. fossilis)	6.4	2.8	1.6
8	Tilapia	36.0	12.5	8.5
9	Anabas	2.5	1.1	0.6

As on June, 2022, the Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur has mobilised an amount of Rs. 43,18,279/- (Rupees forty three lakhs eighteen thousand two hundred and seventy nine) only for the initial year. The period of lease is fixed for 3 (three) years which is extendable upto 10 (ten) years as per the Manipur Fishery Rules, 1998. The targeted revenue mobilization is about Rs.1.50 crore (Rupees one crore fifty lakhs) approx.

INDO GERMAN FC PROGRAMME

A Germany public sector bank KfW (Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau) based in Frankfurt has tied up with the Ministry of Fisheries, Government of India and National Fisheries Development (NFDB), Hyderabad and identified 6 (six) states of India viz. Assam, Manipur, Tripura and Chhattisgarh (Inland Fisheries) and Orissa and Andhra Pradesh (Coastal Fisheries) as partner States for development of fisheries and aquaculture. Key features of the KfW funding programme are:

- Development of Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries in India
- 20.5 million EUR (approx. 175 Crore Rs.) Grant Programme
- Interest reduced Loan Programme envisaged at a later stage
- Implementation between 2023 and 2028



- NFDB as Project Executing Agency (PEA)
- Sustainable – resilient - pro-poor – fish value chains

Expected outcome

- Theoretically around 3 million EUR per state
- Investments into scalable sub-projects
- Sub-projects to be defined
- Request for Proposal (RfP) approach

Main objectives of Indo-German programme are to improve

- the nutritional situation. (e.g. production of carp mola /SIS)
- the livelihood conditions of marginalized fish farming / fishers communities
- sustainability of production (e.g. resource efficiency/FCR, reduction of post-harvest losses, solar-energy) **Support of**



pilot and demonstration models with potential for up-scaling.

Focus on weaker section and gender equality

- Small and marginalized fisher and fish farmer communities
- Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, OBC Classes
- Women empowerment
- Projects in aspirational districts preferred

Type of beneficiaries organization

- Women Self-Help Groups, FFPOs, Co-operatives, and Producer Groups / Societies

Sub-Projects: Fish Production

Freshwater Aquaculture

- Integrated Fish Farming

- Paddy cum Fish Farming
- Feed production (e.g. fermentation of agricultural by-products, fish meal free feed)

Enclosure based aquaculture and fisheries improvement

- Pen culture /floodplain aquaculture
- Improvement of fisheries (e.g., cleaning of beels, stocking programmes, community based management plans)
- Cage culture

Sub-projects to include Value Chain Approach

- Cold Storage, Transport (vehicles, insulated boxes)
- Hygienic ice factories (block and/or flake ice)
- Processing: drying, smoking, curing, freezing etc.
- Retailing: for example fish kiosks, e-retail etc.
- Substitution of fossile energy sources by renewable energy sources (e.g. solar powered systems)
- Fish waste collection and



recycling of nutrients (e.g. organic fertilizer)

- Introduction of food safety provisions along the Value Chain

A four member COFAD consultancy group visited Manipur in the first week of May 2022 and discussed areas of funding with the officials of State Fisheries Department and interacted with various stakeholders including fisheries scientists from ICAR, Lamphelpat, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, progressive fish farmers, members of Fisheries Co-operative Societies, etc. The foreign consultants also visited Loktak Lake and potential fisheries areas and studied the prospects of developing fisheries and aquaculture in an eco-friendly manner. The team also studied cage and pen cultures installed in Loktak Lake and Takmu Lake under the Loktak Livelihood Mission and recommended measures for enhancing fish production for livelihood support of marginalized fishers. They also visited Purul village in Senapati District and studied the practice of Paddy cum Pisciculture. In the last leg of the visit, the team called on the Chief Minister of Manipur and discussed about the scope and areas of funding.

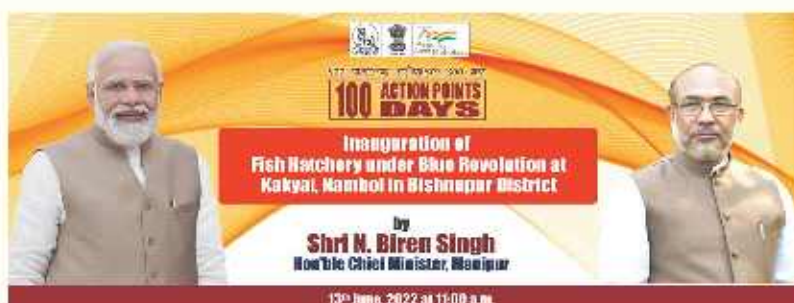


Inauguration of schemes and distribution of water testing kits and two paddle aerators in respect of Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur under 100 Action Points for First 100 days on 13-06-2022 at City Convention Centre, Imphal

100 Action Points for First 100 Days

1. Inauguration of Fish Hatchery under Blue Revolution at Kakyai, Nambol in Bishnupur District : Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur has constructed a Fish Hatchery unit under Blue Revolution, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Ministry of Fisheries, Animal

Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India at Kakyai, Nambol in Bishnupur District. The hatchery unit is constructed at the cost of Rs.25,00,000/- (Rupees twenty five lakhs).





The Hatchery unit is provided to a beneficiary Shri Chungkham Jiten Singh, a progressive fish farmer of Kakyai Mayai Leikai, Nambol for breeding and production of 10 (ten) millions of fish seeds per annum. With the establishment of this hatchery unit, the import of quality fish seeds due to shortage of locally breed fish seeds being faced by the fish farmers in Bishnupur District, Manipur would be reduced drastically and fish production in the State will be improved significantly.



2. Inauguration of Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS) at Imphal West: Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS) is a new technology where water is recycled and reused after mechanical and biological filtration and removal of suspended matter and metabolites. This method is used for high- density culture of various species of fish, utilizing minimum land area and water.

Fishery Department, Government of Manipur has constructed a Recirculatory Aquaculture System (RAS) at the office complex of District Fishery Officer, Imphal West at the cost of Rs.50,00,000/- (Rupees fifty lakhs) under Blue Revolution, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India.

The RAS unit is the first of its kind established in Manipur for scientific culture of various species of fish including indigenous fish. This unit will open new avenues for fisheries development in Manipur.

Inauguration of fish hatchery and Recirculatory Aquaculture System on the occasion of State Government's "100 Action Points in First 100 Days" is a milestone event in the history of State Fisheries Department.

3. Distribution of Water & Soil Testing Kits to 50 Fish Farmers: Fish perform all their bodily functions in water. As fish are totally dependent upon water to breathe, feed and grow, excrete wastes, maintain a salt balance, and reproduce, understanding the physical and chemical qualities of water is critical

to successful aquaculture. The Department of Fishery, Government of Manipur has taken up the initiative of free distribution of water & soil testing kits to 50 (fifty) fish farmers of the State for reducing the mortality of fish and increasing fish production in the State.



4. Distribution of Paddle Electric Aerators to 30 Fish Farmers : Paddle Electric Aerators is an indispensable input for promotion of aquaculture. Besides enhancing pond fish habitats, improving water quality, reducing algae, and removing phosphorus, aeration



can also break down unwanted bacteria; help with mosquito problems by circulating the water and adding dissolved oxygen.

State Fishery Department has taken up this initiative under the sponsorship of ICAR - Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, Bhubaneshwar for transforming

the aquaculture landscape of Manipur and scaling up of fisheries production so as to reduce the gap between demand and supply.

As a part of “100 Action Points for First 100 Days”, 30 (thirty) paddle aerators will be distributed to progressive fish farmers of Manipur for augmenting their fisheries activities and scaling up of fish production in the State.

FISHERIES DEPARTMENT, MANIPUR DISTRIBUTED MOBILE WATER AND SOIL TESTING KITS TO FISH FARMERS

The Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur in association with Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture (CIFA), Kolkata have distributed soil and water testing mobile kits to 30 (thirty) fish farmers of Manipur, selected from both hill and valley districts on 7th January, 2022. The programme was held at the auditorium of the Directorate of Fisheries, Manipur at Lamphelat.

