

75 Years of India's INDEPENDENCE



GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR



MESSAGE

I AM PLEASED TO learn that the Department of Information & Public Relations, Government of Manipur is bringing out a special issue of "**Manipur Today**" on the occasion of **76th Independence Day 2022**.

India attained freedom on 15th August, 1947and the people of India have been celebrating this event every year as Independence Day. Freedom was achieved from the colonial powers after a long freedom struggle by dint of the labour and hard work of millions of people. Their contributions and sacrifices need to be remembered on this day and acknowledged. We the present generation must strive relentlessly so that the hard won freedom continues to take us to greater well being of all citizens of the country.

As India has made rapid strides on various fronts in the past few decades, new challenges have arisen which impact the core of nationhood and there is, therefore, a need to strive even harder to overcome these challenges to ensure that India becomes a leader in the comity of nations. On this auspicious occasion, let us renew our pledge to protect the hard earned freedom and also contribute for a better India where all are equal and no one goes hungry or gets victimised.

I wish a happy Independence Day to all the people of the country.

(La. Ganesan)



CHIEF MINISTER, MANIPUR



MESSAGE

I AM GLAD that the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur is bringing out a special issue of Manipur Today on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day.

On 15th August 2022, we will complete 75 years of Independence and celebrate our 76th Independence Day. It is indeed a moment of immense pride and happiness to be an Indian and be part of the year-long celebration.

Our 75 years of Independence, glorious history of our people, culture and achievements are being celebrated and commemorated under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative. The Mahotsav, dedicated to the people of India, commenced on 12th March 2021, starting a 75-week countdown to the 75th anniversary of Independence and will end post a year on 15th August 2023.

This year, Hon'ble Prime Minister has also initiated the Har Ghar Tiranga, a program to inspire every Indian to hoist the national flag, a symbol of national pride, at their homes during the Independence Day celebration.

On this momentous occasion, let us rededicate ourselves to this great nation of ours and live as proud citizens by promoting equality and respecting differences. Let us also remember and honour our freedom fighters who endured countless sufferings to achieve our freedom.

I extend my warm greetings to the people of the State on the occasion of the 76th Independence Day and convey my best wishes for grand success for publication of Manipur Today.

(N. Biren Singh)



MINISTER, IPR



MESSAGE

I AM DELIGHTED to learn that DIPR Manipur, is bringing out "**Manipur Today**" special issue on the occasion of **76th Independence Day**, **2022**.

Independence Day is the day when the nation got its independence from the British rule. The day is celebrated on August 15 every year, as it is when the provisions of the Indian Independence Act 1947, transferring the legislative sovereignty to the Indian Constituent Assembly.

Our national heroes who fought and laid down their lives to secure our independence as a nation deserves and to be remembered not only on Independence Day but always.

We all need to preserve the liberties and freedom also work towards improving the welfare of the masses, and continue building a great nation that we all can rely on and be proud of.

(Dr. S. Ranjan Singh)

FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

n this day, India will complete 75 years of Independence. India achieved independence from the British Yoke, which was a culmination of the struggle of millions of Indians for more than 200 years on 15th August 1947.



To mark the 76th year of India's Independence, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has initiated 'Har Ghar Tiranga', a campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, to encourage people to bring the National Flag home and hoist it during the Independence Day Celebration.

While remembering and honouring the freedom fighters who endured countless struggles to achieve our independence, we should also strive relentlessly to improve the welfare of the masses and build a great nation.

In Manipur, the Government under Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, in its second innings, has made it its mission to bring more welfare to the people. Several outreach initiatives such as Meeyamgi Numit and Hill Leaders Day has resumed after a gap of two year due to the COVID Pandemic.

As a culmination of its pro-people policies, the State has earned National recognition. Manipur tops among the "North East & Hills States" Category in the recently released 3rd Edition of the NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2021. Bishnupur district was awarded the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2021 for best performance in the implementation of 'Promoting excellence in sports and wellness through Khelo India scheme'.

For the first time, Manipur will co-host Durand Cup, Asia's oldest football tournament, along with Assam and West Bengal.

On this auspicious occasion, we should all renew our pledge to protect hardearned freedom and promote equality while respecting differences.

(Heisnam Balkrisna Singh)

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ontent

- **13** 75 Years of India's Independence: Retrospect and Significance
- **19** Manipur Parvat (Mount Manipur) At Andaman And Nicobar Islands And Its Historical Importance
- **25** Budget Speech of Hon'ble Finance Minister (in-charge)
- **36** Manipur Tops NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2021
- **38** Hilsa at Jiribam
- 42 CM Launches 75 Days Free Vaccination of COVID Precautionary Dose
- **43** Bishnupur Prime Minister's Award for Execellence in Public Administration, 2021
- 48 Meeyamgi Numit 2.0

6

- **55** Towards a new Tourism Policy of Manipur for Economic Development
 - **50** The Recommendation on 47th GST Council
 - Chief Minister's Round Up July, 2022

- 64 Our Trip Through Fear, Reality & Hope
- 68 Manipuri Women in Assembly Elections
 - Order of Precedence
 - Loktak & LDA: Interview
 - 7 State Celebrates Bijli Mahotsav & Ujala Diwas
 - **State Celebrates 73rd Van** Mahotsav
- **93** State Remembers Kargil Heroes on Kargil Vijay Diwas
- **95** Connecting through the Fabric of Science and Reason
 - **97** Durand Cup in Imphal
- **100** Activities and Achievements in Districts of Manipur
 - Bishnupur District, Ukhrul District & Pherzawl District
 - State Begins Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign
 - **3** Manipur Players continures to win medals at International Level

75 YEARS OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE: RETROSPECT AND SIGNIFICANCE





Dr. K. Indrakumar Singh Assistant Professor (Pol. Sc.) G.P. Women's College, Dhanamanjuri University, Imphal

n 15th August 1947 the dream of millions of Indians for an independent India India's achieved. was independence from the British colonial yoke was the culmination of a struggle of millions of Indians for more than 200 years. It is the reflection of the undying spirit of millions of Indians to see India a liberated nation and to put this ancient civilization on its rightful place within the comity of nations. We owe the freedom and independence that the present generation of India are enjoying to the heroic sacrifices, selfless dedication and devotion to the cause of India's independence by thousands of leaders. On the day of 15th August, 1947 India achieved what Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru poetically mentioned in his famous speech Tryst with Destiny "At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps. India will awake to life and freedom..."

The joy and euphoria of awakening to life and freedom has never been smooth and easy. India's independence was followed by the partition of the Indian sub-continent into two dominions – the Dominion of Pakistan and the Dominion of India. The partition led to one of the greatest migrations in human history. There were rampant communal violence/riots which led to bloodshed and untold sufferings to millions.

Challenges, Diversity and Making of The Constitution.

As a newly born nation, India's path to freedom, peace and progress has never been smooth and easy for it was shrouded with multiple challenges. The first challenge came in the form of partition of the Indian sub-continent, which had left deep wounds to the psyche of millions of Indians and Pakistanis. Moreover, India being a plural society also posed several challenges. It is needless to emphasise the diversity of India. The foremost challenges to the founding leaders of modern India were nation building and state building and national development amidst so many diversities. At the time of Independence, there were some 560 princely states in the sub-continent that had to be brought within the fold of India. With much political acumen and will most of the princely states were integrated into India with the help of standstill agreement and instrument of accession. Besides, state reorganization was done on the basis of linguistic lines on the recommendation of the State Reorganization Commission (SRC). This was done to accommodate linguistic diversity in India. As India moves on from the dark slumber of colonialism to a new dawn of life and freedom, she has to deal with many challenges that Indian society was facing. She has to clean the society from caste discrimination, poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and deal with the question of administration of tribals and tribal areas etc.

The Credit for bringing such diversities and challenges into a unified nation of India goes to the wisdom, farsighted vision and political acumen of makers of the Constitution of India. The Constitution of India, which was adopted on 29th November, 1949 and commenced from 26th January, 1950, is a masterpiece legislation that makes a fine balance between the need for accommodating India's variety and diversities on the one hand; and the need for national security through centralized administration when the need arises on the other. The provision for a federal structure with unitary spirit is testimony to the above fact. Against the backdrop of India's plural and multicultural nature, the Constitution has adopted a "Secular and Democratic" State in India. Thus, India through its Constitution has adopted a secular and liberal democratic state. This was unlike her counterpart Pakistan, which had adopted theocratic Islamic State. Under the secular and liberal democratic state, citizens of India had been guaranteed of Justice social, and political, Liberty and Equality. The Fundamental Rights contained under part III of the Constitution guarantees civil and political rights to the citizens of India. It ensures equality before law and equal protection of law, equality of opportunity thus ending the discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, colour, birth and sex. Besides, the Constitution also guarantees to the citizens of India "Right to particular freedom, right against exploitation, right to freedom of religion, Cultural and educational rights and Right to constitutional remedies". In addition to civil and political rights, the Constitution also acknowledges the importance of socio-economic rights and Gandhian principles which found expression in part IV of the Constitution under Directive Principles of State Policy. Though Directive Principles of State Policy are not justiciable, makers of the Constitution ensured that they be made fundamental in the governance of the state and state shall take into account these principles while policy formulation.

Another important dimension to the challenge of nation building was to bring in the vast



and scattered tribal population of India within the framework of liberal democratic set up to which most of the tribes were alien. The makers of the Constitution had the predicament and challenge of bringing tribal population into the fold of the modern State on one hand and protection and preservation of their ways of life and cultural distinctiveness on the other. This challenge was met by inserting special provisions in the Constitution for the administration and protection of cultural distinctiveness of tribal population in the other part of India and the North Eastern part of India. To mention in brief the Fifth Schedule (Article 244(I) administration of scheduled areas in which tribal population has more than fifty percent. This provision deals with the administration of scheduled areas in large parts of India other than North Eastern India. The sixth schedule (244(2) and 275 (I)) deals with the mechanism and institutions of governance for the autonomous districts in Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura.

The Beginning and Challenges

The journey of newly independent India began with a solid foundation of a liberal democratic framework and State guided development process. The journey, however, was not free from danger and challenges. These challenges emerged both from internal and external sources. Within the span of 25 years of her independence, India had faced aggression by Pakistan in 1947 over the issue of Jammu and Kashmir, by China in 1962 and again by Pakistan in 1965. Moreover, India had to wage against Pakistan in 1971 over the issue of large-scale Bengali migrants from the East Pakistan due to the military brutality and genocide committed by Pakistan Army in East Pakistan. Internally, threat to India's democratic institutions and civil and political liberty came from the national emergency imposed by then Prime Minister of India, Indira Gandhi. It may be recalled that a national emergency was imposed by Indira Gandhi under Article 352 of the Constitution on the ground of "internal disturbances". It may be mentioned that the emergency was in effect for a 21-month period from June 25, 1975 to March 21, 1977. This period can be considered as the darkest period in the history of India's democracy. For millions of citizens the emergency period was like a long night full of terrors. The institutions of democracy were crippled, political opposition was crushed and many citizens were imprisoned without any warrant under the Maintenance of Internal Security Act, 1971 (MISA). Despite the challenges and threats, India emerged victorious with more vigour and strength and continued her journey towards her rightful place as an independent nation and an ancient civilization within the comity of nations. The national emergency could not dampen and crippled the spirit of India's democracy and freedom. India, in fact, emerged a stronger and vibrant democracy after the so-called national emergency. This shows that the spirit, passion and romance with the freedom that our ancestors had cherished never died and are still alive amidst us.

On this occasion of 75 (seventy-five) years

of India's independence, it is crucial to remember that the transition of India as "nation in the making" to "nationhood" had been shrouded with multiple challenges as mentioned above. But the significance is not having the challenge but having the challenge and winning. In this context India had won and survived through the challenges. She had survived through one of the most challenging episodes of modern geo-political tussles and conflicts of cold-war. It is significant to mention that cold-war is a post Second World War phenomena characterised by mutual suspicion, competition and arms race between two superpowers. It was basically a bloc politics between Eastern bloc led by the erstwhile Soviet Union (USSR) and the United States of America. The period was also characterised by the politics of alliance making. But India had adopted an independent policy of non-alignment and taking the decision on international issues on the merit of its own national interest. This policy was followed and supported by many third world countries. Thus, India had not only preserved its prerogative for independent decision making at the height of bloc politics of cold-war but also acted as a much-needed buffer between two super powers thereby ensuring international peace.

Significance of India's Independence: Towards a New India

As India embarks upon the 21st century leaving behind much of the challenges of the 20th century but carrying forward the legacy of wisdom and knowledge of the 20th century, India becomes much stronger and vibrant than ever before. As a result of the plethora of challenges that India had encountered through her journey of independent nation-state, India has emerged much wiser and stronger than before. Today, India with active personnel of 1,450,000, reserve personnel of 1,155,000 and paramilitary force of 2,527,000 (source: globalfirepower.com), which is the 4th most powerful military and the economy having Gross Domestic Product worth 3173.40 billion dollars in 2021, according to data from World Bank (source: tradingeconomics. com/India/GDP) has become a force to be reckoned with. Today India has been taken seriously in various internal forums and regional organizations such as United Nations (UN), World Trade Organization (WTO), European Union (EU), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Organization of African States (OAS) etc. Contemporary great powers such as The United States, Russia, United Kingdom etc have developed strategic relations with India. Apart from Europe, the Middle East and The United States, India has developed cordial relations with ASEAN, in fact India has developed strategic relations with many ASEAN countries. Due to the strategic significance of South East Asia and Far East, India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi rechristened India's Look East Policy into Act East Policy signifying India's willingness to work more intensely towards building stronger economic and military



relations with ASEAN. In the emerging geopolitical contest between the United States and China in the Asia-Pacific region, India and South East Asian Nations are poised to play a very important role. India with her strategic location in the Indian Ocean and neighbour of China is bound to play a far more important role in the future.

India, under the strong leadership of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, is striving towards a new India. This concept of new India is characterised by more confident, transparent and stronger India. The policy of Make in India in order to build an "ATMANIRBHARTA" is a right step in this direction and reflects India's desire to make India self-reliant nation, which is inevitable for a prosperous and stronger India. The policy initiative of Start Up and skill development programme under the able leadership of Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi has provided much needed impetus for nurturing and igniting the spirit of entrepreneurship. This will not only provide an avenue for livelihood to the beneficiaries but also make India stronger and self-reliant in the near future. After 75 years of independence, institutions of democracy and its practices have deeply embedded themselves in the soil of India. It shall be no exaggeration to claim that India today has stable and strong democratic institutions and practices. Thus, it has been able to earn the respect for being the largest democracy in the world. Under the leadership of the present government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, there is a shift from "bureaucratic- administration"

to "democratic-administration", where citizens become the centre stage. "Mann Ki Baat" initiated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has to a great extent bridged the gap between public and government. In addition, various welfare measures have also been taken up in order to benefit the poor and downtrodden section of the society. Through these welfare measures and programmes, the government is able to fulfill the promises contained in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister of India, the Manipur government led by Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh is also striving towards a self-reliant Manipur. The focus is being given to the healthcare and welfare of Manipur. The policy of Chief Ministergee Hakshel Gee Tengbang, has benefited lots of poor people. The programmes like "Go to Hills" and "Go to Village" have transformed "bureaucratic-administration" "democratic-administration". The into significance of independence, as mentioned above, is not having the challenge but having the challenge and winning. In this context the journey of independent India for 75 years has never been easy and smooth. She had her share of challenges and threats that needed to be encountered at various fronts, but the more important thing is India is able to survive through all those challenges and emerged more wiser and stronger. This is the real spirit of India and every citizen of India should understand this spirit on this occasion of 75 years of her independence.

MANIPUR PARVAT (MOUNT MANIPUR) AT ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS AND ITS HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE

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Dr. Keisham Sobita Devi Retd. Director, Art & Culture Government of Manipur







nnouncement of "Manipur Parvat" (Mount Manipur) in place of "Mount Harriet" by Hon'ble Union Home Minister Amit Shahaji, with the consent of Shri Narendra Modiii. Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of India on Saturday, the 16th October, 2021 in a public function at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands will ever remain echoing in every heart of Manipuris. This victorious milestone was inscribed with golden ink in the history of Manipur, for it was on this day that the long-cherished dream of the people of Manipur for a befitting honour and tribute to the martyred heroes of Manipur who had been deported for life imprisonment at Kalapani for fighting against British Imperialism was visualised.

It is worth mentioning the history of Manipur and its relation with the British Imperialism in order to have a clear picture how Manipur Parvat occupies such unique place in the far Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

History of Manipur & its relation with British Government

In the far corner of the North-Eastern Region of India, sits a tiny Green-Valley, one of the distinguished kingdoms in the whole South-East Asia breathing in tranquility and serenity being shielded by Nine-hills, known as "**Manipur – the land of Jewel**".

Establishing its own existence and civilization since 33 A.D., Manipur was still remembered for her great Kings,

brave Warriors and Eminent personalities across the Globe e.g., defeating Chinese invention by King Khagemba who reigned Manipur from 1597 – 1652 A.D. and Burmese invention by Maharaja Gambhir Singh of Manipur in 1825 A.D.

The factual story about the valour of lionhearted kings of Manipur had unfurled to its bordering states and found inscribed as a chronicle in the book "ShrihatterItibritha" as "Lion", written by Shri Atyu Chanan Chaudhuri. It is recorded in this book that the present-day highway which runs from Guwahati to Bangladesh crossing through Meghalaya was constructed by the Britishers only when Maharaja Gambhir Singh of Manipur lend an enormous hand to the British against the conflict between the Khasis in 1829. This expedition is known till this day as "Lata-Kata Expedition".

Another such heroic and undaunted persona of Manipuri king Chandrakriti Maharaja was described in detail in the book". My experiences in Manipur and the Naga Hills" by Sir James Johnstone when he broached and brought up how the Britishers were saved from the wrath of Nagas by the Great King of Manipur in 1879 A.D. All these events not only highlight the greatness of Manipur kings but also states good relation with the British Imperialism.

Soon after the death of Maharaja Chandrakriti, there was Chaos in Manipur, caused by enmities between his sons, one led by Surchandra Maharaja and Kullachandra Yubaraj on the other side. They revolted against each another and hence Surchandra Maharaja left Manipur and requested the British Government to reinstate him to the throne. The British Government refused his claim and decided to recognize Kullachandra as King of Manipur with a conspiracy to keep Manipur under their power by capturing Tikendrajit Yubaraj, the man behind Manipur sovereignty. The Chief Commissioner of Assam, Mr. Quinton came to Manipur to enforce the order of the British Government on 22nd March at 10: a.m. which led to the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891 A.D.

At the moment of receiving Mr. Quinton, Chief Commissioner by Maharaja Kullachandra & his brothers at the western main gate of the palace, Chief Commissioner told him to attend Darbar in the Residency at 12 noon with his brothers to reveal some important order of the British Government.

Though Maharaja along with his brothers went to attend the Darbar to the Residency in time, it could not be held due to some lapses on the British side. By the act of dishonor caused by prolonged detainment of Maharaja & his party at the Residency Gate, Maharaja and his brothers waited for the revenge tactfully.

On the subsequent failure of plan of holding Darbar with Maharaja and Tikendrajit Yubaraj, the Chief Commissioner of Assam consulted Mr. Grimwood, Political Agent and Colonel Skene and decided to arrest the Yubaraj forcibly. The Maharaja was informed that the Chief Commissioner would leave Imphal the next day and asked him to arrange for the journey and wanted to see Manipur Ras dance at the Residency that night on 23rd March. Britishers attacked the Palace without declaring war on 23rd March, 1891 night, many innocent people including women, children and armies were killed but the objectives of capturing Tikendrajit was in vain. Such treacherous attack by the British defamed the whole British Empire.

When the wheels of turmoil spun and in despair, felt threat to their existence, a crimson light of hatred and revenge grew inside of every Manipuris. Thus Mr. Grimwood, the Political Agent as he reached the steps of the Darbar house for the urgent meeting along the High-ranking British Officers, Kajao alias Pukhramba Phingang speared him fatally. Later on, Mr. Quinton, the Chief Commissioner, Colonel Skene, Mr. Cossins, Lieutenant Simpson along with the bugler were beheaded by the public executioner in front of the Dragons.

Perhaps, in the history of British Imperialism, it may be found only in Manipur that such number of high-ranking British Officials were killed in one incident.

As soon as the news of the execution of five British officers reached the British Government,three columns of troops were sent into Manipur from Kohima, Cachar (Silchar) and Burma under the command of Major General H. Collett, C.B. Colonel R.H. F Rennick and Brigadier General T. Graham, C.B. respectively.

From Manipur side, Maipak Sana alias Lokendra Birjit Sana, Wangkheirakpa and Yenkhoiba Major led to resist the British Column from Burma, Chongtha Miya Major, Paona Brajabasi Major were among 400 sepoys who reinforced to resist the Burma column Khwairakpa, Leishraba Jambhuban Major, Heikrujamba Poila, Maibya Tamra Singh, Subedar were sent to counter British Column coming from Kohima. Kalasana Sagol Hanjaba, Sana Ngraingba Lourung Purel, Yenkhoiba Poila, Longjamba Poila were sent to confront the column from Cachar. However, against the mighty British with sophisticated weapons. Manipuri Heroes sacrificed their lives one after another after severe fights. Thus, Manipur lost its Independence and fell into the hands of the British in the morning of 27th April, 1891. However, the supreme sacrifice of Heroes of Manipur never lost, moreover shines across the Globe. It is proved by the ballad song



"Khongjom Parva" which is sung in praise of the courage and supreme sacrifice of defeated war Heroes of Manipur instead of victorious Heroes which is again perhaps a unique gesture found only in Manipur in the world.

Amidst the mournful and melancholy days, the most heart wrenching time was the hanging to death of Yuvraj Bir Tikendrajit and Thangal General on 13th August, 1891 at Pheidabung before the concourse of eight thousand Manipuris by the order of Queen Empress of British Imperialism. Besides Kajao alias Pukhrambam Phingang, Niranjan Subedar and Chirai Naga of Mayangkhang were also hanged to death inside the jail (on 25th May, 8th June and 13th Oct. 1891 respectively).

Manipuri Heroes in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands

Next step of British Government in Manipur is the deportation of Maharaja Kullachandra along with the prince Angousana Senapati and other twenty-one freedom fighters to Kalapani under the life imprisonment. They reached Kalapani in the month of November, 1891 through transit at Tezpur jail in different phases and from Calcutta by the Ship S.S. Shahajahan.

List of the Anglo-Manipur War Heroes transported to Kalapani

- 1. Kullachandra Dhaja Singh (Ex-Regent)
- 2. Prince Angousana Singh, Senapati
- 3. Lokendrajit Birjit Singh, Wangkheirakpa
- 4. Samu Singh Colonel alias Luwang Ningthou
- 5. Chongtham Nilamani Singh, Ayapurel Major
- 6. Chongtham Mia Singh, Major
- 7. Abungjao Yengkhoiba, Lalup Singba
- 8. Uru Singh, Usurba
- 9. Chauba Hada, Machahal
- 10. Ghun Singh, Kongdram

- 11. Kumba Singh, Laisraba
- 12. Dhaja Singh, Mayengba
- 13. Noni Singh, Nepra, Machahal
- 14. Trilok Singh, Nongtholba Satwal
- 15. Dhon Singh, Sagolsemba
- 16. Ghun Singh, Indujamba, Jamandar
- 17. Ningthouba Singh, Chingshuba, Jamandar
- 18. Thaoba Singh Phanjao, Jamandar
- 19. Tonjao Singh Mangsataba, Jamandar
- 20. Chaobatol Singh Heigrujamba, Subedar
- 21. Paradhumba Singh alias Ashangbakut, Havildar
- 22. Chowkami Naga of Mayangkhang
- 23. Gowho Naga of Mayangkhang

There is also reference of deportation of a Manipuri JODH SINGH in the record available in Andaman & Nicobar Administration. Above this, Prince Sana Chahi Ahum alias Prince Narendrajit was also transported to this Islands in 1858 for leading the Sepoy Mutiny at Cachar.

Why Mount Harriet renamed as Mount Manipur in Andaman Nicobar Island & its significance

According to Mathur and R.V. Murthy and other reliable sources, it was believed that the deported Manipuri war heroes were entered in a bungalow on Mount Harriet with a respect that they belong to the royal family differently treating from other common criminals. Mount Harriet is a beautiful national park located in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands union territory of India. It is the highest peak in the South Andaman (365 mts. High) and easily reachable, only 55 kms. by road, 15 kms. by ferry and trek from Port Blair. It was used as summer headquarters of the Chief Commissioner during British Raj. This park is named in commemoration of Harriet Tylter, the wife of Robert Christopher Tytler, a British army

officer, who was appointed superintendent of the Convict Settlement at Port Blair in the Andamans from April 1862 to Feb. 1864.

The Manipuri war heroes were released on 1896 onwards on the recommendation of the Manipuri Political Agent. Out of 23 War Heroes, deported to Kalapani. 2 died at Port Blair, 7 allowed to return at their state. Here we should honour the spirit of Manipur Maharaja Kullachandra and his brothers that as they prefer to die at any cost than surrendering to British Government, they were not allowed to return to their motherland. They died at Radha Kunda, Vrindavan (UP) Naran Khamar (Tripura) and Darang District (Assam) after spending a painful life at Mount Harriet for the sake of mother Manipur. The decision of the Central Government of renaming Mount Harriet as Mount Manipur is significant as it was where Manipur's Maharaja Kullachandra and 22 other freedom fighters were imprisoned for fighting against British Government during the Anglo-Manipur War 1891.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Manipur Shri N. Biren Singh's continued support for this declaration will be indispensable part of history of Manipur Parvat in Andaman & Nicobar Island.

Indeed, Manipur Parvat will remain as a pilgrimage for the Manipuris not only heralding the heroic deeds of the sons of Manipur but also acts as rare testimony behind the ancestral legacy, its origin, culture and tradition of Manipur for the generations to come.

Commemorating the Supreme sacrifice of Manipur war Heroes, action taken from both Govt. of India, Manipur & its people

Glad tidings have reached and filled the hearts of all Manipuris with delights when the declaration of "Manipur Parvat" by renaming "Mount Harriet" on 16th October, 2021 by the Govt. of India. Indeed, it was the moment that people of Manipur have been waiting since long time back by rendering their yeoman's service from both government and its people's side too.

Here we quote the endeavors made by Wangkhemcha Shamjai, President, All Manipur Working Journalist Union (2003), under the support of the then government, the effort of Y. Tomba Singh, President, The Preservation Committee of Deported Manipuri War Heroes in Andaman and Nicobar Islands, made since 2006. The moral support from His Highness, Maharaja of Manipur (2012) addressing letter to His Excellency, Lt. Governor, Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh's keen observance and immediate action on the application submitted by Y. Tomba Singh on the matter through "Meeyamgi Numit" acted the matter seriously and got the positive result from the Chief Secretary Andaman & Nicobar Islands for allotment of land for construction of a Memorial along with a museum for the Manipuris who sacrificed their lives for the Motherland in Goodwill Estate, South Andaman subject to the receipt of Environment & CRZ clearance from Forest Department. Besides Intellectual Forum of North East, United Chongthas, Imphal and Preservation Committee had also contributed at lot in achieving the above goal by organizing national seminar on Unsung Anglo Manipuri War Heroes at Kalapani on 23 Nov, 2020 at Imphal.

The Unique achievement in order to give befitting tribute to Manipur War Heroes of 1891 Anglo-Manipur War with full dedication from Government of Manipur may also be remembered.

- 1. Observance of 13th August every year at Bir Tikendrajit Park.
- 2. Celebration of Khongjom Day on 23rd April every year at Khongjom War



Memorial Complex, Thoubal District Manipur.

- Started celebration by unveiling the memorial complex dedicated to the Heroes of Anglo-Manipur War, 1891 including those heroes deported to Andaman & Nicobar Island inside B.T. Park, Imphal on 13th August, 2021.
- 4. On 16th October 2021, Shri Amit Shah, Union Home Minister announced in a public rally at Port Blair that Mount Harriet was renamed as Mount Manipur in honour of Maharaja Kullachandra Dhaja and 22 other freedom fighters who



were imprisoned at Mount Harriet after the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891.

Conclusion:

To sum up all the points that have been stated so far is to make a point that the forthcoming Memorial Complex at Mount Manipur in Andaman & Nicobar Islands will

be dedicated to the Warriors of Manipur who never stoop low in front of the powerful British Imperialism rather chose a fate worse than death.

Their courage and bravery were exceptional knowing to endure such severe punishment or even death. The hero warriors never waver but became stronger and fought till their last drop of blood in their veins to defend the freedom of the land.

Their courage and love for their motherland will always be echoed as an inspirational patriotism in every house of Manipur and will always hold a special place in the Hearts of every Manipuris. Here we remind a very popular quote in Manipur: -

"Malem Emana Lumbara, Palem Emana Marummee.

Korou Nongdonna Wangbara, Panthou Epana Mawangee".

This interprets: -

"None in this Universe is as Great and Colossal as Mother and Father".

"May the Upcoming Memorial complex in Manipur Parvat, Reflects its Lights, Heralding the Cosmic Energy and Supreme Sacrifices Of Manipuri heroes of our Motherland, To the Posterity".

Reference:

1. Kangla (The ancient capital of Manipur) by N. Khelchandra Singh, Padmashree, Sapam Bheigya S. Rupoban Singh, published by State Archeology Department of Arts & Culture, Govt. of Manipur, Kangla, Imphal.

2. Unsung Anglo-Manipur War Heroes at Kalapani by Shukhdeba Sharma Hanjabam& Aheibam Koireng Singh, published by the Director, National Book Trust of India, New Delhi, 2022.

З. Synopsis for construction of Memorial Center at Andaman and Nicobar Islands as a Tribute to the Martyred Warriors of Manipur who were exiled to Kalapani, under the life imprisonment in the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891 submitted to Superintendent, State Archaeology by Dr. K. Sobita Devi Vide State Archaeology's Letter No. 04/12/2020 Pt. (S/A) dt. 17th July 2021 as an action taken report of the Expert Committee constituted on 30th Nov. 2020 by the Govt. of Manipur for identification of location and installation of Memorial Plaque/Stone in honour of the Manipur War Heroes of Anglo Manipur War of 1891.

BUDGET SPEECH OF HON'BLE FINANCE MINISTER (in-charge)

IIG





r. Speaker Sir, with your kind permission, I rise to present the budget for the year 2022-23.

2. It is a great privilege and honour for me to present the first full budget of this Government. I, on behalf of our Government, express our deepest gratitude to the people of the State for the mandate given to us in the recently concluded Assembly Election. We will continue to work for the people of this State and ensure that we fulfill their aspirations, for which we have been given this opportunity.

3. I assure the people of the State that the trust shown to us will not be wasted. Our Government will work tirelessly and selflessly for the people of the State to achieve an inclusive, peaceful and prosperous Manipur. Our Hon'ble Prime Minister has been an endless source of inspiration to us. Our Government is inspired by his dedication and selfless service to the nation.

4. Speaker Sir, as you know, due to time constraints, we had presented only a Vote-on-account for the Budget Estimates 2022-23 during March, 2022 to enable the Government to discharge its responsibilities and meet all essential expenditure during the first four months of the financial year. Now, we propose to present the full budget during the current session. This full budget will reflect the priorities of our Government and our commitments to take up various developmental and social obligations. As this present session is expected to last till the first week of August, we are proposing for a Vote-on-account for the month of August to enable the Government to meet its committed and urgent expenditure.

SECTION I STATE OF THE ECONOMY

5. Mr. Speaker Sir, at the outset, I wish to place before this August House important aspects of the state of the economy.

6. Sir, the pandemic which started towards the end of financial year 2019-20 had a massive impact on the State. The pandemic disrupted the lives and livelihood of the people. The period also witnessed considerable reduction in resource receipts. The impact was felt during financial year 2021-22 as well. The cumulative impact of these years has posed a serious challenge to our fiscal position.

7. Despite the challenges faced availability. in terms of resource our Government could fulfill all its commitments. including fundina measures to tackle COVID-19 challenges. meeting committed expenditure on payment of salaries and pensions, fulfilling developmental requirements and extending both financial and material assistance to the vulnerable sections of our State to tide over the hard times due to the pandemic.

8. This may be appreciated given the fact that our own resources are limited and the resource pool of the State is determined largely by transfers from Central Government. This is a common feature of State finances of all the Northeastern and Himalayan States. However, resource transfers from Central Government showed considerable improvement during the second half of financial year 2021-22 largely on account of good collection of Personal Income Tax and Corporate Tax.

9. As the supply side of the economy began to return to some normalcy after the successive waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, the sharp increase in the momentum of commodity prices since March, 2022 due to geopolitical reasons have affected every section of the society mainly in the form of price rise of essential commodities. This is a worrying trend. The recent rise in infections due to COVID-19 is also a matter of concern for the State both in terms of its impact on health and state finances. We are making all efforts to manage this new development.

10. In recent times, the State Government has been taking steps to mobilize additional resources to meet our increasing expenditure needs. In the last few years, own tax revenue of the State has recorded a gradual growth. This is driven mainly by good collection of State GST, motor vehicle tax and Sales Tax. The State is taking additional steps to expand the tax base and reduce tax evasion. Any additional resource mobilized will assist the State to meet its various obligations. Various sources of resource mobilization are being explored.

11. As highlighted above, the pandemic years had left a deep scar in our economy. The State incurs considerable amount of revenue expenditure to meet its committed obligations on payment of enhanced salaries, pensions, interest payment and operating expenses etc. As an aftermath of the pandemic, fiscal position of most of the States deteriorated sharply in 2020 with a sharp decline in revenue, increase in spending and a sharp rise in debt to GSDP ratios. Fortunately, the State is not in the category of States with fiscal vulnerability despite the position highlighted above. The State will continue to take steps for fiscal consolidation by increasing our revenue receipts and concurrent reduction of our debt stock.

12. In this connection, it may be appropriate to highlight the measures taken by Government of India to restructure public finances, especially flow of Central Scheme funds and to ensure that funds released for Schemes reach the last mile and fulfill their purpose. Since FY 2021-22, the Central Government has come up with measures to reduce idle parking of Scheme funds in Scheme Accounts. This is a step in the right direction and will enable development funds to reach the last-mile timely.

13. With the State Nodal Agency (SNA) Model, the flow of funds released for Centrally Sponsored Schemes can be monitored. Once fund utilization is assured, this will cause release of further installments to the State. Recently based on communications of Government of India, the State Government has taken a one-time exercise to ensure full releases of all Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) Grants to the implementing Departments. Central Government has assured that additional Scheme funds will be released in the aftermath of the exercise.