Heisnam Balkrisna Singh, Director of Fisheries, Manipur, Shri Khamsing Ahum, Additional Director of Fisheries, Manipur and Dr. Subhendu Adhikari, Principal Scientist of CIFA, Kolkata graced the programme as Chief Guest, President and Guest of Honour respectively.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director of Fisheries, Manipur said that Manipur has vast potential for development of fisheries for self-reliance in fisheries production. The fisheries resources like lakes, rivers, water bodies and marshy land in the State is yet to be developed in order to tap its potential for enhancement of fish production so as to meet the growing demands of the fish. He appealed the fish farmers of Manipur



SARENG PROJECT



Sareng (*Wallago attu*), an indigenous species of catfish also known as fresh water shark is locally known as Meitei Sareng. It is the most favourite delicacy which is considered as a Royal delicacy by the people of Manipur. In olden days, Sareng thrived in the lakes, rivers and water bodies of Manipur.



Scientists believe that changes in the hydrology due to the construction of dams, blockage of migratory routes, drying up of wetlands from siltation, eutrophication and water quality deterioration, and over exploitation are

the primary reasons for declining indigenous fish diversity. In Manipur, with the commissioning of Loktak Hydro Electric Project and installation of Ithai Barrage in 1983 to elevate the water level of the Loktak Lake has caused destruction of wetland ecosystem, permanently flooding over 83,000 hectares of farmland and pastures around the wetland, resulting in the loss of livelihoods and severely impacting the wetland's biodiversity including indigenous fish varieties and vanishing of the age-old culture of the people living in and around the lake. As many as 16 species of indigenous fish are believed to have become extinct due to the blocking of water by the Ithai Barrage.

A grand feast in connection with house inauguration, mangani chakouba, ningol chakouba, birthday, marriage anniversary, social gatherings and cultural and ritualistic festivals are incomplete without Sareng. Roughly ten million rupees are being spent annually in import of Sareng from outside Manipur. The indispensability of Sareng with the socio-cultural lives of the Meiteis and huge expenditure being spent on procurement of Sareng from outside the State has prompted the Chief Minister of Manipur Shri Nongthombam Biren Singh to make an official announcement of "Sareng Project" during the celebrations of National Fish Farmers Day on 10th July, 2021 for revival and culture of the fish species in the farm ponds of Manipur. The Chief Minister has also announced extension of 50% grant to fish farmers importing Sareng seeds from outside Manipur.

Rearing of Sareng (*Wallago attu*) started in Manipur immediately after the official announcement. The Department of Fisheries, Government of Manipur took up the initiative as a pilot project in the departmental farm ponds located at



Lamphelpat. The Department also facilitated the local progressive fish farmers in import of Sareng seeds by air from Kolkata. In 2021, around 4500 Sareng seeds have been cultured in the local ponds with the help of enthusiastic fish farmers and demonstrated in the annual Fish Fair cum Fish Crop Competition, 2021 held on the eve of Ningol Chakouba

Festival in the first week of November at Mapal Kangjeibung. People of Manipur witnessed an incredible joy on seeing the locally grown live Sareng during the last Fish Mela.

As on June, 2022, around 6500 Sareng seeds (fingerlings) have been imported from Kolkata and distributed to fish farmers. As announced in 2021, grants at the tune of 50% of the entire cost of procuring Sareng seeds would be provided to the fish farmers by the State Fisheries Department. More seeds will be imported and distributed to the local farmers.

Manipur Today has made a case study of a progressive fish farmer who has successfully

cultured Sareng since July 2021 in his farm ponds at Laphupat Tera under Imphal West District. Salam Rohendro Singh, a progressive farmer of Laphupat Tera secured the first prize for highest production of varieties of fish during Ningol Chakouba Fish Fair, 2021. Like other progressive farmers of Tentha, Wangoi, Khordak, Phoubakchao, Khabam Bamdiar etc. he also took up culture of Sareng in his farm ponds at his village. Rohendro shares his experiments and experiences.



He started the culture of Sareng (Wallago attu) for the first time in Manipur in July, 2021. Considering the predatory or carnivorous nature, he cultured Wallago attu with Tilapia (*Oreochromis mossambicus*) and Gambusia affinis in the pond without the application of artificial feed, instead, he used the stocked tilapia and Gambusia as their feed. Pre-stocking and post stocking

management of culture pond is same as that of composite carp culture except the removal of predatory or weed fishes. Gambusia and tilapia are selected as their prey because of their prolific or continuous breeding nature, different sizes of tilapia are stocked as larger sized will breed in the pond and the Wallago will prey on young-ones or small-sized fish. The size at stocking of Wallago attu is 2-5 g and stocking density was maintained @ 2000 number per ha and the culture period was 7 to 8 months. The stocking density of Gambusia was 80 kg per ha and tilapia is 80 kg per ha (large / matured size) and 160 kg per ha (fry sized). During the month of 7-8 months, Wallago attu attained a maximum body weight of 20 kg with an average adult size of 3-4 kg. He observed zero mortality during the culture period. He monitored regularly about the presence of sufficient prey in the pond to avoid cannibalism. The total harvest was 9600 kg per ha. The culture of Wallago attu using tilapia and Gambusia as their prey is found highly profitable but the main problem for this culture is the high cost of fingerling (Rs.200/fingerling) due to the unavailability of seed/fingerling for stocking in the market/state. The average market price of live Wallago attu is Rs. 600 per kg in the state and it can go upto Rs.1000 per kg in the festivals. The initial success and economic viability generated by culture of Sareng has motivated Rohendro Singh to start the second phase from June, 2022 without a second thought. His intervention of the culture of Wallago attu with Tilapia and Gambusia as their prey has achieved a B.C ratio of 4.64 for the first time during his fisheries career which spanned almost two decades. Wallago attu fry (2 to 5 gram) feeds on fish spawn of other fishes like rohu, common carp, mrigala etc. after attaining size of fingerlings (5 to 15 grams) they feed on small fries of other fishes or smaller weed fishes like Puntius, Danio etc.

PIONEERS OF SARENG CULTURE

1. (L) Laisangbam Dhanachandra Singh
H/o L. Bindiya Devi, Khanbam Bamdier
Mayai Leikai, Imphal.
2. Chungkham Kopeshwor Singh, H/o
Chungkham Nomita Devi, Wangoi
Makha Leikai, Imphal West.
3. Laimujam Dinamani Singh, H/o L.
(O) Sapam Premabati Devi, Tenth
Khunou Maning Leikai, Thoubal.
4. Salam Rohendro Singh, S/o S.
Leibakmachia Singh, Laphupat Tera
Mayai Leikai, Mayang Imphal, Imphal
West.
5. Thokchomg Premananda Meitei,
H/o Ningthoujam Romabati Devi,
Phoubakchao Awang Leikai, Imphal
West.

Besides culture of Sareng, Rohendro also adopted short-duration aquaculture techniques using two indigenous fish species viz. Osteobrama belangeri and Banganadero along with IMCs and exotic carps Labeo catla, Cirrhinus mrigala, Labeo rohita, Cyprinus carpio and Ctenopharyngodonidella. The culture period is 6-7 months from April to October every year. Pond depth was maintained at 2.3-2.5m with a water depth of 2.0 m. Fish fingerlings 20000-25000 per ha with a body weight of 80-110g were stocked in different stocking ratios by keeping 30% surface feeder, 35-40% column feeder and 30% bottom feeder. Pond liming was done @40 kg at every 30 days interval. Fish are fed with pelleted feed having 30% crude protein at the rate of 3% body weight per day. The survival rate of fish ranges 60-80%. The total harvest ranged from 5100 kg to 5400 kg per ha.

After 6-7 months period of culture the fishes

IN FOCUS



attained good size for marketing Banganadero (100-110g), Osteobrama belangeri (250-300g), Rohu (500-700g), Grass carp 2-2.5 kg), Mrigal (500-750g), Catla 1.2-1.5kg). Production of 5-6t/ha/7 months is achieved using this culture technique. The total fish production can be increased further by manipulating the fish stocking ratios, thereby increasing the B:C ratio from 3.9 to 4.5.