14. The State Government will take up



with the Central Government for enhancing funding of its various developmental and social needs through Central Grants under Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Externally Aided Projects. This will reduce the pressure on discretionary resources available with the State. Further, it will also help the State in its fiscal consolidation process.

15. One positive development in the State during the COVID-19 era is the continuing increase in expenditure on capital outlay. In 2020-21, the Central Government started the Scheme for Assistance to States for Capital Expenditure (SACE). Under this Scheme, the State Government received an amount of Rs. 317 crore in FY 2020-21 and Rs. 212 crore in FY 2021-22. The funds received under the Scheme has been used to complete a number of incomplete projects and to fund new Projects. During the period, in line with the policy of Gol, the State Government has also re-oriented its focus towards increasing expenditure on creation of capital assets. During FY 2020-21, the total expenditure on capital outlay was Rs. 2439 crore which is an increase of about 111 % over FY 2019-20 figures. Similarly, the expenditure increased to Rs. 3250 crore in FY 2021-22, as per pre-actual figures. The sharp increase in capital spending by the Government can be seen both as demand and supply enhancing response as it creates infrastructure capacity for future growth.

16. For this FY 2022-23, this scheme has been renamed the Scheme for Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SACI) and the Union Budget had made an allocation of Rs. 1 lakh crore for this. In this year there are 7 (seven) parts. The scheme allows for states to get additional funding by fulfilling various reforms, including under PM Gati Shakti, PMGSY, Digitization, Right of Way for Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network, Urbanization and Disinvestment or Asset Monetization. The State Government is making all efforts to get the maximum allocation under this Scheme as it will aid the State in making critical capital investments.

17. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) is an area that the State Government is actively exploring. PPP Projects combine the best of both the public and private sectors to provide services to the public, generate resources and also bring efficiency to the development and management of such projects. Various PPP projects are under consideration and preparation at this stage. This will generate resources for the State Government to meet its developmental requirements.

18. The recent increase in commodity prices and sudden rise in COVID- 19 infection apart, the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) for 2022-23 is estimated at Rs. 42,301 crores. This is against GSDP of Rs. 37,760 crore for 2021-22. We are confident that the State will continue to register good economic growth and all necessary steps in consultation with Government of India will be taken.

19. Sir, has been repeatedly it mentioned that Manipur depends heavily on the Central Government for its financial resources. I express my deepest gratitude to the Government of India, under the able leadership of our Hon'ble Prime Minister, for the continuous support given to the State in this regard. But it is my sincerest belief that we have the capability to generate more resources than the current trend. The previous BJP-led Government had taken various steps in this regard. We will be taking them forward and also introduce additional steps to increase our own revenue collection. I request the support of all the members of this August house and the people of the State as we take this important endeavour.

SECTION II

PRIORITIES OF THE GOVERNMENT AND SPECIFIC BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS ENTREPRENEURSHIP, SKILLING, START-UPS

20. Speaker Sir, it is important that we make full use of our 'human resource'. In this context, entrepreneurship, start-ups, innovation etc. are important to drive the economic growth of the State. These are essential for employment generation as well as livelihood creation. The Start Up Scheme of the State Government has benefited many start-ups and many have expanded their business. Till date, support has been provided to 5,790 start-ups.

21. To support the Start-up ecosystem in the State, this Government has allocated Rs. 100 crore in this Budget. To improve credit flow to many start-ups in the State, this Government is exploring setting up of a Credit Guarantee Fund Trust with Financial Institutions of the Government of India. Difficulty in finding commercial space and flexible skill upgradation programs are some of the difficulties facing entrepreneurs in the State. To meet this gap, we aim to take up development of 'District Youth Skilling, Entrepreneurship and Employment Centres' in District Headquarters with significant commercial activities. These centres will provide commercial outlets as well as skill upgradation opportunities to the start-ups in the State.

22. The Information technology sector is a promising area which can provide employment to a large number of youth. The Government is currently taking up the project of training 2000 youth from across the State in the IT/ ITeS sector. The State Government is bearing the training cost of these trainees. Having a large pool of welltrained youth will be a huge resource for the State. The Government is also taking up a project for providing on-the-job training with graduation studies for eligible youth of the State by tying up with major IT companies in the country.

23. The State Government is setting up a Centre for Invention, Innovation and Incubation Training (CIIIT) on a PPP model, with the State Government share being Rs. 30 crores, and adequate allocation has been provided for this year in this budget. This centre will become the focal point for start-ups and entrepreneurs to invent and innovate. Ideas will be nurtured and allowed to incubate by provision of support by various experts in this 'Centre'.

CONNECTIVITY

24. Connectivity is a sector critical to the development of the State. While National Highway works and border road projects are implemented by agencies under the Central Government, the State Government

implements road projects through the Public Works Department and Rural Engineering Department, for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY). Combining all sources of funding, with the exception of projects implemented by Central Government Agencies, the Capital Outlay on Roads and Bridges in this FY 2022-23 is about 2700 crores.

25. Through proper fund flow management, the State Government has been able to improve the fund flow for PMGSY in the last financial year. In this financial year, with supplemental funding for border areas the fund flow is expected to increase significantly and will aid in completion of many projects. Further, under the 100 days action plan, improvement and repairing of important roads in all districts are being taken up.

26. The Imphal-Kangchup-Tamenglong road has made significant progress. At present there is a physical progress of 60



%. This project along with the ongoing Imphal-Tamenglong-Halflong road project will provide another lifeline to the State. These highway projects, along with many other projects being implemented or in the pipeline will significantly improve the connectivity map of the State.

27. Concrete roads have a distinct advantage in significantly reducing the cost of maintenance. We had proposed the project for 'Improvement of roads within Imphal City with rigid pavement including concrete lined drains' with an estimated cost of Rs. 3303 crore, as an Externally Aided Project. This project was recently posed by the Ministry of Finance to the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). This project will result in savings to the Government by reducing the need for routine maintenance. The State Government aims to expand the same to all district headquarters in the future.

28. The Imphal-Mandalay Flight under the International Air Connectivity Scheme -UDAN (IACS - UDAN) will be starting within this year. This flight service will help build up cultural, economic and people-to-people ties between the two countries. This flight is just the beginning and international flights to more locations from Imphal will be available in the coming months. Under RCS UDAN 2.0, heliports are being constructed in five locations in the state. Upon completion of these heliports, connectivity through helicopters will improve drastically, providing a quick means of transport within the state. For the transport sector, an allocation of about Rs. 59 crore has been made in this budget.

EXTERNALLY AIDED PROJECTS

29. Speaker Sir, externally aided projects (EAP) are an important source of funding especially in the context of critical infrastructure projects requiring large

funding in the short-term to meet a specific gap. We have made significant progress in this regard. There are four EAPs currently under implementation in the State. These include the ADB funded Imphal- Kangchup-Tamenglong road, the NDB funded Manipur Water Supply Project, the KfW funded Forest Management Project and the World Bank funded Dam Rehabilitation Project.

30. 2(two) EAPs are in advanced stages of tender - the Lamphelpat Water body Rejuvenation Project and the Imphal Sewerage Project Phase- II, both with funding from NDB. Works under these projects are likely to commence within the next few months. Tender process for the ADB- funded Imphal Ring Road will also be starting within the next few months. Apart from these, another 4 (four) EAPs are under active discussion with the concerned funding agencies. Altogether, this Government is targeting a capital investment of about Rs. 15,000 crores through Externally Aided Projects in the next 4 - 5 years. These projects will not only improve the infrastructure in the State but also create opportunities for livelihood and employment.

EDUCATION

31. Speaker Sir, Education continues to remain a priority for this Government. The flagship 'School Fagathansi Mission' has brought a change in the Education Sector by developing 'model schools' across the State. 2 (two) phases of this Mission have already been taken up. For completion of the second phase and to start the third phase of this mission, an amount of Rs. 38 crore has been allocated in this budget, which is an increase of 52% over last year's allocation.

32. The centrally sponsored scheme -'Samagra Shiksha' provides an important source of funding for elementary, secondary and teacher education. We have streamlined the flow of funds for this scheme and we are confident that the funds received this financial year will be the highest compared to other years. An allocation of about Rs. 800 crore has been made for 'Samagra Shiksha' in this budget.

33. In this digital age, education has inseparable from Information become Technology. Students from economically weaker backgrounds find it difficult to keep up due to difficulties in accessing digital course materials. This is more pronounced in Higher Education. The 'Chief Minister's College Maheiroi e-Support Scheme' aims to provide support to students from such economically weaker backgrounds by providing smartphones through which they can access study materials. The scheme aims to provide smartphones to 2000 students from such backgrounds, through a transparent and fair selection process. For this, an allocation of Rs. 2 crores has been made in the budget.

HEALTH

34. Sir, the COVID-19 Pandemic was a reminder to the whole world that one must continue to invest in the Health sector and improve it. The Government's role is critical for the development of this sector. The 'Chief Minister's Hakshelgi Tengbang' scheme has been a resounding success and has reduced the out-of-pocket expenses, especially by the poorer sections of the society. Till date about 5.85 lakh beneficiaries have enrolled under CMHT. From those enrolled, about 1 lakh beneficiaries have received treatment under this scheme, for which the State Government has spent about Rs. 107 crores. This Government has increased the limit of assistance from Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs this year. This will benefit the patients who need additional assistance for specialised treatment or long duration treatment.

35. The Chief Minister's Health for All (CMHFA) scheme was launched in October,

2021 with the aim to provide door-to-door healthcare services and complete primary health checkup for all the people in Manipur. The objective is for early identification and diagnosis of 10 non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including hypertension, diabetes, three common cancers etc. Till date 832 villages have been covered and around 1.90 lakh people have been screened. We aim to scale up this scheme to cover all 16 districts, cover 1000 villages and screen 5 lakh people within this year. An allocation of Rs. 5 crore for this scheme has been provided in this budget.

36. We had initiated works for setting up solar energy & energy efficient equipment in health institutions and centres. This is specially relevant for difficult areas, as this initiative can provide 24 X 7 power supply and can make the health centres fully functional. An allocation of Rs. 4.38 crore has been provided in the budget for this purpose.

37. Overall, we have allocated Rs. 1480 crore for the health sector.

AGRICULTURE AND ITS ASSOCIATED SECTORS

38. Speaker Sir, the Agriculture Sector is critical for the State. Agriculture with its associated sectors including horticulture, animal husbandry etc. have a huge potential to contribute to the economic growth of the State. As I had highlighted earlier, the streamlining of the fund flow under Centrally Sponsored Schemes will enable this sector to access more funds, which will add to its growth and development. An allocation of Rs. 660 crores has been made in this budget for agriculture and its associated sectors.

39. An allocation of Rs. 4 crore has been made for the conservation and development of the Manipur Pony. It is the intent of the Government to take the development of the



Manipur Pony further in the coming years.

40. This Government has taken a strong action against the 'drug menace' in the State. The 'War on Drugs 2.0' has been effective in controlling the illegal drug trade to a large extent. One area which the Government has been continuously focusing on is that of illegal poppy cultivation in the far-flung areas of the State, especially in the border areas. While destruction of poppy plantations is one way of checking this problem, it is equally important to dissuade farmers from turning to this illegal plantation by providing remunerative sources of income, by plantation of cash crops. For this, the Government had initiated a pilot project to provide alternatives to poppy cultivation to the farmers. In this budget an allocation of Rs. 4 crore has been made to expand this pilot project. The State Government has been in touch with the DONER and Agriculture Ministries of Government of India to prepare a consolidated project to stop plantation of poppy within the State, once and for all. The learnings from our pilot project will be a major contributor in preparing this consolidated project.

41. Irrigation is vital to the growth of the agriculture sector. Focus has been given to this area to ensure that farmers get adequate water for their crops. Various projects for irrigation, including surface minor irrigation, ground water irrigation, barrage etc. are being implemented. A total capital outlay of about Rs. 600 crore has been allocated for irrigation in this budget.

42. With improvement of farming technologies, there is a surplus of food grains in the State. Further, the Central Government is also providing food grains at a subsidized rate through the National Food Security Act (NFSA). Keeping the interest of the State

Farmers in mind, the State Government is aiming to procure 50,000 metric tonnes of local paddy for distribution under NFSA. This is beneficial as the Central Government will save on transportation cost, and at the same time surplus food grains are procured from local farmers thereby protecting their income. This step will contribute towards ensuring food security in the State. For this, an allocation of Rs. 84 crores has been made in the budget.

FLOOD MANAGEMENT

43. Sir, Floods are a constant challenge to the State and it is important that we are well prepared to meet any eventuality. The Government of India had sanctioned the 'Flood Management and Border Area Programme' to take up flood management works in 10 (ten) river basins of the State. Works under this project have started and upon completion I am confident that we will be able to manage any flood situation more effectively. An allocation of Rs. 411 crore has been made for this project in this budget.

44. I have already mentioned about the project for rejuvenation of the Lamphelpat Water Body. This project, upon completion, will serve as a reservoir for any excess rainwater and will be able to prevent flooding in Imphal City to a large extent. In addition to this, projects for conservation of wetlands are being taken up which will aid in flood management. In total, about Rs. 700 crore has been allocated in this budget for projects which will enable the State to manage floods more effectively.

LAW AND ORDER, SECURITY, FIRE PROTECTION

45. Speaker Sir, maintaining law and order and instilling a sense of security among the public is critical for the society

and economy to thrive. With this in mind the State Government is planning to take up a massive upgradation drive of equipment available to our Police. For arms and ammunition, new vehicles, machineries, clothing etc. we have allocated Rs. 36 crore in this budget. This upgradation will be taken up in phases over the course of the next five years.

46. Ensuring a strong police presence is essential along the international border to check illegal and anti-state activities. In addition, similar police presence is necessary along the national highways to ensure smooth movement of public and goods. For this the State Government aims to construct 34 (thirty-four) police outposts in the districts along the international border and 6 (six) police outposts along Imphal-Jiribam National Highway under the Scheme for Capital Investment.

47. We are also taking up the project for providing housing facilities to our police personnel. In this budget we are allocating Rs. 12 crores to initiate works on this project.

48. Fire Service is an essential service, especially in the context of the rapid urbanization in the State. To strengthen this service, this Government aims to make functional many of the fire sub-stations which are currently not functional. For this, we are allocating an amount of Rs. 10 crore in this budget.

DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION

49. Sir, it has always been the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister to provide tap water to every household in the country. It was with this intention that the Jal Jeevan Mission was launched. Apart from the Jal Jeevan Mission, the NDB funded Manipur Water Supply Project and other projects from the Ministry of DONER and NEC will be jointly contributing to providing functional tap connection to every household in the State. Currently, 72% of the households in the State are provided with tap water supply and we are on track to achieve 100% within the target date set. For this, an amount of Rs. 1715 crores have been allocated in this budget.

50. Sanitation is another important area. To provide sewerage services within the Greater Imphal area, the Imphal Sewerage System Phase-II was proposed as an Externally Aided Project. As mentioned earlier, this project is likely to start commencing within a few months. The Swachh Bharat Mission, in its first version focused on an 'Open Defecation Free' India. Now, the Swachh Bharat Mission 2.0 is taking the concept of sanitation further. For sanitation, an amount of Rs. 445 crores has been allocated in the budget.

INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT

51. Speaker Sir, it is essential that the fruits of development reach all the areas of the State. Due to various factors, including geographical challenges, certain areas of our State still lag behind certain developmental parameters. With this in mind, this Government has set up a Special Development Fund for Border and Underdeveloped Districts in the State. For this an allocation of Rs. 21 crores have been made in this project. This fund will focus on meeting development gaps for which no specific funding is available.

52. This Government had launched the Sub-Division Development Monitoring Mission with the intent of bringing development through the smallest administrative unit, namely the sub-division. A senior officer of the State has been



designated as a 'Prabhari' for each subdivision, who will guide the government machinery at the sub-division level. Detailed surveys have been undertaken to find out the gaps in development of every subdivision. Government projects and schemes will be refined and planned to fill all these gaps at the sub-divisional level. To support this mission, an allocation of Rs. 5 crore has been made in the budget.

TOURISM

53. Sir, Tourism is the sector with the highest potential to provide employment, bring investment and also contribute to the economic growth of the State. While the tourism sector was severely affected by the COVID- 19 Pandemic, there are signs of recovery. It is important that we take full advantage of this.

54. The State Government is looking at different sources for funding of Tourism infrastructure projects. Under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) the project for 'Development of infrastructure for Shirui Heritage Village and Bakshi Ground at Ukhrul District, Manipur' has been approved with a cost of Rs. 46.54 crore. We will be starting works on this project within this year. This project will unlock the full potential of the Shirui Lily festival and can make Ukhrul a must-visit location in the tourism map.

55. The Sangai Festival is one of the most important tourism festivals of the State. Hosting the festival near the home of 'Sangai' will add flavour to this festival. For this we are planning to take up a project for development of a 'Sangai Ethnic Park' near Keibul Lamjao where all communities of the State will be represented. Preparatory works for this project have started. We are also proposing to develop a Heritage Project at Makhel and a State Cultural Centre at Behiang. These three projects will become part of the Sangai Festival Tourism circuit. We are proposing to take up these projects under the Scheme for Capital Investment.