Pen Culture unit installed at Takmu Lake under Loktak Livelihood Mission



PATROL VEHICLES
SECURE HIGHWAYS



With another five GPS enabled Highway Patrol Vehicles flagged off by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh on 8th June 2022 for the Pallel to Moreh stretch of National Highway 102, the total number of Highway Patrol Vehicle comes to 11 with six GPS Enabled highway patrol vehicles to cover Kangpokpi and Senapati stretch of the highway. The Chief Secretary, the Director General of Police and the entire police force was lauded by the Chief Minister for their effort in providing security to the public especially along the highways. The next preparation is to launch similar patrol vehicles along the Imphal-Jiribam Highway.

The highway patrol vehicles have been quite effective. The patrol vehicles have been able to check miscreants trying to harm drivers and truckers and other distress calls along the Kangpokpi -Senapati highway stretch.

With these patrol vehicles, the police now provide assistance to any truck or driver stranded along the highways. The patrol vehicles along the Kangpokpi-Senapati stretch of the highway can be reached through mobile number **9612700785** and those along Tengnoupal-Moreh stretch on **8794427656**.

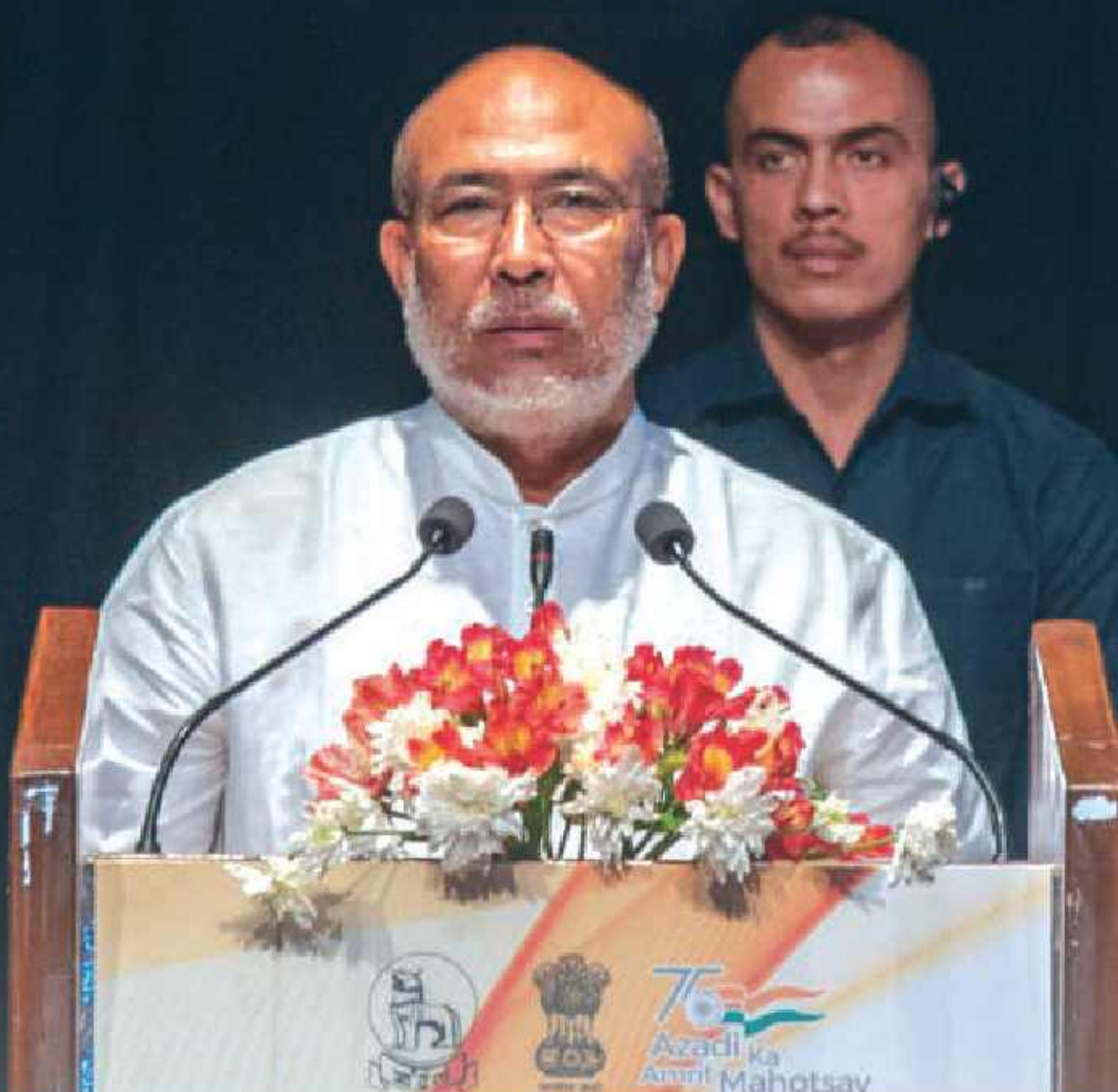
The dedicated Highway Patrol for the National Highways in the State has been a dream of the government for long and that recruitment for setting up of 10th and 11th IRB were conducted



for the purpose of launching a Highway Protection Force. Once the result of the recruitments are declared they will be utilised for the same.

Since the launching of the GPS enabled Highway Patrol Vehicles along the Mao-Imphal highway, crime rates have scaled down and these dedicated patrol vehicles now act on any distress call along the highway 24/7. The Government is targeting to provide the same benefits to the Pallel to Moreh highway as this is another important lifeline of the State. This will not only secure the highway not only from the underground and other anti-social elements, but will also assist people who are stranded. At the same time these patrol vehicles will provide support in surprise checks against illegal drug trafficking and other security operations along the routes.





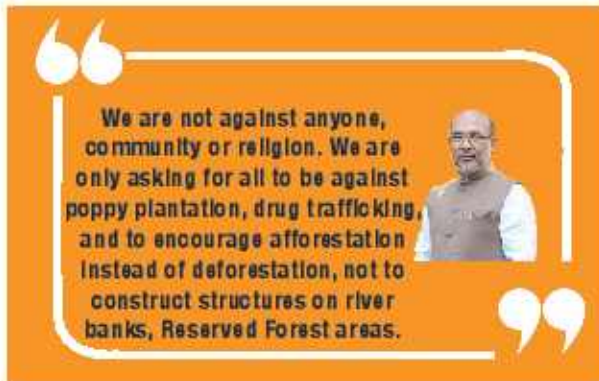
211 CRORES OF DEVELOPMENT

LAUNCHING OF SCHEMES, PROJECTS, INAUGURATION,
LAYING OF FOUNDATION STONE, DISTRIBUTION &



The new government of Manipur under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh completes its 100 days on 13th June, 2022 and with it brings new developments under its 100 Days 100 Action Programme. Many new projects were being inaugurated, foundation stones laid, benefits of various schemes/projects were distributed by the Chief Minister on that day at the City Convention Centre, Imphal East.

The inauguration, laying of Foundation Stones and distribution of various schemes/ projects/ benefits amounted to a total of Rs. 211 crore. Projects worth Rs. 176.72 crore were inaugurated,



Rs. 3.28 crores worth benefits will be provided to beneficiaries, foundation stones were laid for projects worth Rs. 19 crore and training skilling were provided for Rs. 11.50 crores.

As a part of the 100 Days 100 Action Programme, 25 Veterinary Hospitals and 58 dispensaries at different locations were virtually inaugurated. The

Foundation Stone for construction of two new Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) under Enhancing Skill Development Infrastructure (ESDI) at Noney and Pherzawl under the Labour Department was laid. Four 2x5 MVA, 33/11 kV Sub-Station at Wangjing and Heirok in Thoubal District, Leimapokpam in Bishnupur District and Hiyangthang in Imphal West and Heingang in Imphal East was inaugurated.

Under the Social Welfare department, benefits to 16,000 beneficiaries under Manipur Old Age Pension and to 10,000 beneficiaries of the Chief Minister's Widow Pension Scheme were distributed.

Fish Hatcheries under Blue Revolution at Nambol, Recirculatory Aquaculture System at Imphal West was inaugurated and Water & Soil Testing Kits to 50 fish farmers (10 beneficiaries in the function) were distributed under the Fisheries department. The First Course of State Institute of Hotel Management, Catering Technology and Applied Nutrition will be started by the Tourism Department. Tourism policy and Tourism calendar were also launched.

15 PMGSY Roads at Blocks by BDOs under Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, 475 Wells under PMKSY, HKKP GW under Minor Irrigation were inaugurated. Sponsored Research and Industrial Consultancy under Manipur Technical University and 50 schools under School Fagathansi under Education Department was established.

Under the DP and AR, Integrated Training framework and Calendar was also launched, IT Sector Skill Development programme was launched under Information Technology. Industry linked Training in the IT/ITES sector for 2000 trainees was also started.

Tablets to teachers under Star Education programme and tablets to students under State Wide Integrated Education management System and Digital Learning Platform were also distributed.

120 students for industry linked training in IT/ITES Sector at Guwahati was also flagged off at the function.

The Chief Minister appreciated and lauded the people of the State for their trust in the government and said that the day was a very joyous occasion for the government as it had succeeded in turning its words into action. Further appreciating the bureaucrats and security personnel for their commitment in supporting the government to realise its plans, policies, the Chief Minister said that there's still a lot more to achieve. Because of their hardwork and sincerity, the government has been able to achieve despite many obstacles.

The function showed that the government follows this commitment and at the same time has an efficient group of ministers who are fully committed in maintaining transparency, quality and meeting deadlines. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that at the end of 100-days, the government will announce the target for One-Year of government. The support and cooperation of the people enabled the government to achieve its target. Chief Minister also further lauded the State Police, DGP, NAB, Intelligence, Assam Rifles for the success witnessed in War on Drugs 2.0 with the voluntary support of the public.



The government is continuing with the eviction drive against illegal encroachers and Chief Minister has also warned all those who have added structures to government quarters, staying illegally or renting out government quarters and occupying government land both in the valley and hills. The government promises to provide rehabilitation to people who genuinely have no other land of their own and affected by the process. Chief Minister expressed the need for vertical expansion and that the government has started identifying land banks for construction of housing complexes on flat systems.

A short video film on the achievement of the "War on Drugs" produced by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations was also shown as part of the function. Departments also showed short video films highlighting their achievements during the function.

It is indeed very fortunate for the State to have a platform under Amazon and the interest shown by Amazon to our handloom and handcraft products shows not only the uniqueness, but also the quality of our products.



MANIPUR HERITAGE EXPO 2022

MOU SIGNED WITH AMAZON



Chief Minister Shri N.Biren Singh said that we are proud of our Handloom and Handicraft products at the opening of the Manipur Heritage Expo. At the event Manipur Handloom & Handicrafts Development Corporation (MHHDC) Ltd also signed an MOU with Amazon Karigar.

uniqueness of the State's handloom and handicraft.

It is indeed very fortunate for the State to have a platform under Amazon and the interest shown by Amazon to our handloom and handicraft products shows not only the uniqueness, but also the quality of our products.



As part of the Manipur Heritage Expo, held on 6th June at City Convention Centre 2475 looms were also distributed to the weavers of the State.

The Chief Minister thanked the Amazon team present at the inaugural function for acknowledging the importance and

Shri N. Biren Singh also spoke on the importance of Geographical Indications (GI) and said it is indeed necessary to GI tag the traditional dresses, craft items of the State's tribes.

He also appreciated the Department officials for their commitment and

dedication. At the same time, there should be no compromise on quality, the Chief Minister said, further explaining the need for zero tolerance against corruption. He said today the State's handloom and handicraft has a place in the world stage because of the hard work of our weavers and artisans.

He also urged the weavers to inform him if there were any defects on the looms distributed today.

Now that the Amazon platform is available, weavers will not face the lack of marketing



space for their finished products, he said, adding that already 250 handloom and handicraft items have been uploaded on the e-marketing platform.

The Chief Minister further expressed the need to preserve and encourage our handicraft and traditional items. He appreciated the skill, talents of the people of the State and expressed pride in being a Manipuri and an Indian.



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has taught us a good lesson on self-reliance, he said adding that the rural economy depends on those working from the ground level and that without improving rural economy, we cannot improve our State's economy.

Further ensuring all assistance, the Chief Minister further wished the weavers and artisans success in their endeavours. Further stating that weavers and artisans can also seek financial assistance under the Start-up Scheme, he informed that the budget for the Start-Up scheme has been increased to Rs. 100 crore from this financial year.



TOURIST DESTINATION



**SHIRUI LILY FESTIVAL
REKINDLES**



After a standstill of two years due to COVID Pandemic, the State Level Shirui Lily Festival was reintroduced in its glory as the 4th edition on 25th May, 2022 at Shirui Village ground. Hon'ble Governor of Manipur Shri La. Ganesan inaugurated the event in the presence of the Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh. The Department of Tourism, Government of Manipur in collaboration with the Ukhrul District Administration and Shirui Village Authority organised the programme till 28th May, 2022. The event was held mainly at Shirui Village ground. The other location was at Bakshi ground at Dungrei where Shirock, an evening singing competition from various rock bands all across the country was held. Governor La. Ganesan said that the festival aims to increase awareness about the rare flower and develop sustainable and responsible tourism in Manipur. The festival features music, food, traditional games and other cultural activities.

The Lily, which blooms in late May to early June, has become a well known plant to the world because of its rarity. The flower is found only on top of the Shirui Hill of Ukhrul District in Manipur. This flower needed proper scientific study so that this renowned flower can continue to thrive in its original habitat. Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has taken up tissue culture of this plant and hopes to perpetuate this plant not only in the original habitat but

also in laboratory conditions. The focus on global warming and climate change and its impact on the Lily including remedial measures are laudable. Shirui Lily Festival, if promoted properly, can become a tourist attraction. It will not only create awareness about the need for protection of our environment which needs to be targeted to our own people but it can attract tourists which will not only improve the well being of the local population but can also bring in advanced knowledge and expertise to improve the environment. Not only the Lily but the monsoon flowers of Shirui range and the Rhododendron can be promoted.

46 crores have been sanctioned under the Minority Affairs, PMJVK scheme, for the construction of Shirui Heritage Village and upgradation of Bakshi ground. The said project will soon take place. Constructions of cable cars at Loktak and Shirui are in the pipeline. Referring to the upgradation of Pettigrew College to a University, one of the oldest colleges in the state, the government has provided one more bus recently. Moreover constructions in the college are in full progress now. The government will not compromise for quality. Misappropriation of funds and projects taken up under the ruling government by any agent whether it be departmental or contractors will come under the scrutiny of the law was the warning of the Chief Minister. He later appealed to the public for cooperation



so as to enable the process of development in the land to be successful.

Few unique displays during the festival were Mithun, rare mostly in the northern areas of Ukhrul, Haofa (endangered Tangkhul dog) and famous Longpi pottery. Other features during the festival included Miss Shirui Lily beauty contest, cycling, marathon, 7 A-side football, Essay writing, music and many more. Special appearances by Miss Universe 3rd runner up, Adline Castenino as showstopper at the opening fashion show and performance of 'The Monument', a British based rock band at Bakshi ground on 28th evening are some of the highlights.

Longing for men to be blissful is a natural urge and the Shirui Lily Festival can bring the urge to be happy and blissful while proving to be a tourist attraction and economic jump for the State.





FIRST WOMAN CHAIRPERSON OF PCI

Retired Supreme Court judge Smt Ranjana Prakash Desai became the first woman chairperson of the Press Council of India (PCI) with the government formally announced her appointment.

A gazette notification in this regard was issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

The name of 72-year-old Justice Desai for the post of PCI chairperson was recently cleared by a committee comprising Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and PCI member Prakash Dubey.

Before her stint in the apex court from 13th September, 2011 to 29th October, 2014, she was a judge of the Bombay High Court.

Justice Desai, 72, had recently headed the Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir which was set up to redraw the Assembly constituencies of the Union Territory.

The post of the PCI chairman was lying vacant since Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad (Retd.) completed his term and demitted office last November.



It may be mentioned that the Press Council of India (PCI) is a statutory, quasi judicial body which acts as a watchdog of the press. It adjudicates the complaints against and by the press for violation of ethics and for violation of the freedom of the press respectively.