FOREST AND ENVIRONMENT

56. Speaker Sir, the Forest and Environment sector has increased in relevance, with the increasing challenge of climate change. This Government has given its highest priority to this area. It is important that we all join hands to protect our forests. As part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, to celebrate 75 years of independence we have targeted to plant 75 lakh saplings by 15th August of this year.

57. Afforestation, watershed management, checking deforestation, community involvement etc. are some of the strategies of the State Government. The 'Community-based forest management project' is currently being implemented in a few areas of the State. We aim to expand this project with a focus on livelihood. A large and focused investment within the next few years are critical for the State and for which a project has been proposed as an Externally Aided Project. Preparatory works for this project are currently underway.

SPORTS

58. Sir, The fact that Manipur is the 'powerhouse of sports' is being recognised throughout the country. Manipur was selected to host the 'Northeast Sports Week' from 28th April to 4th May, 2022 as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations. This year's edition of the Durand Cup is being held in the State, which is a matter of great pride to the State.

59. This Government recognises the need for investments in our sports infrastructure. To improve our current sports infrastructure will require a large investment, which is a challenge. To bring large investments to develop world class sports infrastructure we are exploring the possibility of developing such infrastructure on a PPP model.

WELFARE

60. Speaker Sir, it is important for every society to care for its weakest sections. This Government has taken upon itself to support and protect those who need it most. We had taken up various measures including introducing a Chief Minister's Widow Pension Scheme, support to performing artists, support to the differently-abled etc.

61. This year we intend to start construction of a few old age homes to house our senior citizens. We will be converging management of these homes with different schemes of the Government to enable our elderly to live a life with dignity. For the construction, we are allocating an amount of Rs. 2 crores in this budget.

62. Widows, especially with children, without a place to stay are a particularly vulnerable section of our society. To provide them shelter and empower them we are proposing to develop 'Shelter and Livelihood Centres for Widows' in 4 (four) districts. These centres will provide shelter, skill development facilities and also work sheds. Support will be provided to enable them to stand up on their own and become independent.

63. Speaker Sir, I have highlighted various priorities of this Government. There are many important areas which could not be mentioned due to time constraints. This Government will ensure all round development of every section of society and every sector in the State.

SECTION III BUDGET ESTIMATE 2022-23

64. Sir, let me turn to the Budget Estimates for the year 2022-23.

65. The total receipts are estimated at Rs. 33,700 crores. The revenue receipts are estimated at Rs. 24,447 crores and capital receipts at Rs. 9,252 crores. Total estimates of State's own tax and non-tax receipts are Rs. 2,400 crores and Rs. 400 crores respectively.

66. For the year 2022-23, I am proposing a total expenditure of Rs. 34,930 crores out of the Consolidated Fund of the State. Sir, total Revenue Expenditure is estimated at Rs. 17,914 crores. Capital outlay is estimated at Rs. 9,272 crores.

67. Sir, at the end, let me sum up by highlighting the likely fiscal position during the year. Fiscal deficit is estimated at Rs. 2,748 crores. This is 6.5 % of the GSDP. During 2022-23, the total outstanding debt as a percentage of GSDP is projected at 37.92 %.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

68. Speaker Sir, we had introduced an e-budget during the Vote-on- account in March, 2022. For this, all Hon'ble Members were provided with electronic tablets to enable them to access the Budget related documents in the House. For easier access and to also make the State Budget widely available to the public, the State Government had launched a Budget Application, through which any one can access the State Budget. This application can be accessed at *ebudgetmanipur.mn.gov.in.* In addition, the budget is also uploaded on the Manipur Government Website.

69. With this, Mr. Speaker Sir, I present the Budget Estimates for 2022–23, with the hope that the same will receive the approval of this August house.



Anouba Manipur Powering Innovation

MANIPUR TOPS NITI AAYOG'S INDIA INNOVATION INDEX 2021 AMONG 'NORTHEAST AND HILL STATES' CATEGORY

India Innovation Index 2021: Overall Rankings

North East and Hill States					
States	III 2021	Rank	States	III 2021	Rank
Manipur	19.37	1	Sikkim	13.85	6
Uttarkhand	17.67	2	Mizoram	13.41	7
Meghalaya	16.00	3	Tripura	11.43	8
Arunachal Pradesh	15.46	4	Assam	11.29	9
Himachal Pradesh	14.62	5	Nagaland	11.00	10

In the 3rd edition of the India Innovation Index, Manipur Ranks No.



MANIPUR TOPS NITI AAYOG'S INDIA INNOVATION INDEX 2021

anipur has topped in the North East and Hill category of the third edition of NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2021. Manipur scored 19.37 in the said index becoming the top scorer among the 10 states in the North East and Hill States category. Uttarakhand and Meghalaya secured the second and third position scoring 17.67 and 16.00.

The India Innovation Index is a comprehensive tool for the evaluation and development of the country's innovation ecosystem prepared by NITI Aayog and the Institute for Competitiveness. It ranks the states and the union territories on their innovation performance to build healthy competition amongst them.

The index was released today by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Shri Suman Bery in the presence of Member Dr. V K Saraswat, CEO Shri Parameswaran Iyer and Senior Adviser Shri Neeraj Sinha, and Institute for Competitiveness Chairman Dr Amit Kapoor.

In the Innovation Index, Karnataka has

topped again in the 'Major States' category and Chandigarh comes out as top performer in the 'Union Territories and City States' category.

It may be mentioned that the State had bagged third position in the NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2020. Apart from this, Manipur had earlier bagged top positions in different events including Most Improved Small State at India Today State of States Conclave 2021, Chandel District of Manipur securing the top position in the NITI Aayog's list of aspirational districts programme for the month of June in 2021. In NITI Aayog score ranking for Sustainable Development Goals, the State was at 2nd position among the North East States after Sikkim.

It is also worth mentioning that Manipur is the top-performing State amongst the Hilly and North-the Eastern States in Pradhan Mantri-Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM-SVANidhi). Chief Ministergi Hakshelgi Tengbang was also recognized and awarded as the bestdesigned health insurance scheme by the Indian Express Group.

HILSA AT JIRIBAN

Wangkheimayum Bhupendra Singh



anipur is a naturally gifted small State. nestled amongst the mountains in the North-eastern corner of our vast country and blessed with a unique mix of breathtaking natural sceneries, a valley dotted with fresh water lakes, lofty hills and mountains lined with roadside brooks and waterfalls. Despite its small size, the many moats and lakes in the valley, hillocks, streams, lush green mountains, moderate climate, flora and fauna and layered history, all add up to make Manipur a unique place with huge tourism potential. Tucked some 220 kms away from the capital city of Imphal, along the Assam Border, is the humid subtropical town of Jiribam. The border town is also referred to as the western gate of Manipur, neighbouring Cachar District of Assam. During my growing up years, I had always heard fascinating stories of the land from an aunt who was married and settled there and cousins who visited her during the school holidays, but I never had the opportunity to visit the town. As such, a yearning to visit the place was always there. I was given the opportunity to visit the town on official duty around May-end this year and I took it. Despite being an official tour, the two-nights and three-days stay in Jiribam ended as a perfect getaway from the mundane work schedule of Imphal.

Jiribam is a small town with not much to do, nonetheless a beautiful town,

much different from Imphal. Owing to its proximity with Assam, we get to see some Bengali influence in their lifestyles. It was late evening of May 27, when we received official confirmation of the Hon'ble Chief Minister's May 30 visit to Silchar, in neighbouring Assam. Silchar being some 265 km from Imphal and as we were to travel by road, we made preparations to leave a day ahead of the official engagement. On May 28, we got the official sanction from the head office for our journey and as our photographer P. Romesh was on leave, Oken Sanasam was assigned in his place from the Head Office. We decided to book a lodge at Jiribam, and proceed to the venue on the day of the official engagement itself. They say "A good company in a journey makes the way seem shorter," and I fully agree. I feel companions not necessary while travelling; are nevertheless a good company makes for a good trip. Sulking and complaining companions are best left behind. Around 8:30am of May 29, our team, Sanasam Oken. photographer Asst. Videographer Ibomcha Oinam, Nameirakpam Samananda, Driver Jotin and I, began the journey in our official vehicle. We decided to take the Old Cachar Road from Bishnupur instead of National Highway 37. All along the way, amidst the allure of nature, we stopped at quite a few places just to enjoy the picturesque landscape and breathe in some fresh air - replenish, rejuvenate our senses. The weather





throughout the journey was pleasant and we absorbed the scenic beauty, and took photos at the roadside brooks and streams. The drive up the narrow winding roads of the hills and the view at every turn did stir up some sense of serenity and peace. Till Nungba, where we stopped for lunch, the road condition was good. From Nungba, the road was good at times and worst along some stretches. For lunch, we had Manipuri Fish Thali at Nungba Bazar, which was quite good. Nungba had a small bustling bazaar where women vendors sell u-morok chenggum (Mushrooms), (Kina chillis). kanglayen (Mushrooms), soibum akangba (dry bamboo shoots), etc. There were also a few hotels lined up along the road. We reached our hotel in Jiribam around 5:30pm. As we were checking in, we were making small talks of what we should have for dinner. Photographer Oken, who claimed to be quite acquainted with the place, suggested Hilsa Thali and said our hotel itself offers some good hilsa thalis. So, we all agreed to it and asked him to place the order for all five of us. Hilsa fish or Elisha as it is known here, is

famous for its soft, smooth, oily texture and flavour. Found in the freshwaters in eastern India, the Hilsa is famous for its full flavor with a smooth but oily texture. Jiribam, due to its Bengali influence, is also famous for its Hilsa curry, among other things. After roaming the streets and bazaar lanes for quite some time, we worked up an appetite and came back hoping to relish hot Hilsa thalis for dinner. At the hotel, when we inquired with the boy manning the reception desk about our dinner, we were disappointed to learn that any food in general was not prepared or provided by the hotel, but outsourced to a nearby family who made preparations according to the number of orders received from the hotel. But our disappointments were somewhat lessened as the boy smiled nervously sensing our disappointment and pointed towards the north directing us to the family. We made haste towards the direction he pointed and found a small shop with two old tables and some chairs inside. Two women were chatting inside the room. All five of us walked inside which startled the two. They stopped their



chitter-chatter and looked at us. "We are from the hotel and here to confirm reservations for our Hilsa thalis." I said. "We have started cooking," smiled the younger of the two, who seemed to be the owner. "We would also like to confirm if you cooking Hilsa or Hilsa-Manbi (a are fish variety which looks similar to hilsa but not as tasty)," I probed further to which she said she is preparing Hilsa. "We are regulars here and know Hilsa is expensive, but we would like to have it and not those varieties you pass on as Hilsa." Oken announced from behind to which the others also echoed their desire to have Hilsa and nothing else. While roaming the bazaar. we had inquired about fresh Hilsa thinking that we would take some home and found Hilsa was very costly and that there are some more similar varieties which were a lot cheaper, but not as tasty as Hilsa. I told the owner, "We will have chicken instead if you are not cooking Hilsa." the laughed, То this. older woman "From the smell of it, it doesn't feel like she is cooking Hilsa." When the owner confirmed sheepishly that she is not cooking Hilsa, we asked her to cook some chicken instead and that we will return after an hour or so. We went back to our hotel dejected. We had chicken for dinner that night, nonetheless decided to get Hilsa one way or the other during our stay. But, as luck would have it, we couldn't find any good hotel offering Hilsa during our stay. We just didn't want to take the chance and end up eating at any hotel offering only the look alike variety. The morning of May 30, as we were preparing for our return journey, we decided to get some fresh Hilsa and cook it ourselves at home. I bought 2 kgs of Hilsa, helped by a friend from Jiribam. The vendor packed it nicely and said it wouldn't spoil for atleast a day or so. We reached home around 5pm and the next day on May 31, I made Hilsa Curry, the Jiribam style. The recipe was provided by my friend who helped in buying the fish. I don't know if it was my cooking or the fish, but then it was as tasty as it could be.



CM LAUNCHES 75-DAYS FREE VACCINATION OF COVID PRECAUTIONARY DOSE

STITUTE CARE Specialty Hospital

on'ble Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh has said that the State has a low COVID vaccination rate and further called on the people of the

State who are above 18 years and eligible to take as well as encourage others to take the COVID vaccination. The vaccines are available at all Government Vaccination Centres, he said. The Hon'ble Chief minister launched the 'COVID Vaccine Amrit Mahotsava' Jan Abhiyan Free COVID Precaution Dose for 18-59 age group at the Chief Minister's Secretariat on 15th July,2022. The Vaccine Mahotsava will continue till September 30, 2022 at Government Vaccination Centres. It is being organized by the National Health Mission and Directorates of Health and Family Welfare, Manipur.

The Chief Minister said that State is witnessing some gradual increase in the number of COVID Positive cases over the past few days. However, it is unfortunate that there are many people who are reluctant to take the vaccination even when it is provided free, the Chief Minister said, highlighting that only 62 percent (14,52,293) has taken the first dose of vaccination and only 51 percent (11,98,953) has taken the second dose. We are targeting vaccination of around 23,41,000, he added.

The Chief Minister appealed to the people against taking COVID-19 lightly and said we have already lost more than 2000 precious lives during the past COVID waves despite of all efforts, and that another wave of COVID would hugely affect the State.

The Chief Minister further urged all those who are yet to take any dose of the vaccination against believing in superstition and to instead take the vaccination. Further regarding opening of schools, the Chief Minister observed that since children below 12 years of age are yet to be vaccinated, the government has decided on closure of schools for them for some time and that it could be extended if the need arises. Stated that the government welcomes all ideas and suggestions from the general public, he added that the government was able to fight the COVID pandemic earlier with support and cooperation of the general public and would still need support and cooperation of the public to fight it again.



Bishnupur

Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2021 under priority programme Promoting excellence in sports & wellness through Khelo India Scheme.

opulation of Manipur stands at 0.23% of India's population and area at 0.68% of India's total area. However, state has produced 19 Olympians so far with three medal winners- Mary Kom (Bronze Medal, London Olympics 2012), Mirabai Chanu (Silver Medal, Tokyo Olympic 2020), and Nilakanta Sharma (Bronze Medal, Tokyo Olympic 2020).

Bishnupur District, Manipur is a tiny dis-

trict with a population of 2.37 lakhs (Census 2011) (which is only 0.018 percent of India's population) and large number of sports human capital. Since ancient time Manipur is famous for its rich indigenous game and sports such as Mukna (Belt Wrestling), Yubi-lakpi (Rugby), Kangjei (Hockey), Shagol-Kangjei (Polo), Thang-Ta, Martial arts, Kang, Hiyang Tanaba (local boat race) etc. "Leikai Ama, Lampak Ama, Pukhri Ama " which means "One Locality, One Ground,





One Pond", since ancient time all the locality has its own community playground, community pond for drinking water and sanitation. Till today, we can see this scenario in all the locality/village. People celebrate "Cheiraoba- Manipuri New Year" by hiking/trekking/ climbing the tallest hillock in the area. During summer every year people celebrate "Kalen Lai Haraoba- Summer Festival" at various parts of the district/state and on the last day "lamjen-mukna: marathon-wrestling" is held as a part of the closing ceremony. During the Yaoshang (Holi) Festival every year, Yaoshang-Sports is organized at every locality to make more healthy society. Since, the ancient times, Manipur society is health conscious and sports are part & parcel of its culture and festival.

Apart from that, in the famous historical/folklore of Moirang (a sub-division of Bishnupur District) namely "Khamba-Thoibi", many games and sports competitions were held such as Mukna-Lamjel (Belt Wrestling-Marathon), Kangjei (Hockey), Kei-Phaba (Catching-Tiger), Kao-Phaba (Bull-Fight), Yubi-lakpi (Rugby play using coconut), etc.

Loktak Lake- the largest fresh water lake in the entire north-east India is situated in Bishnupur District, Manipur. The lake is not only a major tourist attraction of the state but is also the bedrock of the sporting culture of the district and the state. The people who live in and around the lake are naturally endowed with excellent rowing abilities. In fact, a Khelo India Centre for rowing discipline is being established at Takmu Lake adjoining to Loktak Lake. The lake is also major source of proteins in the form of fish and iron from the various aquatic plants growing in the lake, for athletes.

The main objective is to make Bishnupur



District, Manipur "Power house of Sports", to create more sports human capital and more Olympic medals for the nation. Promote Indigenous Games & Sports is also one of the main component for the Khelo India scheme: Mukna, Yubi-Lakpi, Thang-Ta, Kangjei, Shagol-Kangjei, Huyen-Lalong, Hiyang-Tanaba, etc. Fit India Campaign at Schools in the district and for various age groups.

CHALLENGES FACED BY THE PLAYERS IN BISHNUPUR DISTRICT, MANIPUR:

- a. Poverty: Players/sport person cannot afford the costly equipment and travel expenses,
- b. Low Literacy: After a certain level of achievement, literacy / education becomes very important especially in sport disciplines where foreign coaches are hired for training.

- c. Lack of equipment/sports infrastructure / state of the art infrastructure: The district has adequate grassroot infrastructure. However, state of the art infrastructure are lacking. Only one boxing ring and almost no indoor halls/ stadium.
- d. Lack of sport scientist, nutritionist, and dietitians: Impacting the overall health and performance of the athletes in the long term.
- e. Lack of International coach,
- f. Lack of knowledge about sports related government schemes by the sport persons: Many of the athletes are not aware of the various scheme of the Government.
- g. Connectivity and transportation problems: Because of poor connectivity



and transportation problems, athletes find it difficult to travel to and from their homes to the training centres.