YOGA FOR HUMANITY



**Yoga Now A Global
Phenomenon, Brings
Peace To Universe**

**Narendra Modi
Mysore, June 21, 2022**

**8th
INTERNATIONAL
YOGA DAY**

OBSERVED ACROSS THE STATE





Manipur observed the 8th International Day of Yoga with mass yoga demonstration under the theme “Yoga for Humanity” at the Indoor Stadium, Khuman Lampak, Imphal West on 21st June 2022. The observation was organised by the Directorate of AYUSH, Manipur & State AYUSH Society, Manipur in coordination with the Directorate of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of Manipur. The day was also observed at different parts of the State with mass participation.

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh along with Cabinet Ministers, Members of Legislative Assembly, Member of Parliament, Director General of Police, senior civil and police officials of the Government, students and others attended the programme.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh stated that International Yoga Day is observed on 21st June every year across the world and as such the day is also observed in many places of the State. He appreciated the thoughts and visions of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his initiative to achieve recognition of Yoga from the United Nations General Assembly.

He continued that though Yoga had been a part of the Indian Society since time immemorial, it was not widely practiced all over the country. However, following the proposal on International Yoga Day by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at United Nations General

Assembly on 27th September, 2014 and declaration of June 21 as International Yoga Day, the day is observed all over the world, he added.

The Chief Minister maintained that this year, the Day is observed under the theme “Yoga for Humanity” implying that yoga helps in building good relations among all people regardless of caste and region. He further stressed the need of everyone to perform yoga taking out some time daily adding it would not only improve our immune system and self confidence but also imbibe us with good and positive thoughts.

Stating that acknowledging the importance of Yoga, 175 Nations supported the India-led resolution on International Day of Yoga at UN General Assembly, he added that many countries began to imitate India's humanism and its way of natural therapy and AYUSH. He also mentioned the necessity of human beings to have close relations with nature.

Shri N. Biren Singh expressed that being a human being, everyone should have respect for others and there shouldn't be any thought of being superior to others. It is only through such a culture of respect, we could make our society progress with inclusive development. He also maintained that the State had been able to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic with lesser casualties because of the discipline maintained by our people abiding the Standard Operating Procedures issued by the Government.

Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr. Sapam Ranjan, delivering his presidential speech, stated that International Yoga Day is observed every year across the world after the declaration of June 21 as International Yoga Day by the United Nations General Assembly in 2014. He continued that the 6th and 7th International Yoga Day couldn't be observed physically due to COVID-19 pandemic. But this year, the day is observed with mass participation as a part of the celebration of 75 years of India's Independence, he added.

He recalled the credibility of yoga during the COVID-19 pandemic in maintaining our well being and possession of positive thoughts at the time of hardship. Maintaining that yoga had been gaining popularity with time, he appealed to the public to perform yoga for well-being on oneself.

During the programme, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's address on the occasion of the 8th International Day of Yoga from the iconic Mysore Palace, Karnataka was live telecasted.

As a part of the observation, Common Yoga Protocol was also performed by everyone present at the venue.

The Senapati district also observed the International Yoga Day at the Multipurpose Hall opposite to Mini Secretariat Complex, Senapati which was jointly organised by District Administration, Senapati and NYK, Senapati.

During the programme, four well trained Yoga practioner from Pantanjali led and demonstrated various yoga postures.

Around 150 people participated in the International Yoga Day consisting of DLO's, Security personnel from Police and CRPF, NYK Volunteers, Anganwadi workers, ASHA workers and students.

The day was also observed in various institutions such as District Hospitals, Don Bosco College, Maram of the district.

As celebrated throughout the world, Chandel District also joined the Nation in celebrating the 8th International Yoga day 2022. International Yoga day was celebrated in different parts of the District. The main celebration was organised by the District Administration, Chandel at Women Market, Japhou Bazar, Chandel. Under the theme



"Yoga for Humanity". The celebration at Japhou bazaar was conducted by MO Ayush Dr. Rajkumar and Yoga therapist Shri Sanayaima Mayanglambam of Komlahabi PHC. The celebration was attended by the ADC Chandel Shri Md. Firoj Khan, SDOs, DLOs, and many yoga enthusiast of the district.

The celebration also took place at Police Head Quarter, Chandel under the supervision of the Superintendent of Police Chandel, Shri Mahesh Naraian.

International Yoga Day was also celebrated at District Hospital Chandel and also at the UCC College which was jointly organised by NYK, NCC, and NSS.

International Day of Yoga was also observed in different Health and Wellness Centres of Thoubal District. Under the aegis of the District Administration Thoubal, the District Health Society, Thoubal observed 8th International Day of Yoga in 9 Health and Wellness Centres of Thoubal District at Tekcham, Tentha, Ukhongang, Thoubal Khunou, Haokha, Waithou, Irong Khunou, Haoreibi Mayai Leikai and Athokpam Village.

The District level International Day of Yoga program was held at Tekcham Village in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Thoubal. Smt. Soibam Ibetombi Devi, ZP Member, Langathel Zilla Parishad, Dr. Y. Nokul Singh, CMO Thoubal, Shri Langpoklakpam Iboyaima Singh, Pradhan, Tekcham Gram Panchayat, Shri Michael T. Mate, DYO, NYK Thoubal, and Dr. Th. Shamananda Singh, Medical Officer in Charge, Primary Health Centre, Khongjom attended the programme. In her speech,

Smt. Soibam Ibetombi Devi, Zilla Parishad Member spoke on the importance of performing Yoga in our everyday life. Yoga is important to keep our health fit. It helps in balancing our body, mind and soul. She also appealed to the people to join hands in such good practices which will keep diseases far away. Altogether 70 NYK Thoubal Volunteers, officials of CMO Office Thoubal, Staffs of PHC Khongjom, HWC Tekcham and villagers took part in the yoga session. During the celebration Yoga Gurus were honoured by giving Simple gifts and Yoga demonstrations were performed by participants.

Health and Wellness Centre, Haoreibi Mayai

Leikai conducted the International Day of Yoga at Haoreibi village. The programme was attended by Md. Rakibuddin Ahmad Shah, Sr. MO in Charge, Community Health Centre, Haoreibi along with Smt. Ranjeeta Devi, Community Health Officer. The programme was attended by about 30 general public.

Shri Pradip Singh, Pradhan, Tentha Gram Panchayat, Dr. K. Biota Devi, MO in Charge, PHC Wangjing Lamding and other officials were attended in the International Yoga Day held at Tentha Multiplex organised by Health and Wellness Centre Tentha and District Yoga Assn., Tentha.



Dr. Md. Khalik, Medical Officer in Charge, Primary Health Centre, Leisangthem joined in the Yoga session held at Health and Wellness Centre Irong Khunou.

Dr. L. Devita Devi, Medical Officer, PHC Nongpok Sekmai and staff of HWC Ukhongsang and villagers were attended in the Yoga programme held at Ukhongsang village which was organised by HWC Ukhongsang.

B. Priya Devi, Community Health Officer, HWC Haokha led the International Yoga Day held at Haokha Village.

Similar programmes were also held at HWC Athokpam, Thoubal Khunou and Waithou.

DRUG FREE MANIPUR



THOUBAL AND TENGNOUPAL POLICE REWARDED



Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh handed over cash reward of Rs. 8 lakh to Thoubal District Police as recognition for busting a Heroin Brown Sugar Manufacturing Factory at Moijing Mina Bazar, Thoubal District on 14th June, 2022, Superintendent of Police, Thoubal District Shri Jogeshchandra Haobijam received the cash reward on behalf of the District Police.

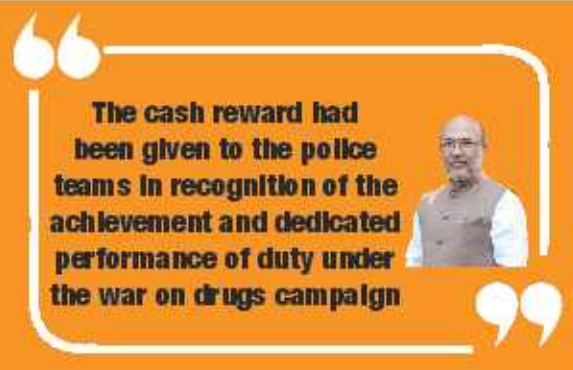
The Chief Minister also handed over a cash reward of Rs. 7 lakh to Tengnoupal District Police for seizure of drugs including WY tablets, brown sugar and crystal meth amounting to around Rs. 127 crore. Superintendent of Police, Tengnoupal District Shri B Go Lian Mang received the reward on behalf of the District Police.