Since 2017, the District Administration Bishnupur is putting several efforts to build a sports human capital in the district by convergence of several different departments/ programmes such as Khelo India, MLA Local Area Development Programme (MLALADP), MGNREGS, NYKS, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Military Civic Action Programmes, CSR etc. Under Khelo India, infrastructure development in the disciplines of football, swimming and water sports have been taken up. Sports equipments have been provided to the grass-root sports associations in various disciplines such as football, volleyball, hockey, kick boxing, gymnastics, boxing, belt wrestling, wrestling, thang-ta, softball/ baseball, water sports etc under the Khelo India Scheme in addition to the scholarships being provided to individual athletes. Schemes such as MLALADP, MGNREGS have been aligned to the requirements of the sportspersons in the district for development of infrastructures such as flood lit playgrounds etc. In fact, one playground has been constructed in each of the 6(six) Assembly Constituencies by utilizing MLALADP funds.Further, TYDA Club football ground, which is the lone one star rated ground by All India Football Federation in the district has been constructed with MGN-REGS funding. The deficiency of Sports nutritionist in the district has been filled up by utilizing the services of one Nutritionist of KVK, Utlou on voluntary basis. Military Civic Action Programmes, CSR funding from NHPC have also been used for procurement of sports equipments and improvement of infrastructures. NYKS have also distributed sport materials to local youths for their training at grass root level and also spread awareness regarding sports. This multipronged intervention at the grassroot level

and Convergence of various programmes/ schemes have been the Unique Selling Point of the district and as a result of which at present the district has more than 2000 national players, 60 sports infrastructures/ playfield/water sports complex excluding locality playground and more than 25 sports discipline. With huge number of players and limited number of sports equipment and infrastructures, the sportspersons of the district have been playing with the spirit of "Desh Ke Liye Medal Jeet na Hai to Jeet Na hi hai..." in any condition, whether they get proper equipment and nutrition or not. Their strong and unbreakable spirit makes the district "The Power House of Sports" and achieves number of medals.

IMPACT OF GAME AND SPORTS TO BISHNUPUR DISTRICT, MANIPUR:

- (a) The impacts are provision of highest percentage of government jobs to the people in Bishnupur District, Manipur such as SSB, CRPF, SAI, Railways, Indian Police, etc; Sports as a livelihood for the people in the district; Solution to the problems of unemployed youths.
- Solved the insurgency problem by (b) providing livelihood and employments to the youths: Manipur was severely affected with insurgency during 1990s and most of 2000s. Bishnupur District was one of the hotbeds for the insurgency movement. The Karang Island in the Loktak Lake and the remote villages of the district were used by the insurgents as their operating bases. With the gradual decline in insurgency in the last decade 2010-2020, sports have provided an opportunity to the youths to become self-reliant and economically sound.
- (c) Solved the problems of drug abuse and intoxicant in the society: Manipur is closely located to the Golden Triangle

and the district lies directly in the route for the movement of contraband substances from Myanmar and beyond to mainland India. The youth are directly exposed to abuse of various narcotics and psychotropic drugs. Sports along with the Nasha Mukta Bharat Abhiyan have provided an opportunity to the youths to move away from drugs.

- (d) Socio Economic Impact: Sports give a big impact to the socio economy of the district, such as 11 Indian Super League players from the district are expected to bring more than Rs. 10 crore per year as their seasonal fee.
- (e) Now the district boasts of 2000 active national players, 60 sports infrastructures and more than 25 sports disciplines.
- (f) Players of Water Sports Complex won 222 medals during 2019 including national and international.
- (g) School registered under Fit India: 89.19 % of schools in the district are registered under Fit India (99 schools out of 111 schools).
- (h) The initiative taken up by the District Administration Bishnupur is awarded with the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2021 under priority programme Promoting excellence in sports & wellness through Khelo India Scheme.
- District Sports Development fund by the District Administration Bishnupur: The Purpose of creation of the Fund is to impart momentum and flexibility to assisting the cause of sports. The fund will help sportspersons excel by providing them gap filling fund for travelling for participation in national / international competitions of Olympic sports discipline. The sportsperson

should belong to BPL family or are orphans. The fund will also provide financial assistance for prize money of District/block level competitions upto a maximum of Rs. 50,000/-. Role of the fund is supplementary to the various support/funding given by the state and central government.

Also, the main objective is to offer financial support and encouragement to the sports star in the district. This tiny token of encouragement will push the athletes/sportspersons towards better performance in the future.



WAY FORWARD:

- (a) 100% Registration of schools in the district under Fit India,
- (b) Produce more national, international players, Olympians from the district, Physically Challenged Players.
- (c) More Sports for Transgenders & PWDs
- (d) To make Bishnupur District Power House of Sports.
- (e) More Training Programmes at Grass root level for different sports disciplines.
- (f) Priority projects have been identified for submission of proposal under Khelo India Scheme.

MEEYAMGI NUMIT 2.0



fter two years gap and with the approval of the cabinet, Meeyamgi Numit and Hill Leaders' Day for the first time are being launched in the districts to bring government services at the doorsteps of the general public.

Hill Leaders' Day and the Meeyamgi Numit"was launched under the initiative of Chief Minister N Biren Singh in 2017 and it aims to bridge the hill valley divides and provide inclusive development, and also to address the problems faced by the people and extend maximum support to the needy people of the state.

Numit" "Meeyamgi (People's Day) celebrated on 15th of every month as a forum for the general public to address grievances and submit their their suggestions. The objective is to make the government, citizen-centric, proactive and programme implementation effective. A software and SMS service to track and inform citizens of the action taken on their grievances has also been launched and a dedicated Grievance Redressal Cell also set up to provide better facilitation and improved coordination for prompt disposal of citizen's grievances.

The government is deeply committed to ensuring all round harmonious development of the State, with focus on reducing the developmental and emotional gap between hill and valley. "Hill Leader's Day" is one such initiative, which serves as a forum to interact with Tribal Chiefs and Leaders of Hill based Civil Society Organisations, to address their grievances, highlight issues and promote closer ties between the Hill and Valley with the intent to deliver equitable development.

District Administration Thoubal organised "Meeyamgi Numit "(People's Day) at the Counting Hall of Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex on 15th July,2022.

Deputy Commissioner, Thoubal, Shri A. Subhash Singh, IAS, heard the grievances of the people and instructed the concern Department officials for necessary action. He said that altogether twenty-five stalls of different departments were opened to meet the demand of public including Fishery, MSPDCL, Thoubal Police. ICDS. Veterinary Department, Chief Medical Officer, Food Safety Administration among others.

Around 117 written applications were received on the day with grievances related to CMHT card, Old Age Pension/ Widow Pension and Agriculture related issues during the programme which began from 9:30 am onwards.

Many people coming in from different parts of the district attended "Meeyamgi Numit" and placed their grievances in writing before the District Administration.

A young boy called Vikas from Wangbal spoke to the official of the office of District Information Officer, Thoubal and said that he came to "Meeyamgi Numit



" to make old age pension scheme cards for his paternal grandparents who are nearing the age of 80 years and are too weak to come themselves. Expressed happiness at the prompt action taken up by the District Administration, he was optimistic that the concern department will help him in getting the pension cards at an early date. H. Jugindro, a resident of Leisangthem Keli Makhong said he had come to get his CMHT/PMJAY card. He said that his meeting with the Deputy Commissioner has been fruitful as under his supervision the matter was initiated immediately. He left the venue hopeful that he will get the card as soon as possible. Smt. Sorodhoni a resident of Langmeithet said that she came to enquire about housing schemes provided by the government as her name was included in the approved list of beneficiaries. She said she has put forward her grievances to the concerned department and said that they will take up the necessary steps towards achieving her dream of owning a comfortable house. A boy called Thoiba who had come to take birth certificate said he was very happy that his problem was solved without spending much time. He said such platform provides excellent service to the people as grievances are taken up immediately for necessary action.

Superintendent of Police, Thoubal, Shri Jogeshchandra Haobijam, IPS, CMO Thoubal, Dr Y Nokul, Addl District Magistrate Shri Lokeshor Brahmacharimayum, all Sub-Divisional Officers, and other District level Officers of different departments attended the programme to address the grievances of the general public.

Amid spike in Covid cases in the State, the District Administration Thoubal followed Covid protocol by making sure that everyone was wearing mask, maintaining adequate distance and use of hand sanitizers. Drinking water facility was also provided keeping in



view of the scorching heat along with tea and snacks and seperate toilet facilities for ladies and gents were also provided.

It is worth to mention that "Meeyamgi Numit" is a service platform to address the grievances of people initiated by Chief Minister on May 15th, 2017. Meeyamgi Numit will be held on every 3rd Friday of every month and if 3rd Friday happens to be a general holiday, then it will be held on previous working day.

The first ever District Hill Leaders' Day and the Meeyamgi Numit for Chandel District was launched by the Deputy Commissioner, Chandel, Shri Rajkumar Mayangalambam at the Multipurpose Hall, Mini Secretariat complex, Chandel on 15th July,2022.

As part of the programme the Deputy Commissioner interacted with the village leaders and discussed their issues one by one. More than twenty-two applications of various issues related to developmental works and others were received for further necessary actions. As part of the program different departments like Health, Social Welfare, Agriculture etc rendered services to many individuals of the district. Besides providing other services around 50 people, were administered Covid-vaccines by the CMO team. Department of Tribal Affairs and Hills also distributed planting materials to the beneficiaries. The program was attended by, ADC, Chandel, Md. Firoj Khan, SDOs, DLOs and other officials of the district.

Shri Mahesh Chaudhari, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Senapati launched the Hill Leaders Day and Meeyamgi Numit on 15th July,2022, at Multipurpose Hall, Mini Secretariat, Senapati.

The programme of Hill Leaders Day and Meeyamgi Numit organised by District Administration, Senapati along with other district of the State is among the 100 Action Plan for 100 days of the state government.

The Deputy Commissioner, Senapati said the programme was launched successfully in the district under the guidance of Manipur Chief Minister. He also said that it was the idea of CM to reach out the services to the people of Manipur at the doorstep. Being the first day in the district he said that various grievances compliant application relating to road application, social sector schemes like old age pension and others were able to address to the people even from remotest area of the district. He also mentioned 1 Handloom card has been handed over. He also applauded the District Level Officer's for their co-operation in opening their respective stalls.

It may be mentioned that Senapati Hill Leaders Day and Meeyamgi Numit will be observed every 3rd Friday of the month. If 3rd Friday happens to be general holiday, the programme will be held on 3rd Thursday of the month. A special dedicated Meeyamgi Numit cell has also been constituted where anyone can share his/ her grievance at the given whatsapp cell no. 9863554329 and email ID- senapatiMeeyamgiNumit@ gmail.com for smooth functioning, better facilitation and co-ordination.

The programme was attended by SDO's, DLO's, various public leaders, village



chairmen and secretaries.

District Administration, Bishnupur also organised the widely acclaimed peoples' day popularly known as Meeyamgi Numit at Panchayat Resource Centre Hall, Mini Secretariat Complex in Bishnupur district on 15th July,2022. As many as 100 persons turned up in the Meeyamgi Numit with necessary documents to appraise district authorities on their concerns and requirements.

Deputy Commissioner Shri Lourembam Bikram and concerned DLOs personally attended and addressed the grievances of the public on the spot itself wherever possible.

The Deputy Commissioner encouraged the people to freely express their concerns during the Meeyamgi Numit. Informing that Meeyamgi Numit will be held on the 3rd Friday of every month, he urged the people to take this opportunity to highlight their concerns and get their rightful benefits of the Government Schemes. He reiterated that Single Use Plastics (SUP) ban will be strictly enforced in the district from August onwards once the month-long awareness phase campaign concludes by this month.

While the much-touted schemes like CMHT, Old Age Pension Scheme, Differently-abled benefits featured prominently among the matters brought up today at the district level Meeyamgi Numit, various other concerns like land conversions and settlements,





Farmers Card, Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana, MGNREGS were also addressed in the event.

Meanwhile, top performers for ePOS device usage among Fair Price Shop agents in the district under District Supply Office, CAF & PD, Bishnupur were also felicitated today in appreciation of their contribution in scaling up device usage in the district.

Mention may be made that for smooth functioning, better facilitation and coordination a dedicated "Meeyamgi Numit" Cell had been constituted with Shri H. Bobby Sharma, MCS Additional DC as Coordinator and Shri Ejaj Hassan, MCS, AC to DC, as Assistant Coordinator. A dedicated email ID "miyamginumit.bpr@gmail.com" has been opened where one can send their grievances or through WhatsApp number 9612122811.

District Administration, Kamjong organized the District Hill Leaders' Day &Meeyamgi Numit at the Town Hall of Kamjong district headquarters on 22nd July, 2022. In the event that witnessed hundreds of publics in attendance, a total of 29 Departments opened their district level offices to cater to the various demands and grievances of the public. Covid protocols were strictly observed in the event today.

Deputy Commissioner, Kamjong, Shri Rangnamei Rang Peter; Kamjong SP Shri P Manjit and CEO of the district graced the dais in the simple formal function held briefly as a part of the event.

Shri Rangnamei Rang Peter, stressed the importance of such an event, especially in a remote district like Kamjong, where public face inconveniences to reap benefits arranged by the government. As all the departments working in the district come under one roof on this day to receive the grievances and to deliver services to the public, everyone should take maximum utilization of such an opportune event, he added. He thanked the state government led by Shri N Biren for organizing such a program continuously.

The DC further appealed all to attend such special days without fail, and added that the next events of Meeyamgi Numit will be held in the rest of the sub-divisions of Kamjong on a rotation basis.

Many written applications were received the day with grievances related to CMHT, Social Welfare-related schemes and Agriculture related issues during the program which began from 10 am.

An old woman Thangmila, aged 70 of Bungpa Khullen, spoke to official of the office of District Information Officer, Kamjong that she came to Meeyamgi Numit to enquire about the possible welfare schemes available for her pregnant daughter-in-law and also to avail Old-Age Pension scheme for herself. She expressed gratitude to the District Administration for organizing such a program and also expressed her wish to hold such programs regularly and frequently.

AS Kathing, aged 60, of Rushaah village under Sahampung sub-division visited the health stall put up by the CMO. Spoke to the official of the office of District Information Officer, Kamjong and he suggested that this program should be held block-wise throughout the district for better participation



from public belonging to nook and corner of the district. Sharing his experience of the day, he said that he benefited highly from his visit today.

With the recent escalation of the number of positive cases of Covid in Manipur, the District Administration Kamjong followed Covid protocols strictly by making sure that everyone wore masks, maintained safe distance and used sanitisers. Drinking water facility was also provided and separate toilet facilities for ladies and gents were also kept.

It may be mentioned that Meeyamgi Numit is a service platform to address the grievances of people initiated by the Chief Minister on May 15, 2017. It will be held every 4th Friday for Kamjong district, and if the 4th Friday happens to be a general holiday, then it will be held on the previous working day.

The District Hill Leaders' Day and Meeyamgi Numit was organised with 32line departments at Sadbhavna Mandap, Kangpokpi HQ on 22nd July,2022, abiding COVID protocols. Altogether 461 services were delivered and 31 application/grievances were received during the programme which began from 9 am onwards.

Deputy Commissioner Kangpokpi, Smt. Kengoo Zuringla, IAS, interacted with the public and heard their grievances. She instructed all the concerned District Level Officers to guide the people to sort their issues at the earliest. Revenue Department on the day gave 139 certificates; Forest Department distributed 1190 saplings to 93 beneficiaries and Agriculture Department distributed 65 bags of fertiliser and 19 knapsack sprayers.

The Deputy Commissioner also took COVID vaccine and encouraged the people of the district to come forward in the fight against the COVID-19 in the district. Medical team led by Chief Medical Officer provided 59 services including 52 COVID vaccinations, 6 NCD screening and 1 CMHA Health ID Generation and Horticulture and Soil Conservation Department proposed to supply planting materials to 10 applicants.

Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department received application for 13 pig management and dog vaccination along with KCC loan, 1 dog was vaccinated; 54 (IGNOAPS & MOAP) was provided by Social Welfare Department; CMHT & Ayushman Bharat - PMJAY provided 7 CMHT and 9 PMJAY totalling 16 health cards; Fishery received application Department for construction of 15 ponds & fish farm and Sericulture Department interacted and gave awareness to two beneficiaries.

Minor Irrigation Department gave awareness on schemes of the department to 3 farmers; Police Department notified the chiefs of the district regarding awareness on menace of illicit poppy cultivation and PWD received 3 applications for construction of approach road and road improvement.

ADM, Shri Laishram Manikanta Singh, who is also the District Coordinator for the District Hill Leaders' Day and Meeyamgi Numit ensured on the smooth conduct of the event. SDOs and their teams including the staffs and officials of the Deputy Commissioner's Office also gave maximum awareness to the people. Drinking water facility was also provided to the people.



The 1st District Level Hill Leaders Day & Meeyamgi Numit organised by District Administration Noney was held at Multipurpose Hall, Longmai Part-3, Noney District Headquarter on 22nd July,2022.

The programme was launched by Shri S. Khapudang, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Noney in presence of M.S. Gopaldas, SP, Noney and other District Level Officers.

Altogether,14 stalls were opened by 11-line Departments. The programme will be held in every 4th Friday of each month.