Shri N. Biren stated that drug menace in the State had sprung up in the last 10 years. Not only trafficking of drugs from outside the State but also setting up and operating of drugs manufacturing factories could be seen nowadays, he said adding that Manipur is in an alarming situation with regard to drugs.

He mentioned that with the support of public and hard work of the Police Department, much achievement could be seen in the Government's fight against illegal drugs trafficking and its consumption. He continued the Government is still committed to its stand of not compromising on any issues related to drugs as

the war against drugs is a continuing campaign. Though the Government is not able to reward every achievement of all police teams at the moment, Shri N. Biren maintained that the Government recognised the dedicated service of every police personnel.

Expressing dissatisfaction on the involvement of some police personnel in illegal drug related activities, giving bad image to the hard work of whole Police Department, the Chief Minister stressed



the need for screening of personnel who consume drugs or are connected with such activities to put them in rehabilitation centre or keep them away from war on drugs activities of the Police Department.

Director General of Police Shri P. Doungel and other senior police officials were also present during the programme.

Earlier on 14th June, 2022, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh also handed over a cash reward of Rs. 10 lakh to Superintendent of Police, Kangpokpi District Smt. Amrita Sinha for apprehending large amount of drugs by Kangpokpi Police team on 9th May and 10th June, 2022.

The Chief Minister stated that the reward had been given to Kangpokpi Police in appreciation of their dedication and commitment towards uprooting drug menace from the state, by conducting search operations at various areas of the district. He continued that the district police also took a crucial role in destroying poppy cultivations across the district. He also mentioned that the Government would continue to reward police personnel who perform their duties sincerely.

Director General of Police, Shri P. Doungel stated the two incidents of seizure of large amount of drugs on 9th May and 10th June, 2022 by the team of Kangpokpi Police had really boosted the morale of the Police Force as well as the War on Drugs Campaign. He also expressed the importance of drug seizure at Imphal-Mao highway as illegal drugs coming from Myanmar and other districts goes outside the State through this highway.

He congratulated the Kangpokpi Police under the leadership of SP Amrita Sinha for carrying out such a good work and giving strength to the meaning of War on Drugs and also wished for more success in future.

It may be mentioned that on 9th May, 2022, a police team of Kangpokpi Police Station led by S.I. Hemjamang Khongsai and S.I. Raju Singh under the direct instruction of Officer in Charge, Kangpokpi PS and overall supervision of SP, Kangpokpi Smt. Amrita Sinha, ASP(L/O) Shri Tholu Rocky, ASP (Ops) Shri Abul Kalam, DSP (GSPM) Shri Sheimang Khongsai recovered 212 numbers of soap cases containing suspected Heroine No. 4 weighing 2.131 kg approximately valued about Rs. 63 lakh in local market, which would be valued around Rs. 31 crore in the international market.



On another incident on 10th June, 2022, the Kangpokpi Police team recovered 181 soap cases suspected to be containing Heroine No. 4 weighing 2.140 kg valued about Rs. 54 lakh in the national market which will be valued around Rs. 27 crore in the international market.



GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR

ཡུལ་ཁྱིམ་གྱི་འཛུགས་སྐྱོང་ལྷན་ཁྲུལ་

Foundation Stone Laying

**CONSTRUCTION OF
NEW MINI SECRETARIAT COMPLEX,
IMPHAL EAST DISTRICT AT POROMPAT**

by
SHRI N. BIREN SINGH
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur

Date : 20th June, 2022

**FOUNDATION STONE LAID FOR
IMPHAL EAST MINI-SECRETARIAT**

implementing Agency
Manipur Police Housing Corporation Limited



Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh laid the Foundation Stone for construction of New Mini-Secretariat Complex, Imphal East District, Porompat. The Foundation Stone was laid on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee Celebration of the creation of Imphal East District on 20th June, 2022 organised by District Administration, Imphal East at its office complex at Porompat.

The Chief Minister also released an informative comic book on land related issues titled "Lourunshang da Nongma".

“The committed efforts of former Deputy Commissioners and other officials, the district had witnessed various infrastructure developments in the last 25 years becoming one of the important districts.”



Imphal East District came into being from June 16, 1997 after bifurcation of the erstwhile Imphal District into Imphal East and Imphal West. Since then, the District Administration has been functioning with 3 Sub-Divisions, & SDC Circles and 2 CD Blocks under its jurisdiction.

Shri N. Biren Singh stated the Imphal East District was once considered as a less developed district with lacking infrastructures.

The Chief Minister continued that as parents and guardians take up different professions to be able to provide best

education to their wards and also ensure their welfare. As such, the Government and its officials, as guardians of the public, should take up every possible effort to ensure welfare of the people and development of the State at large. He stated that Government officials shouldn't take up any steps which would later create controversies among people and different communities. Instead, officials should work systematically to create a society where different communities live together happily, he added.

Expressing his appreciation on the publication of "Lourunshang da Nongma", an informative comic book on land related issues, Shri N. Biren stressed the need for regular evaluation on how effectively services are provided to the public. Such a step would enable us to know the actual coverage of various welfare schemes of the Government across the State, he added. He opined that our society would progress towards development only when Government officials perform their duties sincerely and honestly.

Stating on the pathetic condition of roads during the rainy season, the Chief Minister cited the reason as blocking of drainage systems due to encroachment and construction above drain at many areas by irresponsible sections of people. He urged concerned officials to take up actions

against those encroacher, adding that the State Government had already taken up a mass drive for eviction of illegal encroacher at Reserve Forest areas and riversides for the larger interest of the people and younger generations. Manipur being a landlocked State, he stressed the need to preserve agricultural land and focus on increasing our food production to become self-reliant.

Stressed on the need for infrastructure development, the Chief Minister informed that the State Government is constructing an ethnic park at Keibul Lamjao to host the Sangai Festival 2022 as the main venue. Huts representing different tribal groups of the State would be set up at the Ethnic Park.

He further appealed for public support on development works carried out by the Government.

During the programme, a short documentary on the journey of Imphal East District was also presented.

Agriculture, Forest and Environment Minister Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh, CAF & PD Minister Shri L. Susindro Meitei, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Shri Leishemba Sanajaoba, MLA for Keirao AC Shri L. Rameshwor Meetei, MLA for Wangkhei AC Shri Thangjam Arunkumar, MLA for Lamlai AC Shri Khongbantabam Ibomcha Singh, MLA for Kshetrigao AC Sheikh Noorul Hassan, DGP Shri P. Doungel, Senior Civil and Police Officials, Deputy Commissioner and Superintendent of Police, Imphal East, former Deputy Commissioners of the district and other officials attended the programme among others.



ACHIEVEMENT



Inspiring Trust, Assuring Safe & Nutritious Food
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

This certificate is awarded to

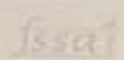
Manipur

in recognition of their overall performance
on various parameters of Food Safety
and achieving ...**2nd**... rank in the Category of
...**small states**...
in State Food Safety Index 2021-22

04.06.2022
Date


(Arun Singh)
CEO, FSSAI

MANIPUR SECOND IN SFSI-2021-22



2nd Rank Manipur
Category: Small State

State Food Safety Index 2021-22





Manipur bagged the second rank among the small states of India in the 4th State Food Safety Index (SFSI) 2021-22 released by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) based on different parameters.

Food Safety Administration, Health Department observed World Food Safety Day on the theme of 'Safer Food, Better Health' at Medical Directorate, Lamphelpat this month.

Speaking as chief guest at the event, Dr K Rajo informed that FSSAI releases the SFSI every financial year with the objective of ensuring a proper food safety ecosystem in all states and union territories of the country.

The index serves as a benchmark model for food safety evaluation in India and is calculated based on different parameters, which include 5 factors, namely human resource and institutional data, compliance, food testing- infrastructure and surveillance, training and capacity building and consumer empowerment.