As a part of the programme Aide and Appliances such as Wheel Chair, Rotator and MSEID Kits were distributed to the Children With Special Need (CWSN) by the Zonal Education Office ,Noney in presence of Badan Thaimei, ZEO, Noney.

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Noney Shri Stiff Khapudang said that the main objective to hold this programme was to ensure participation of the people in governance. This is the policy of the Manipur Government under the able leadership of CM N.Biren Singh to reach out to the people of respective district for addressing grievances and handing out other benefits. And it is also a policy to ensure transparency in governance as well as in carrying out government policies.

The programme was participated by the general public and CSO leaders and village Authority leaders.

District Administration, Kakching organized Meeyamgi Numit (People's Day) for Kakching District on 4th July, 2022 at the Deputy Commissioner Office Complex, Kakching.

The programme was inaugurated by Adhyakshya, Kakching Zila Parishad Shri

Phuritsabam Jiten Singh. Speaking to media persons, the Adhyakshya said that Meeyamgi Numit has been organized under the instruction of Hon'ble Chief Minister. Additional Deputy Commissioner, Kakching Shri A. Adahrii Maheo informed that Meeyamgi Numit for Kakching district will be organized on the first Monday of every month at DC office complex.

Altogether, 30 departments opened their stalls for delivering public services and addressing public grievances. Few among the services provided/grievance redressed on that Meeyamgi Numit includes, 19 nos of Birth Certificate registration were done by Kakching Municipal Council. District Supply Officer (CAF & PD), Kakching issued 150 ration card and also corrected 30 cards. Water Resources Department, Kakching have received proposal for improvement of river bund along Sekmai river in between Kakching Bridge and Sekmai Bridge. Proposal for providing flood fighting materials on demand and proposal for periodical inspection of sites along rivers has been put forward.

SDO, Kakching have issued 17 nos. of Income certificate and 2 nos of Residential certificate. SDO, Waikhong have issued 4 nos of Income certificate, 8 nos of Birth certificate and 3 nos of Death certificate. Under CMHT and AB-PMJAY, 10 cards and 120 forms were issued. Under Rural Engineering Department, 20 persons enquired for work (PMGSY work). District Thoubal/Kakching Aaricultural Office. distributed micro-nutrient fertilizer to 200 farmers. 20 people approach ITI Kakching for counselling for skill development. Public Works Department have received complaint about Sekmaijin Bridge approach road. Free seedling was distributed to 219 people and 7 persons have enquired about forest matters.

TOWARDS A NEW TOURISM POLICY OF MANIPUR FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Mohendro Nandeibam

et us begin with a fact that development cannot be created. It evolves. It has difficult stages. It passes through a process of calculated engagements. The trajectory needs to be carefully reassessed and critically reviewed and taken care of with renewed synergy, -- possibly with a New Vision. We can step up the momentum of the process but cannot bypass. In fact, there is no short cut to development. Hence prioritisation is highly critical. Wrong prioritisation upsets the prospects of commendable fulfilment of the proposed targets and ultimately invites the sad situation of policy-paralysis and gross mis-allocation of scarce resources. Classified documentation of every sector is therefore the basis of any meaningful intervention.

It could be interesting and decidedly relevant to recapitulate the general framework of development when the small open economy of Manipur is getting weighed down. Planning and implementation need a new approach in the light of changing scenario. Any economy preparing for a new turning should act with a system; -- with a set of interrelated activities working together to serve a common goal. The meaningful participation of all stakeholders cannot be ignored.

Tourism Sector

Manipur is all set to energise its small economy with a new strategy based on FEASIBLE MASTER PLAN OF TOURISM & TRAVEL, strengthened by Industry, stabilised by Agriculture, vitalised by Culture & Sports and beautified by Ecology.

It is good that in 1987 tourism has been given "industry-status". Manipur has 73 tourist spots. Arrival of tourists is encouraging from 1,45,647 tourists in 2013-14 to 1,79,436 in 2019-20.Foreign tourists increased from 2,588 in 2013-14 to 12,102 in 2019-20.



Although tourism is "most fractured industry" demanding various components of different sub-sectors, the distinct advantages are minimum fixed capital and less gestation period. The highly labour intensive character of this industry may go a long way in addressing the rising concern of jobless growth being experienced in Manipur. Meticulously planned and implemented with care, it may become sunrise-industry and smokeless asset of the state.

The human factor is extremely important. We know how to speak, but less how to talk. Hospitality with enthusiasm should be the guiding article of engagement. In due course, we may acquire better professional discipline and become innovative.

Manipur has implemented 23 Destination Development Projects and 15 Tourist Circuit Projects sanctioned till 2013-14.We have to ensure that they are economically viable, ecologically sensitive and culturally appropriate. When the tourism is not sustainable livelihood, people will say goodbye. We have to follow commercial approach. It requires a clear picture of design, funding, governance and time frame. It definitely requires a professional touch. Availability of opportunity is one and utilisation of opportunity is entirely a different thing.

Tourism Multiplier

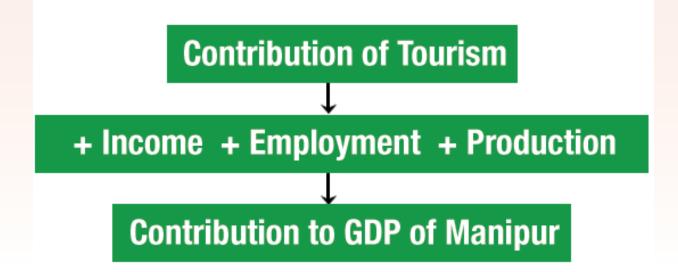
Of a number of festivals such as Kut Festival, Lui-Ngai-Ni, Pineapple Festival, Orange Festival, Lemon Festival, Loktak Day, Lily Week etc., the Sangai Festival is longest event of extensive attraction. To make the Event more meaningful and lasting, there is need for calculating Tourism Multiplier. Employment of one person in tourism creates jobs of 2.36 persons in other sector in India. Tourism contributes 7% of Gross Domestic Product in Himachal Pradesh. There are 2,604 hotels having about 70,869 of bed facility and 787 home stay units in the state.

One should have thorough knowledge of expenditure pattern of tourist to calculate the Tourism Multiplier. A tourist normally spends 30% on accommodation, 25% on food & drink, 25% on purchase, 10% on recreation and entertainment, 5% on internal transportation and another 5% as sundry expenditure (Peter Michael, 1969).

Tourism is all about organising institutions and services for tourists. We may experience a problem of adjustment between 'hostculture' and 'visitor's-culture'. Any Master Plan of tourism industry should be prepared with necessary thrust and priority accordingly. Organised community response with commitment rooted in domestic institutions could be a necessary input. "Meet the tourists as stranger and let them go back as your friend". A satisfied tourist is the best ambassador of tourism industry.

Modern tourism is guided by the three principles of 'see', 'feel'and 'admire'. What are the things in the state seen by the tourists? What do they feel about them? Which are those exceptional things admired by the tourists? Any tourism policy of Manipur is expected to answer these three questions so that tourism is planned with proper prioritisation and made instrument for economic development. The policy should have the major objective of sustainable tourism for economic development.

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DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK OF MANIPUR



THE RECOMMENDATION ON 47th GST COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN CHANDIGARH ON 29th AND 30th JUNE, 2022



entral Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) has issued number of notifications on 05.07.2022 to give effect to some of the recommendations of the 47th GST Council Meeting held in Chandigarh on 29th & 30th June, 2022. The following are the gist of the 47th GST Council meeting:

-Notification No. 10/202Central Tax has been issued to notify that the registered person whose aggregate turnover in the financial year 2021-22 is up to two crore rupees is exempted from filing annual return in FORM GSTR-9 for the said financial year.

- Notification No. 11 /2022Central Tax has been issued to extend the due date or furnishing FORM CMP-08 for Q1 of F.Y 2022-23 from 18th July, 2022 to 31st July, 2022.

-Notification No. 12/2022 Central Tax has been issued to waive the late fees for furnishing FORM GSTR-4 for the F.Y 2021-22 till 28th July, 2022.

-Notification No. 13/2022 Central Tax has been issued retrospectively W.e.f 1st March, 2020 to extend certain timelines invoking Sec 168A of the CGST Act. Ads by Time limit to issue order u/s 73 for F.Y 2017-18 has been extended to 30th Sep, 2023. Period from 1st March, 2020 tO 28th Feb, 2022 shall be excluded for computation of period of limitation under sub-section (10) of section 73 of the said Act for issuance of order under sub-section (9) of section 73 of the said Act, for recovery of erroneous refund. Period from 1st March, 2020 to 28th Feb, 2022 shall be excluded for computation of period of limitation for filing refund application under section 54 or section 55 of the said Act.-

Notification No. 14/2022 - Central Tax has been issued to notify the Central Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) Rules, 2022. The key changes to come into effect are as follows:

Rule 21A has been amended to provide that where the registration has been suspended under sub-rule (2A) for contravention of the provisions contained in clause (b) or clause (c) of sub-section (2) of section 29 and the registration has not already been cancelled by the proper officer under rule 22, the suspension of registration shall be deemed to be revoked upon furnishing of all the pending returns.

Explanation 1 to Rule 43 has been amended to provide that value of supply of Duty Credit Scrips shall not be included for the purpose of reversal of common credits.

Rule 46 has been amended to include a declaration in the tax invoice by those taxpayers who are excluded from the purview of e-invoicing.

Sub-rule (4B) has been inserted in Rule 86 to provide for FORM PMT-03A for recrediting the amount of erroneous refund



paid back by the taxpayers. The format of the said form has also been notified.

Rule 87 has been amended to include the options of UPI and IMPS as an accepted mode of payment of GST.

Sub-rule (14) has been inserted in Rule 87 to provide for transfer of any amount of tax, interest, penalty, fee or any other amount available in the electronic cash ledger under the

Act to the electronic cash ledger for central tax or integrated tax of a distinct person as specified in sub-section (4) or, as the case may be, sub-section (5) of section 25, in FORM GST PMT-09.

Rule 88B has been inserted retrospectively w.e.f 1st July, 2017 to provide for the manner of calculation of interest as per Sec 50.

Rule 89(1) has been amended to provide that "specified officer" means a "specified officer" or an "authorised officer" as defined under rule 2 of the Special Economic Zone Rules, 2006/

Rule 89(2) has been amended to provide for documentary evidences in cases of refund on account of export of electricity. Explanation has been added in Rule 89(4) to provide that the value of goods exported out of India shall be the FOB value as per shipping bill, or the value declared in tax invoice/Bill of supply, whichever is less.

Rule 89(5) has been amended to provide for a revised formula in cases of refund in inverted duty structure. The said amendment is on the lines of observation made by SC in the case of VKC Footsteps.

Rule 95A relating to Refund of taxes to the retail outlets established in departure area of an International Airport beyond immigration counters making tax free supply to an outgoing international tourist has been omitted w.e.f 1st July, 2019.

Rule 96 has been amended retrospectively w.e.f 1st July, 2017 to provide for refund withheld in cases of risky exporters. Such refund claims shall be transmitted online to the proper officer in FORM GST RFD-01 and shall be processed by the relevant P.O FORM GSTR- 3B has been amended to provide for the following changes:

Details of supplies on which tax is paid by E-Commerce Operator u/s 9(5) of the CGST Act are to be shown separately.

Reversal as per Rules 38,42 & 43 and Sec 17(5) to be shown separately.

"Other details" table now to include "ITC reclaimed which was reversed under Table 4(B)(2) in earlier tax period" and "Ineligible ITC under section 16(4) and ITC restricted due to PoS provisions"

FORM GSTR-9 and GSTR-9C have been notified for the F.Y 2021-22 with following changes:

The registered person shall report non-GST supply (5F) separately and shall have an option to either separately report his supplies as exempted and nil rated supply or report consolidated information for these two heads in the "exempted" row only. It shall be mandatory to report in Table 17, HSN code at six digits level for taxpayers having annual turnover in the preceding year above ^00 Cr and at four digits level for all B2B supplies for taxpayers having annual turnover in the preceding year up to ^ 5.00 Cr. FORM GST PMT-06, PMT-07, PMT-09, & RFD-01 have been changed to incorporate the above-mentioned changes.



CHIEF MINISTER'S ROUND UP JULY, 2022



ith a roadmap for rapid and sustainable growth in the next 25 years, Chief Minister Shri N. unveiled Biren Sinah the Manipur Vision 2047 on 29th June, 2022. The Manipur Vision 2047 shall primarily serve as a guide for Government Departments and development partners as they plan specific development initiatives for the state. The Chief Minister believed that the vision document would lead the present generation in making a better Manipur for the future generation. The vision included details on attaining selfsustainability through Atmanirbhar Bharat, employment generation and development of agriculture sector and other sectors among others. On the same day, Shri N. Biren Singh also launched CM Dashboard, Website of the Vigilance & Anti-Corruption Department and Online Vigilance Certificate Portal. The CM Dashboard will show the details of real time view of progress of schemes and will also help the State in guick and more effective decision making. It will also improve transparency and allow citizens to know the progress of schemes and other developmental works. The Online Vigilance Certificate Portal will streamline the process of issue of Vigilance Certificate which will result in cost, time and manpower saving in the Government. Further, anybody can also track his or her application online. The portal would help remove corruption, increase transparency and improve service delivery by leveraging information technology.

In one of the worst incidents happened in the State, a massive landslide occurred on the intervening night of 29th June and 30th June, 2022 at Marangching in Noney district. The Government of Manipur, NDRF, Army personnel, SDRF, villagers and others have conducted search and rescue operation for more than 20 days. On 20th July, 2022, the search and rescue operation were officially closed with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between North-East Frontier Railways, District Nonev Administration and Makhuam Village Authority in presence of Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh, Relief and Disaster Management Minister Shri Awangbow Newmai and Chairman, Hill Area Committee Shri Diganglung Gangmei at the Chief Minister's Secretariat. A total of 79 persons were affected in the landslide out of which 18 injured persons were rescued alive and evacuated to hospitals and the official number of deceased persons is 61. Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh announced ex-gratia of Rs. 5 lakh each to the Next of Kin of the deceased and Rs. 50,000 for the injured persons.

The MoU signed included that until a permanent employment could be provided to the next of kin, the Railways would ensure providing contractual employment in one of its construction agencies near the site, the Railways with Noney/Kangpokpi District Administration and the village authority shall jointly survey and assess the extent of the damage done and submit the same to railways for compensation. The other points of MoU included the Railways to hold extensive discussion with IIT Guwahati, Manipur University and other like-minded institutions to have a detailed investigation for working out how the hill slopes adjacent to Railways boundaries in the Jiribam-Imphal project can better be monitored, so that early warning can be given for any future untoward event. Environment Impact assessment (EIA) and Social Impact Assessment (SIA) shall be

revisited in the light of this landslide.

In yet another milestone achievement of the BJP led government, the School Fagathansi Mission, a brainchild of Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh led Government to give thrust towards improvement of Government Schools, has started bearing fruits as Government Schools recorded a high pass percentage of 60.40 percent in the recently declared High School Leaving Certificate (HSLC) Examination 2022 result. The pass percentage of Government Schools in HSLC Examinations conducted by the Board of Secondary Education Manipur hadn't crossed 55 percent in the last ten years.

Mentioned may be made that a total of 8306 students from Government Schools appeared for the HSLC Examination 2022, out of which 5022 students cleared the examination. It is worth mentioning that 43 Government Schools had shown an appreciable outcome in the said examination with 100 percent pass percentage. What is more inspiring is that all specially-abled students of Government Ideal Blind School and Government Deaf and Mute School, Takyel who had appeared for the HSLC examination this year had cleared the same. The objective of Shri N. Biren Singh led Government in its School Fagathansi Mission is to provide quality education to all sections of the people by improving the physical and manpower infrastructure of the Government Schools.

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh congratulated all the students who had cleared the HSLC Examination 2022, especially students who had appeared the examination from Government Schools. He also appreciated the teaching and nonteaching staff of Government Schools for their dedicated efforts to provide better education to the students and help them score better marks in examinations. The Chief Minister also informed that headmasters and teachers of Government Schools which had secured high pass percentage in the recent HSLC Examinations will be rewarded on 13th August this year.

To promote and revive the sports culture at the grassroots in the State, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh handed over cheques amounting to Rs. 5 Lakh each to District Youth Affairs and Sports Officers of 16 districts of the State to start the functioning of the District Level Khelo India Centre. In a solemn function held at Chief Minster's Secretariat on 14th July, 2022, Shri N. Biren Singh maintained that the Ministry of Sports, Government of India had taken up initiative to establish 1000 Khelo India Centres across the Country under the Khelo India Programme of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He continued that Archery, Athletics, Boxing, Badminton, Cycling. Fencing, Hockey, Judo, Rowing, Shooting, Swimming, Table Tennis, Weightlifting, Wrestling, Football and Traditional sports had been included as identified sports disciplines under the Khelo India Centre. As such, Sports Authority of India, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India had approved the opening of District Level Khelo India Centre for different sports disciplines at 16 Districts of Manipur. A total amount of Rs. 1,12,00,000 (Rupees one crore twelve lakh) had been sanctioned on 31st May, 2021 for 16 districts of Manipur for preparation/ upgradation of sports field, purchase of equipment, sports kit and remuneration for engagement of Mentor and supporting staff. Under the Khelo India, Khelo India State Centre of Excellence in 3 sports disciplines including Archery, Hockey and Weightlifting at KhumanLampak Sports Complex, Imphal would also start very soon as per the guidance of the Sports Ministry.