Dr. K. Rajo informed that the evaluation and assessment of SFSI is categorised for large and small states, and union territories, in addition to assessment by experts of food testing and food & nutrition.

For this year, Tamil Nadu ranked first, Gujarat second and Maharashtra third among the large states.

Goa secured the first, Manipur second and Sikkim the third rank in the small states category; while for the UTs, Jammu & Kashmir, Delhi and Chandigarh won first and second place respectively.

The observance was also attended by Health joint director N Rajen and Food Safety officials.

As per the release by FSSAI for this year, Tamil Nadu scored 82 points, while Gujarat scored 77.5 points and Maharashtra 70 points in the large states category.



For the small states category, Goa secured the first rank with 56 points, Manipur second with 44 points, Sikkim third with 40 points, Tripura fourth with 38.5 points, Meghalaya fifth with 38 points, Nagaland sixth with 36 points, Mizoram seventh with 22.5 points and Arunachal Pradesh eighth with 21 points.

In the UTs category, Jammu & Kashmir topped with 68.5 points, NCT of Delhi second with 66 points and Chandigarh third with 58 points.

A photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi participating in a 'Swachh' (clean) drive. He is wearing a white kurta and a light blue dhoti, and is actively sweeping the ground with a traditional broom. He is surrounded by other men, some in uniform and some in civilian clothes, who are also holding brooms. The background shows a green fence and trees.

CLEAN INDIA

SWACHH MANIPUR



The Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) was launched on 2nd October 2014 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, which aims to provide safety, security and convenience, especially for women and children, by eliminating the shameful habit of open defecation across the country. Manipur Rural sanitation coverage increased from 52% to 100% of households between 2014 and mid-2018 with the behavioral change program under Swachh Bharat Mission and achieving the seemingly impossible task of making a people's movement at the grass-root level.

Manipur was declared as the 23rd Open Defecation Free (ODF) State on 2nd October, 2018, by constructing 4,51,566 nos. of Individual Household Latrines (IHHLs). In addition to these, 102 Community Sanitary Complexes were also constructed, achieving the status, one year ahead of the National deadline with full support and guidance from the Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh.

Under SBM (G) Phase-I, construction of cent percent IHHLs for achieving ODF status at the Hill districts were seemed to be almost next to impossible, particularly at the far-flung areas and other extreme border villages which were not motorable and accessible but with maximum support and full motivation from our Hon'ble Chief Minister, dedicated districts

officials (particularly for hill districts) were actively engaged and involved even in manual labour work including loading and unloading of the construction materials where they are compelled to visit only by Shaktimaan (truck) vehicle, in many cases walking miles on foot and spending a week's time in different far-flung villages. The mission was popular and interesting, resulting in it becoming a Jan Andolan, in that short period where all the age groups were actively involved. It is pertinent to mention that a team of students from Don Bosco College, Maram, Manipur bagged the 1st position and 3rd position at the National Level in Swachh Bharat Summer Internship (SBSI) program (university/college Category) 2018 and 2019 consecutively. The team leader was honored by the Prime Minister of India on 2nd October, 2018 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

During the fortnightly observance of the Nationwide campaign 'Swachhta hi Seva' (SHS) from 2017 till 2019, the State has carried out the campaign in both the hills and valley region to the fullest with support from the communities, frontline workers, Swachhagraha, volunteers, Ministers, MLAs, Government departments, organizations and private bodies. For 'Swachhta hi Seva' (SHS) 2019, on the theme "No to single-use plastic", tons of plastic wastes were collected and handed over to the National Highway Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL) for Road Construction. In addition, 2556 ODF boards and 10,224 wall paintings have



been put up at prominent places, covering all the GPs and Villages along with 100% Geo-tagging.

Under SBM (G) Phase II, four projects on 'Solid Waste Management Plant' at Senapati, Bishnupur, Imphal East and Imphal West were installed by CSIR –CMERI (Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute), Durgapur, West Bengal. The Operation and Maintenance for the said plants are taken care of by the concerned Gram Panchayats/ VWSC/SHGs. Also, seventeen Plastic Waste Management Units have been constructed in 17 blocks of the State. For Grey water management and Solid Waste Management, Soak Pits (individual/ community), compost pits and Waste collection shed were taken up in all the targeted villages. It is pertinent to mention that seven villages have been declared ODF plus villages and the state has been making efforts to achieve at least 500 villages as ODF plus status by the third quarter of 2022-23.

The Department is working in the same momentum in SBM(G) Phase-II in terms of capacity building, community mobilization, various training programs, mobilization of Volunteers, and swachhagraha (Foot soldiers) despite many challenges of rough terrain and frequent landslides, to make the program a Jan Andolan (People's Movement) by declaring all the 2556 villages of the State as Open Defecation Free (ODF) plus villages by 2024-25.





JAL JEEVAN MISSION



Today, water is reaching every household in about 1.25 lakh villages in about 80 districts of the country

Narendra Modi



Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 15th August, 2019. Under this mission all the rural household across all villages will be provided Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024. The goal of the mission is that every home gets drinking water in adequate quantity, of prescribed quality, on regular and long-term basis at affordable service

delivery charges, leading to improvement in living standards of rural communities and day to day- operation and maintenance to be managed by the Village Water and Sanitation Committee (VWSC).

In Manipur state, JJM is being taken up in 2256 villages covering 4,51,566 rural households. Out of 2556 villages, 1097 villages with 1,74,242 rural households are taken up under Jal Jeevan Mission funding, 1405 villages with 2,60,438 rural households

are taken up under Externally Aided Project (NDB funding) and 54 villages with 16,886 rural households are taken up under others funding sources (NLCPR, NEC, NESIDS, HADP etc).

During the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission on 15th August, 2019 there were only 25,920 Functional Household Tap Connections (FHTC) in the State which was 5.74% of all households. As on 26th May 2022, the cumulative achievement of the state is 3,09,326 FHTCs which is 68.5% of all households. As on date 380 villages have become "Har Ghar Jal Village" with 100% tap water connections. Currently, Manipur stands at 2nd position among NE states and 13th position in the country. The state plans to achieve 100% coverage within 2022-23.

Before implementation of Jal Jeevan Mission, most of the existing water supply schemes and distribution pipelines were under capacity and incomplete. Therefore, drinking water could not be supplied satisfactorily. The villagers were provided potable water through a public hydrant system with villagers collecting drinking water from the nearby stand posts. Villagers collected drinking water making long queues and from long distances. At times, villagers had to depend on untreated water from nearby ponds, streams etc. This was a huge burden on the villages, with loss of valuable time and effort.

After the launch of Jal Jeevan Mission, water supply schemes were retrofitted with improved distribution pipelines to meet the water demand of the villages. In the implementation of JJM, there is active participation of the community through village water and sanitation committee (VWSC) which have been set up in all the villages of the state. They are fully involved in preparing the Village Action Plan

(VAP) to plan, design, operate and maintain

the in-village water supply system including the local water resources. Women members are included in the formation of VWSC/ Panisamiti, which is the key to success of JJM.

To enhance the capacity of the VWSC, various IEC programmes are taken up at the village level and skilling of manpower is also carried out by imparting training to people engaged by VWSCs in the implementation, Operation and maintenance of the schemes including women folks. Water quality testing and monitoring is one of the components in the implementation of JJM. Water quality testing is important for monitoring the operation of water supply, verification of safety of drinking water, investigation of disease outbreak etc. Monitoring of water testing is done by PHED at the state laboratory and at district laboratories. The VWSC including women members are provided training on handling of Field testing Kit (FTK) to be done at the village level. Implementation Support Agencies (ISAs) are also engaged by the department at the district level to mobilise the communities, build awareness on various aspects of water such as rain water harvesting, water quality, water-borne diseases, water saving, drinking water source augmentation/sustainability aspects etc.

The state has been making all efforts to implement JJM, amidst the challenges of rough terrain and climatic conditions, further compounded by the impediments caused due to Covid-19 pandemic. The works under JJM are currently in full swing in all the 16 districts of the state. The District Administration is involved to closely monitor the implementation of JJM in the state. PHED in consultation and active coordination with the concerned departments like School Education and Social welfare is taking initiative in providing assured pipe water supply to schools and anganwadis centres.