OUR TRIP THROUGH FEAR, REALITY & HOPE

Banabanta Ngangom

The good governance of the present Manipur Government, the good relationship between the police and the people has perhaps made it all possible.



lesson my father once taught me and I learned for life is that the acronym of FEAR is "False Evidence Appearing Real." Fear of the known things or fear of the unknown are nothing but fear of the memory and our vivid imaginations. Yes, we humans have a fantastic memory and a vivid sense of imagination which make us fear and suffer. But to overcome the fears we have to step out and do something which could last a lifetime. And that is what my wife and I did one beautiful evening that came to terms with doubt and casted our fears away.

When life seems overwhelming there is always an escape. J.K. Rowling in her 2008 Harvard commencement addresses "The Fringe Benefits of Failure and the importance of Imagination", stressed imagination is the magic endowed upon us humans and there is no need of actual magic. We do not need to whip our wands to cast our fears away or to escape reality. Einstein too said "Imagination is better than knowledge". Perhaps they both knew real magic.

My dear readers, when was the last time you did something for the first time? When have you used the magic of imagination? That fear and excitement goes hand in hand? For me, it was just a fortnight or so ago. So, stay next to me for the ride together through the many qualms of imagination, fear and reality.

Friday, the 15th of July, my wife and I, to escape for a moment into the realm of imagination, excitement and fear, jumped onto our only scooter with our helmets

on and drove as far as we could, away from the menacing aches of Imphal and responsibility to somewhere calm and serene. Before long, we found ourselves among the thick & mushy hills of Ngarian (24°36'44.8"N 93°42'23.1"E), scooping memories for the bottle. Our faces, bathe in the cool breeze from the swaving trees& the lofty hillocks, washed away all the fatigues and suddenly I had a thought. Moved by the surrounding greenery and the receding tree lines, I was filled with excitement & l abruptly asked my wife, "Will it be fine if we drive till Moreh?" (Moreh is a town in the Tengnoupal District, sitting at the border of Manipur & Myanmar). Her reply was as unrealistic and unexpected as my question. I thought she would say "Nay" as our two sons and daughter was at home. But without any hesitation and with so much enthusiasm she agreed and it was dusk. The Sun was setting, the crimson red light from behind the western hills was as if the Sun was asking us to head back home, but we were already on our way to Moreh.

As we rode along, we passed through Yairipok and touched upon Asian Highway number one at Thoubal Bazar towards Chandel. As the Sun sets, the streets were greeted by those flickering streetlamps. Passing through the Khongjom War Memorial, I said that together, we have never taken a picture here. We stopped for a minute, took a selfie and rode further. Not long after, we reached Kakching Lamkhai (Kakching Lamkhai, a diversion point from AH-1 to Kakching town in Kakching District, Manipur). The place was all lit up. The minimarket there was still alive, brimming with





people. As we stopped at the mini-market to enjoy the moment, my memories took me seven years back. Everything seems to have changed so fast. It seems progress waits for no one. Seven years back, I was at the same place as I am now, with my friends, but the situation then was so much different. The place went deserted by 6 pm then. We couldn't see any lights other than the headlights of the passing cars. Soon my memories brought me fear and anxiety of traveling at night, the 'what ifs' of the past! 'What if an armed person jumps out of the dark and stopped us? What if we fell to bullets being exchanged or what if we are killed mistakenly?' The many what ifs that bounded our society for so long crept up my mind whenever we found just ourselves along the deserted highway. However, it wasn't long before we reached Pallel, in Chandel, where the valley ends and the hills started.

Once we began the uphill drive, all the qualms of my imagination began. I became anxious thinking of the many stretches of

road filled with potholes and untarred, which is the usual topic of guarrel & digression on social media platforms. But I didn't want my anxiety or my imagination to ruin her fun. As we climbed higher, the reality turned out to be much better than my imagination. From Pallel onwards, the two small wheels of our scooter never felt a single jerk. The uphill ride was so mesmerizing that all the thoughts of the 'what ifs' vanished completely from my mind. With altitude, cold winds swerved and became stronger, which made me think, "Perhaps a proper planning and jumper would have thrown some warmth over this human form." Nevertheless, we gulped all the fresh air and drove merrily up and down on the highway. The vast highway embraced us, like a silent tour guide the road signs showed us the way in that deep dark night.

Finally we reached Tengnoupal, not knowing we had to report at the check-post before passing through. We were stopped at an Army Check-post by an army sepoy.

Being stopped at any Army check post at

night is not a memory we all cherish. We all grew up thinking security personnel to be impolite and boorish. To our surprise, the officer at the post politely asked if it was our first time traveling along the highway, we replied 'Yes' and that 'we didn't know we had to report there.' Defying all notions of imagined rudeness and unsavory thoughts of an Army personnel faded right there and then, to which I thought that there is still hope where the reality is sometimes to be the exact opposite.

He gave us the ticket, bade him goodnight and we drove along. All this way from home till Tengnoupal check post, the road didn't hamper our speed, other than at a few places where there was construction underway. The army officer informed us that we have to show the ticket at another check-post at Khudengthabi, which is just about 10 kilometers before Moreh. The entire highway was smooth except for a few meters where there was construction work. Around 8:30 PM, we entered our names in the Khudengthabi check-post.

Again, a shift between doubt & reality occurred after the personnel's concern that he came up to us and inquired if we were okay seeing the obvious road rashes. We had met a small accident along the way, when our scooter skidded and we hurt ourselves, just a few scratches, nothing serious. I said we were okay as it was only some minor scratches and that we had some first aid kit in our scooter.

"How far is Moreh from here?" I asked him to which, he smiled, "Just about 10 kilometers"

Without looking back we hopped on and reached Moreh. From the scooter's odometer, I found out that Moreh was just 15 km from Khudengthabi. Now I knew why that army personnel, with that witty smile of his, told me it was just ten. He didn't want me to feel the weight of five kilometers as he sensed that I was a little tired. "Any lie told for the happiness of someone else is a truth in disguise," I guessed. A hope that he instilled in me, a magic achieved without the whipping of the wand, that's how I'd like to interpret.

Well it was already way into the night, as we drove through the town and all shops were closed. We were searching for a hotel for the night. Few people were out there. They were trying to help us by calling the nearby hotels if there were any rooms available. They felt sorry for us.

At this point, my luck kicked in, I remembered that one of my relatives had a hotel in Moreh. I called him up and they arranged for a room over the phone. Foods were arranged from a local vendor. We went inside the room and called it a day.

Next morning, we woke up, had our breakfast and bought some goods to carry back home. On the way back home, like an old friend the same highway guided us, only this time without any qualms of my imagination, doubt or fear. We reached home around 2 in the afternoon. I took a shower and changed. Lying flat on my bed, I recounted the journey and asked myself another 'What if' question. What if this journey was made seven years back? On my own I thought, the Act East Policy of the Government of India, the policy and programmes of it has enabled my journey that night. The good governance of the present Manipur Government, the good relationship between the police and the people has perhaps made it all possible. The government's step of bridging the gap between the hill and valley made a strong impact that we could travel that far in the middle of the night without fear. Everything else was my father's line "False Evidence Appearing Real!"



MANIPURI WOMEN IN ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS







Dr. Kh. Gourachandra Singh Political Analyst & Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science Thambal Marik College, Oinam



















here was no women candidate in the 53 member Manipur Legislative Assembly Election held from June 11 to July 27, 1948 under the Manipur Constitution Act, 1947 before Manipur was merged with India. By that time Manipuri women who attained the age of 21 years could cast their votes and there was no restriction to them to become candidates. After Manipur was merged with India on 15 October, 1949, Manipur became a Part C State. After the New Constitution of India came into force on 26 January, 1950, elections for the first Lok –Sabha and the Electoral College was held in 1952 in which Manipuri women started to participate as voters as well as candidates.

After Manipur was merged with India on 15 October, 1949 Manipur administration was under a Chief Commissioner. Under him there were 14 nominated members of the Advisory Council. There was no full-fledged Assembly in Manipur. After the Constitution of India was in full force election was held in 1952 in Manipur for electing 30 members of the Electoral College. 20 constituencies were for the valley while 10 were for the hills. It was participated by many National, Regional and State Parties. For these 30 Assembly constituencies there were 114 candidates in the fray. In this election the candidates of Jiri and Ukhrul constituencies were elected as uncontested candidates. No voting

was done in those two constituencies.

In the election of the Electoral College for electing 30 members M.K. Binodini Devi contested on the ticket of the All Manipur National Union at Khurai constituency. Binodini's symbol was "Bow and Arrow". She was the lone woman candidate in the 30 Assembly constituencies of the time. She contested with four other candidates. They were Kulasana Rajkumar (P.S.S, Cycle _ Symbol), Naoroibam Tondang (Congress, Symbol- Two bulls with yoke on) and Dr. Ningthoujam Leiren Singh (Independent, Symbol - scale). In that election M.K. Binodini won by securing 1970 votes. She became the first Manipuri woman elected to the Electoral College. Naoroibam Tondang secured 1294 votes. Those members of the time were like MLA's of today. When they were alive they enjoyed all the facilities of MLA and other privileges like - pension and others of the government. Their main task was to elect the member of the Rajya Sabha from Manipur. Among the candidates defeated by M.K. Binodini was Dr. L. Leiren, a renown politician and doctor who was elected from Khurai - Lamlong Constituency in 1948 Assembly Election and was the Minister of the Department of Education, Press and P.W.D. under the Chief Minister, Captain P.B. Singh from Nov. 27, 1948 to October 15, 1949.

In the First Lok-Sabha Election,



1952 Smt. Iswari Devi, Maharani of Manipur, wife of the then Maharaja of Manipur, Bodhachandra, contested as an Independent candidate. She stood third position by securing 11809 votes. She was the first woman candidate in the history of the parliamentary election in Manipur.

TERRITORIAL COUNCIL ELECTION:

The Indian Parliament passed the Territorial Council Act, 1956. Under the Act, 30 members would be elected by the people and two others would be nominated by the Government. In Manipur, election for Territorial Council was held in 1957. Out of 30 Constituencies 20 were in the valley and 10 were in the hill. As many as 148 candidates contested the election. In the election of the Territorial Council 1957, Smt. T. Sabi Devi (CPI) contested from the Wangkhei Constituency but she was defeated in the election. She was the lone candidate in all the 30 constituencies. T. Sabi was the one who took great role in the Nupi Lal (Women's Movement) of 1939. She was a resident of Wangkhei Ningthem Pukhri Mapal. She was one among the 5 contestants in the election of Wangkhei Constituency. She secured 482 votes. Under the Territorial Council Act, 1956 election was held in Manipur on February 25, March 2 and March 11, 1957. Very soon Anal Akim and R.K. Mukhara were nominated as T.C. members by the Government of India. Both of them were of Congress Party. R.K. Mukhara and Anal Akim sworn in as T.C. Members on 2nd September, 1957. On October 29, 1957 Mukhara was appointed as a member in the 5 members committee of the Rule of Business.

In the 1962 Territorial Council Election there was no woman candidate and 174 candidates contested in the election were 174 in number. But after this R.K. Mukhara and Ms. Lhingjaneng Gangte were nominated as members of the Territorial Council. After the enforcement of Union Territory Act, 1963, the Territorial Council was converted into Territorial Assembly. Both of them became MLAs. In this 1962 term R.K. Mukhara was member of the Public Account Committee, Business Advisory Committee and Committee on Privilege of Manipur Legislative Assembly. They took oath as T.C. members on 3rd August, 1962 and their term ended on 11th January, 1967.

The first Manipur Territorial Legislative Assembly Election was held in 1967. As many as 156 candidates contested in the election. In 1967 Territorial Legislative Assembly Election there was no woman candidate. But under the Union Territory Act, 1963 A. Bimola Devi and R.T. Shining were nominated as MLAs of the Territorial Assembly in 1967. As soon as they became MLAs both of them joined Congress.

Shiningla Keishing was born in 1920 at Bungpa Khunou now in Kamjong District as the daughter of K. Shinguileng and Ringaila Hungyo. She passed Matriculation Examination in 1940. She was married to Mr. Ronald Trevor Byrne, an Irish fellow served in the British Army as Engineer. From that time onward she was known as R.T. Shiningla. She worked whole-heartedly for the development of education sector in Manipur. She took active role in the establishment of Little Flower School in 1953. She established Tiny Tots' Unique School, Dewlahland in 1964. A. Bimola and R.T. Shiningla remained as MLAs till 16 October, 1969.

ASSEMBLY ELECTION :

Manipur attained statehood on 21st January, 1972 and became the 20th state of Indian Union. The state was divided into 60 single member constituencies, out of which 40 constituencies were in the valley and 19 constituencies were in the hill and one was in the Barak Basin. The first Manipur Legislative Assembly Election was held on March, 1972. As many as 252 candidates including 3 women candidates contested in the elections. The three women candidates were (i) Smt. R.K. Mukhra Devi contesting from Keishamthong constituency as INC candidate, (ii) Smt. Aribam Bimola Devi from Kontha constituency as an MPP candidate and (iii) Ms. Lhingjaneng Gangte from Henglep constituency (ST) as an INC candidate. The three women candidates got defeated.

In the Second Manipur Legislative Assembly election (mid-term) held in 1974, A total of 265 candidates including 3 women candidates contested in the election. The women candidates were – (i) Smt. A. Bimola Devi contesting from Heingang as an MPP candidate and (ii) Ms. Lhingjaneng Gangte from Saikot constituency as an INC candidate and (iii) Ms. T. Kholly also contested from Saikot constituency as an IND candidate but they were defeated in the election.

The third Manipur State Legislative Assembly Election was held on 3rd and 6th January, 1980. A total of 401 candidates including 7 (seven) women candidates contested in the election. Unfortunately, the women candidates were defeated in the election. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly Election, 1980 were - (i) A. Bimola Devi from Heingang constituency as JP candidate, (ii) A. Puinyabati Devi from Thangmeiband constituency as INC (U) candidate, (iii) W. Joymati Devi from Sagolband constituency as INC(U) candidate, (iv) Kh. Bilashini Devi from Bishnupur constituency as CPI candidate, (v) R.K. Mukhra Devi from Keishamthong constituency as IND candidate, (vi) T. Kholly from Saikot constituency as IND candidate and (vii) Althing Lhingjaneng from Saikot constituency as JP candidate.

The fourth Manipur State Legislative Assembly Election was held on 27th December, 1984. A total of 364 candidates including five women candidates contested in the election. The women candidates were defeated in the election. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly Election, 1984 were: (i) A. Bimola Devi from Heingang constituency as IND candidate, (ii) N. Shyama Devi from Lamlai constituency as IND candidate, (iii) W. Joymati Devi from Sagolband constituency as INC candidate, (iv) Ngainu Vaiphei from Jiribam constituency as IND candidate and (v) Manlianniang from Churachandpur constituency as IND candidate.



The 5th Manipur State Assembly Election was held on 12th, 14th and 20th February, 1990 in both valley and hill respectively. A total of 288 candidates including 7(seven) women candidates

contested the election. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly Election, 1990 along with their constituency and their political parties were: (i) Hangmila Shaiza from Ukhrul constituency as JD candidate, (ii) R.K. Mukhra Devi from Keishamthong constituency as ICS(SCS) candidate, (iii) Ph. Iswori Devi from Wangkhei constituency as JD candidate, (iv) M. Sahadeva Devi from Khurai constituency as BJP candidate, (v) T. Ibemhal Devi from Hiyanglam constituency as IND candidate, (vi) B.K. Rose from Thanlon constituency as IND candidate and (vii) Hathoi Buansing from Churachandpur constituency as INC candidate. Only Hangmila Shaiza from



Ukhrul constituency came out successful out of the 7 women candidates. In this election Hangmila Shaiza of Janata Dal secured 7922 votes and her nearest rival Mr. AS Arthur Cong (I) secured 6828 votes. Hangmila Shaiza was the first woman elected MLA in the Legislative Assembly of Manipur after Manipur attained Statehood on January 21, 1972.

Hangmila Kashung was born on 19th September, 1920 in Hunphung Area of Ukhrul District. Her father is Miksha Kasung Shimray and mother's name is Ngalew Ngakang. She was married to Yangmasho Shaiza on 15th February, 1949. She was a graduate of Calcutta University. Hangmila Shaiza was the wife of former Chief Minister of Manipur Shri Yangmasho Shaiza. She was elected from the Ukhrul constituency in the Manipur Legislative Assembly in the Countermanded Election held on 17 May, 1990. The election for Thangmeiband and Ukhrul A/Cs were countermanded as M. Punyabati Devi contesting candidate from Thangmeiband A/C on Congress (S) ticket expired on 2-2-1990 and Lungshim Shaiza, younger brother of Y. Shaiza a contesting candidate from Ukhrul A/C on JD ticket expired on 27-1-1990 respectively.

Bye - Election of Oinam A/C: On 16th August, 1991 K. Bira Singh MLA of Oinam A/C and I. Tompok Singh MLA of Singjamei A/C expired in the plane crash at Thangjing Hill, Manipur. Bye-Elections of these two constituencies were held on 16th October, 1991. In the Bye-Election of Oinam constituency, five candidates including Smt. K. Apabi Devi, INC candidate and wife of (L) K. Bira Singh contested the election. Smt. Apabi Devi was elected by securing 5452 votes. She was the second woman MLA of Manipur. Y. Jiten Singh (MPP) secures 4831 votes and stood second position.