**STRENGTHENING AND UPGRADATION OF
DIPR REQUIRED: DR. S. RANJAN**



Information & Public Relations Minister Shri Dr. Sapam Ranjan Singh has said that with the increasing volume of responsibilities of the department, the existing systems and structure of the department need to be strengthened and upgraded. Chief Minister of Manipur has also been consulted in this regard, the minister maintained.

Minister Ranjan was speaking at the Felicitation cum Interaction Program held on 24th June 2022, organized by the Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) and DIPR Employees Association at the auditorium of DIPR Head Office, Nityaipat Chuthek, Imphal. He said that DIPR is taking a big role to disseminate information and awareness to the public. The department has become a different from the past with its new initiatives and various responsibilities, he added.

Shri Ranjan informed that the knowledge of government's sponsored welfare schemes and benefits have reached to the outreach because of the fast-growing social media. He said that being a new minister in-charge of IPR, the grievances of the department will be addressed on priority basis. Minister advised for proper maintenance of the new office building and surrounding. He also informed that a proper policy and program will be framed for the development and smooth functioning of the department.

Commissioner IPR, Shri M. Harekrishna, IAS, speaking as Guest of Honour said



that the narrative role played by the department need to be circulated and make understood by others. There may be issues but it can be solved in an analytical way. The sincerity and dedication of the employees of the department is required for the overall development, he added.

Speaking as president Director, DIPR, Shri H. Balkrisna Singh, MCS, said that Department of Information & Public Relations (DIPR) is a nodal department for highlighting the policies and programs of the government. The importance of the department has been acknowledged, he added.

During the occasion IPR Minister also released the Annual Administrative Report - 2021-22 of the department after inauguration of the Terrace Mini Garden of the Department. He also inspected the different sections of the department.

Additional Director, IPR, Smt. W. Phajatombi, MCS, Deputy Directors, Officers and staffs of DIPR were also present during the Felicitation cum Interaction Program.



JNIMS CREATES HISTORY



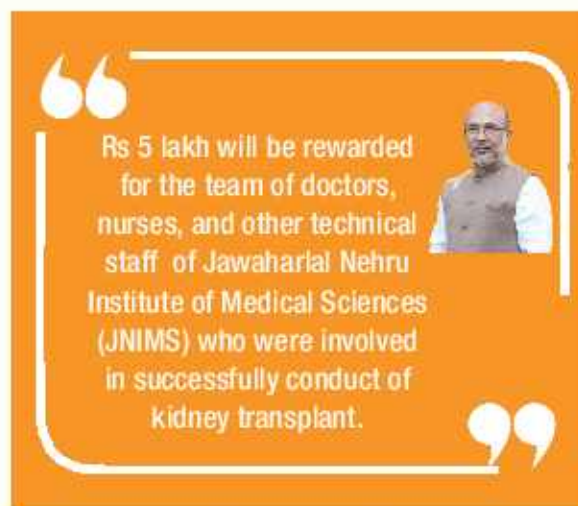


The state-run Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), Imphal scripted history on 26th June 2022, by successfully conducting kidney transplant in three patients. This was also the first time that a kidney transplant was carried out in a government hospital in the entire north-eastern state.

Three operations for kidney transplant were successfully conducted for three patients namely Shri Takhellambam Bikramjit Singh (37 years) from Wangoo Tera, Kakching, Mrs. Kimsary (41 years) from Tuisonjang Village, Churachandpur and Shri Hanso Wungleng (32 years) from Winitang, Ukhrul.

While congratulating the doctors, nurses and others, the Chief Minister termed the first successful conduct of kidney transplant by Government Hospitals in Manipur as a huge achievement. He continued that many people of the State faced financial hardship for kidney transplant and as such the State Government had taken up certain efforts under mission mode to upgrade the infrastructure and service of JNIMS. Fortunately, operations for kidney transplant had been successfully conducted for three people, he added.

He expressed his satisfaction that the kidney transplant for the three persons were conducted availing the benefit



of Ayushman Bharat - Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY) package for Kidney Transplant. The patients didn't bear any expenses of the operation charges and medicine required. He further expressed his thankfulness to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for saving the lives of many people through the scheme.

Shri N. Biren Singh appealed to the public to avail the benefits of certain welfare schemes of the Government and sought support from the people towards the Government efforts for further development of the State.

Mention may be made that this is the first kidney transplant operation done in a government hospital in Manipur and also the second in Northeast India after Guwahati Medical College, Assam.

Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Director, Health Services Dr. K. Rajo, Director, JNIMS Shri Laishram Deben were also present during the press briefing.

STATE-RUN FIRST DE-ADDICTION CENTRE INAUGURATED

DRUGS WORTH RS 205 CRORE DISPOSED





Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh inaugurated Anouba Mangal De-addiction Centre at Sunusiphai, Bishnupur District on the occasion of International Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking on 26th June, 2022. Anouba Mangal is the first de-addiction centre in the State which is directly run by the Social Welfare Department, Government of Manipur.

The Chief Minister also disposed Rs. 205 crores worth of drugs in the international market which included around 3000 Kg of Ganja, 14 Kg of Heroin, 20 kg of ice drug' or crystal methamphetamine, 104 kg of WY tablets, 3482 kg of SP tablets and other illegal drugs as Pre-trial and Post-trial Drug Disposal of Manipur Police at Sunusiphai.

The programme on International Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking, 2022 was organized jointly by the Department of Social Welfare and Police Department, Manipur.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh stated that many unregistered rehabilitation centres are operating in the State without following proper guidelines or procedures as to how the inmates should be treated. As such, the State Government felt the need to come up with the Government-run de-addiction centre. Stating that drug addicts shouldn't be treated with physical punishment rather they should be given proper advice, the Chief Minister added that staff had

been recruited to look after the centre considering the need to keep trained people for the same.

Shri N. Biren recalled that the State Government's War on Drugs Campaign was started in November, 2018 with the aim to save the youths from ill effects of drug consumption and its illicit trafficking. He maintained that the various steps had been taken up with the Government's motto to do something for the welfare of the people and the society. He informed that during the first term of his government, 1674 cases related to drug activities had been registered while 2104 persons were arrested. Illegal drugs worth around Rs. 321 crores in the domestic market were also seized. He continued those 181 cases had been registered with the arrest of 227 persons since the formation of his Government for the Second term. Drugs worth around Rs. 59 crores in the domestic market which would be around Rs. 589 crores in the international market had also been seized.

Maintaining that many communities had shown support to the Government's War on Drugs Campaign, taking resolutions to uproot poppy plantation, the Chief Minister expressed his hopefulness that the State would be drug free soon.

Raising concern on the rise of number of widows in the State and their hardship to run their families, Shri N. Biren informed that the Government would come up



with the next mission to set up various work sheds where widows could take up certain productive activities to make their own living and run their families. He further urged the public to have respect for one another and support the welfare works taken up by the Government so that the State could progress smoothly towards development.

Social Welfare Minister Shri Heikham Dingo, delivering his presidential address, cautioned that the State is in an alarming situation regarding drug consumption and its illicit trafficking. The ill-effects of drug menace could be widely seen nowadays and as such the State Government had started its fight against drugs to save the future of our youths. He sought support of the public stating that the efforts of the Government alone would not be enough to overcome the drug menace without the involvement and cooperation of the public.

He also stressed on the ill effects and imbalances caused by poppy cultivation on soil and environment and particularly to the health of humans.

During the programme, people of Sunusiphai submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister which the latter assured to look

into the matter including construction of playground under Khelo India, installation of street lamps at road leading to the de-addiction centre from the main road and conservation of Thambal Houbi Kom among others.

Transport Minister Shri Khasim Vashum, Chairman, Loktak Development Authority Shri Moirangthem Asnikumar, MLA of Moirang AC Th. Shanti, MLA of Thanga AC Shri Tongbram Robindro, MLA of Kumbi AC Shri S. Premchandra, MLA of Keirao AC Shri L. Rameshwor Meetei, MLA of Mayang Imphal AC Shri K. Robindro, Director General of Police Shri P. Doungel, Additional Chief Secretary Shri P. Vaiphei, senior civil and police officials and officials of the Social Welfare Department also attended the programme.