Keisham Apabi Devi was born on 28th

February, 1953 at Keinou Thongthak Awang Leikai in Bishnupur District as the daughter of Yumlembam Yaima Singh and Yumlembam Shangai. She passed her B.A. from Nambol L. Sanoi College in 1975. She served as an L.D.C. in Industry Department from 1976 to 1985. Smt. K. Apabi Devi was the first woman MLA elected on Congress party ticket. She was member in important Committees of Manipur Legislative Assembly Committee on Public undertaking, Committee on Delegated Legislation, etc. and Chairman of the Committee on absence of Manipur from the sitting of the House. She worked as Parliamentary Secretary from 30-10-1992 to 31-12-1993 in the government led by R.K. Dorendra Singh. She was the first woman Parliamentary Secretary in Manipur. Smt. K. Apabi Devi was Minister of State, Independent Charge, in the Ministry led by Rishang Keishing from January 10, 1995 to February 24, 1995. She was the first Minister among women in the history of Manipur. She held the portfolio of Social Welfare Department on January 12, 1995.

There was no woman candidate in the Singjamei Bye-Election.



The 6th Assembly Election was held on 16th and 19th February, 1995 in two phases of hill and valley respectively. A total of 343 candidates including 11 (eleven) women candidates contested the The elections. women candidates

who contested in the Assembly Election were: (i) Apabi Devi from Oinam constituency as INC candidate, (ii) R.K. Sorojini Devi from Sagolband constituency as INC candidate, (iii) Manishang Devi from Konthoujam constituency as JD candidate, (iv) T. Ibemhal Devi from Nambol constituency as CPI candidate, (v) Y. Sakhitombi Devi from Singjamei constituency as IND candidate, (vi) M. Ruhini Devi from Lamsang constituency as MPP candidate, (vii) Chingnou from Churachandpur constituency as KNA candidate, (viii) Hathoi Buansing from Churachandpur constituency as INC candidate, (ix) B.K. Rose from Thanlon constituency as INC candidate, (x) T. Kholly from Saikot constituency as NPP candidate and (xi) T. Ngaizanem from Singhat constituency as MPP candidate. All the women candidates were defeated in the election.

In the 7th Assembly Election held in February 2000, a total of 401 candidates including 14 (fourteen) women candidates contested in the election. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly Election 2000 along with the name of the constituency and their political parties were: (i) W. Leima Devi from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa constituency as IND candidate, (ii) Y. Ratimanjuri Devi Heingang constituency as NCP from candidate, (iii) Y. Sakhitombi Devi from Singjamei constituency as IND candidate, (iv) Th. Manishang Devi from Konthoujam constituency as BJP candidate, (v) A.K. Mirabai Devi from Patsoi constituency as INC candidate, (vi) Ms. Adim from Nungba constituency as JDU candidate, (vii) K. Apabi Devi from Oinam constituency as INC candidate, (viii) K. Damayanti Devi from Wabagai constituency as MSCP candidate, (ix) Grace T. Shatshang from Chingai constituency as INC candidate, (x) Hathoi Buansing from Saikot constituency as FPM candidate (xi) T. Ngaizanem from Singhat constituency as SAP candidate, (xii) Nengneilhing from Karong constituency as RSP candidate, (xiii) I.D. Sangpiliu from Tamei constituency as INC candidate and (xiv) Mrs. Guiliangliu Panmei from Tamenglong constituency as NCP candidate. All the women candidates except W. Leima Devi were defeated in the election. Smt. W. Leima Devi was elected from the Naoriya Pakhanglakpa Constituency as an IND candidate. She became the second woman Minister of Manipur after K. Apabi Devi. She was the Minister of State for Education(S), Social Welfare, Commerce and Industry Department from March 2nd2000 to February 14, 2001.

In 8th Assembly Election held on 14th and 21st February, 2002 of Valley and Hill,a total of 368 candidates including 7(seven) women candidates contested in the election on different political parties. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly Election, 2002 along with the name of the constituency and their political parties were: (i) Wahengbam Leima Devi from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa constituency as INC candidate, (ii) Th. Manishang Devi from Konthoujam constituency as BJP candidate, (iii) Km. A.K. Mirabai Devi from Patsoi constituency as INC candidate, (iv) O. Bimola Devi from Oinam constituency as DRPP candidate, (v) S. Radhapriyari Devi from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa constituency as NCP candidate, (vi) T. Ngaizanem from Singhat constituency as SAP candidate and (vii) Jubilee Momoi from Singhat constituency as MNC candidate. W. Leima Devi was again elected from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa Constituency as a Congress candidate by securing 5712 votesin the 8th cornered contest. She became the first woman Cabinet Minister of Manipur from 23-3-2002 to 1-3-2007 under Shri O. Ibobi Singh led SPF Government. She was assigned the Minister-in-charge for the department of DIPR and LDA later again shifted to Co-operation and Social Welfare Department from 1st April, 2002 to 28th April, 2006. She was again the Minister-incharge of Co-operation and Veterinary &



Animal Husbandry Department from April 28, 2006 to March 1,2007.

In the 9th Assembly Election held in February, 2007, a total of 231 candidates including 12(twelve) women candidates contested in the election on different political parties. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly election, 2007 along with their political parties and the name of their constituencies were: (i) M. Babita Devi (MPP) from Heingang constituency, (ii) L. Sumatibala Devi (CPI) from Keishamthong constituency, (iii) Th. Manishang Devi (BJP) from Konthoujam constituency, (iv) A.K. Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency, (v) W. Leima Devi (INC) from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa, (vi) Moirangmayum Tombi Devi (BJP) from Wangoi constituency, (vii) Valley Rose Hungyo (NNLP) from Phungyar constituency, (viii) Mangshii Rose Haokip (BJP) from Saitu constituency, (ix) Kim Gangte (CPI) from Henglep constituency, (x) Tinkhonei Haokip (RJD) from Henglep constituency,) (xi) Rebika Naorem (NCP) from Langthabal constituency and (xi) L. Tilotama (INC) from Langthabal constituency. All the women candidates were defeated in the election.

Bye-Election of Khangabok A/C: After O. Ibobi Singh, husband of Smt. O. Landhoni Devi and the then Chief Minister of Manipur was elected from Khangabok and Thoubal A/Cs, O. Ibobi remained as the MLA of Thoubal A/C leaving the seat of Khangabok A/C. Because of this, the seat of Khangabok A/C remained vacant from March 12, 2007. In the Bye-election of Khangbok A/C held on June 2, 2007, O. Landhoni contested as INC candidate and won the election by securing 22245 votes. She was the lone woman MLA of the 9th Assembly of 2007.

In the 10th Assembly Election held on January 28, 2012, a total of 279 candidates including 15(fifteen) women candidates contested in

the election on different political parties. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly election, 2012 along with their political parties were (i) Naorem Ibema Devi (AITC) from Uripok constituency, (ii) L. Kshetrani Devi (IVD) from Sagolband constituency, (iii) Yumnam Romola Devi (CPM) from Keishamthong constituency, (iv) Maisnam Sakhileima (CPI) from Konthoujam constituency, (v) Km. Akoijam Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency, (vi) Waikhom Shyama Devi (INC) from Langthabal constituency, (vii) Thokchom Bindhashakhi Devi (SHS) from Bishnupur constituency, (viii) Oinam Indira Devi (BSP) from Thoubal constituency, (ix) Sumatibala Ningthoujam (MSCP) from Heirok constituency, (x) Okram Landhoni Devi (INC) from Khangabok constituency, (xi) SS.Olish (IND) from Chandel constituency, (xii) Bountia Keishing (MSCP) from Phungyar constituency, (xiii) Teresa Rimai (SHS) from Phungyar constituency, (xiv) Mrs. Nemcha Kipgen (MSCP) from Kangpokpi constituency and (xv) Ngaineikim (IND) from Singhat constituency. Out of the 15 women candidates, 3 candidates got elected. The successful women candidates of the 10th Assembly Election were (i) Km. Akoijam Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency, (ii) Okram Landhoni Devi (INC) from Khangabok constituency, and (iii) Nemcha Kipgen (MSCP) from Kangpokpi constituency.



Km. Akoijam Mirabai Devi won the election held on January 28, 2012, by securing 14257 votes. There were 5 candidates in the fray. Then she became the Cabinet Minister of Social

Welfare and Co-operation Department upto March 14, 2017 in the Shri O. Ibobi led Congress Government.



Nemcha Kipgen for the contested unreserved A/C of Kangpokpi in the 10th Manipur Assembly Election and got elected MSCP ticket on securing 6639 by votes. There were 5 candidates in the

fray. She joined INC from MSCP on 3-4-2014 and remained as INC till the completion of the term of the 10th Assembly.

In the 11thManipur Assembly Election held on 4th and 8th March, 2017, a total of 266 candidates including 11 women candidates contested in different political parties. The women candidates who contested in the Assembly elections, 2017 along with their political parties and the name of their constituencies were: (i) G. Satyabati Devi (NPEP) from Sagolband constituency, (ii) Y. Romola Devi (MNDF) from Keishamthong constituency, (iii) Km. A.K. Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency, (iv) Loitongbam Tilotama Devi (INC) from Langthabal constituency, (v) Thokchom Bindasakhi Devi (AITC) from Bishnupur constituency, (vi) Irom Sharmila Chanu (PRJA) from Thoubal constituency, (vii) Najima Bibi (PRJA) from Wabgai constituency, (viii) S.S. Olish (BJP) from Chandel constituency, (ix) T.K. Savanai (LJP) from Karong constituency, (x) Nemcha Kipgen (BJP) from Kangpokpi constituency and (xi) Thangthatling Sinate (IND) from Tipaimukh constituency.Out of the 11 women candidates contested, two candidates were successful. They were: (i) Km. A.K. Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency and (ii) Nemcha Kipgen (BJP) from Kangpokpi constituency.

After being elected in the election of 2017 on BJP ticket, Nemcha Kipgen served as Cabinet Minister of Social Welfare and Cooperation Department in the N. Biren led BJP Government 23-3-2017 to 24-9-2020. She was the first woman Cabinet Minister from the Scheduled Tribe Community of Manipur.

In the 12th Assembly Election held on February 28 and March 5, 2022, a total of 265 candidates including 17 women candidates contested from different constituencies on different political parties..The 17 women candidates who contested in the Assembly election, 2022 along with their political parties and the name of their constituencies were: (i) Poonam Rani Wangkhem (NCP) from Kshetrigao constituency, (ii) Thounaojam Brinda (JD(U)) from Yaishkul constituency, (iii) Aribam Pramodini INC) from (Keishamthong constituency, (iv) Maharabam Anita Devi (IND) from Sekmai constituency, (v) Pukhrambam Sumati Devi (NPP) from Lamsang constituency, (vi) Khoirom Binarani (NCP) from Konthoujam constituency, (vii) Km. Akoijam Mirabai Devi (INC) from Patsoi constituency, (viii) Sagolshem Kebi Devi (BJP) from Naoriya Pakhanglakpa constituency, (ix) Irengbam Nalini Devi (NPP) from Oinam constituency, (x) Thokchom Ithoibi Devi (INC) from Oinam constituency, (xi) Naorem Sorojini Devi (IND) from Kumbi constituency, (xii) Yengkhom Roma Devi (CPI) from Kakching constituency, (xiii) S.S. Olish (BJP) from Chandel constituency, (xiv) Lhingkim Haokip (INC) from Saikul constituency, (xv) Kimneo Hangshing Haokip (KPA) from Saikul constituency, (xvi) Nemcha Kipgen (BJP) from Kangpokpi constituency and (xvii) Smt. Thangthatling Sinate (NPP) from Tipaimukh constituency. Of the 17 women candidates in the fray: 4 were from INC, 3 were from BJP and NPP, 2 were from NCP, 1 candidate each was from Janata Dal (U), CPI and KPA and 2 Independent candidates. Out of the 17 women candidates contested, five came out successful. The elected women candidates of the 12th Assembly





Election. 2022 Nemcha were: Kipgen of BJP (Kangpokpi A/C), S.S. Olish (Chandel A/C,), Sagolshem Kebi Devi (Naoriya Pakhanglakpa A/C, first timer), Irengbam Nalini Devi, NPP (Oinam A/C, first timer) and

Kimneo Haokip Hangshing, KPA (Saikul A/C first timer). In the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly 5 women MLAs have been elected out of which 3 are from the hills (2 Kukis and 1 Naga) and 2 are from Meitei Community of the valley. Nemcha Kipgen was sworn in as Cabinet Minister for the second time on 21-3-2022 in the N. Biren led BJP Government and became the Minister of Textiles, Commerce and Industry Department from 26-3-2022.

Irengbam Nalini Devi, aged 61 years, is the wife of former MLA of Oinam A/C Late Dr. I. Ibohalbi Singh of Irengbam Awang Mamang Leikai, P.O. & P.S. Nambol. She had her graduation (G.U.) in 1979 from C.I. College, Bishnupur. She is a house wife by profession.. She took important role for the success of her husband in the election for two terms, 9th Manipur Assembly 2007 and 10th Manipur Assembly.. She began her political career successfully after being



elected as member of Keinou Zila Parishad in Oinam A/C in 1997.

SS. Olish, aged about 44 years, is the daughter of SS. Mohring, a resident of Mantri Pantha, Chandel District. She is a social worker by profession. She graduated her B.A. in Political Science in the year 2000 from the United College, Chandel, MU.

Kimneo Haokip Hangshing, aged 34 years, is the wife of David Hangshing a resident of Saikul Bazar, P.O. & P. S. Saikul, Kangpokpi, Manipur. Her educational qualification is M.A. (Political Science) from Bangalore University in 2013. Her husband, David is a well known social worker among the Kuki Community. Kimneo Haokip Hangshing was serving as a Committee Officer in the Manipur Legislative Assembly Secretariat. She resigned her government job before entering the Electoral Politics. She is the daughter of Ngamthang Haokip who had been MLA for 5 terms from Saitu A/C.

Smt. Sagolshem Kebi Devi is the youngest MLA in the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly. She was an active leader who was elected in her first attempt. She is only 32 years old. Smt. S. Kebi Devi is the Wife of Soraisham Gobin Singh, a resident of Ningthemcha Karong, Imphal West. She studied upto class X in the Little Master Hr. Secondary School, Samurou. She is an entrepreneur, politician and a social worker by profession..

For the first time in the political history of Manipur 5 women were elected in the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election. The people of Manipur are expecting much from these five women MLAs of Manipur.

Though 5 women MLAs have joined administration in the present Government, there is the need for more women MLAs to join the administration by winning in the future elections. If so, women representatives will be able to take important role in the effort to make a peaceful, prosperous and harmonious state.



GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR ORDER OF PRECEDENCE







he order of Warrant of Precedence which has to be observed at all State Functions in the State of Manipur as notified by General Administration Department, Government of Manipur on 6th June, 2022 are as detailed below

- 1. Governor of Manipur.
- 2. Chief Minister of Manipur.
- 3. Deputy Chief Minister of Manipur.
- 4. Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly/Chief Justice of High Court of Manipur/Chairperson of Manipur Lokayukta /Chairperson of Manipur State Human Rights Commission.
- 5. Cabinet Minister/Chairman,Hill Areas Committee /Deputy Chairman,Manipur State Planning Board/Ex-Chief Ministers/Leaders of Opposition of the Manipur Legislative Assembly/Government Chief Whip of the Manipur Legislative Assembly/ Puisne Judges of High Court of Manipur/Advocate General,Manipur.
- 6. Members of Manipur Lokayukta/ Member of the Manipur State Human Rights Commission.
- 7. Deputy Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly/Ministers of State of Manipur/Vice Chairman, Hill Areas Committee.
- 8. Member of Parliament
- 9. Members of Manipur State Legislative Assembly,
- 10. Chief Secretary.

- 11. Director General of Police/GOC, Eastern Command/ Additional Chief Secretaries to the State Government/ PCCF (HOFF) Officers of the rank of Lt. General and equivalent rank.
- 12. Chairman, MPSC/State Chief Information Commissioner.
- 13. Principal Secretaries to the State Government/Principal Accountant General, Manipur/Additional. Director General of Police/Vice Chancellor of Central & State Universities/ Vigilance Commissioner/Chairman, Autonomous District Council (Hills)/Adhyaksha of Zilla Parishad, Mayor of IMC/Chairperson, State Commission for Woman.
- 14. Chairperson of the Manipur Commission/ State Woman's Chairman of Manipur State O.B.C Commission/Chairman of Manipur State Minorities Commission/ Chairman of Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram/Chairman of State Commission for ST/Chairperson of Manipur State Woman Development Co-operation Ltd/Chairperson of Manipur Commission for Protection of Child Right/State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities & Chairperson of Manipur State Social Welfare Board.

- 15. Vice Chairman, Autonomous District Council (Hills) Deputy Mayor IMC/Up Adhyaksha of Zilla Parishad/Executive Members of Autonomous District Council (Hills)/ Members of the Manipur Human Rights Commission & Manipur State Women's Commission/Members of Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission for Manipur and Mizoram/Members of State Commission for ST.
- 16. Commissioners & Secretaries to the State Government Secretary to the Governor/Secretary (MPSC)/Secretary to Chief Minister/Secretary (LA)/State Information Commissioner/Officers of the rank of Inspector General of Police/Major General or equivalent of other services/Members of Manipur Public Service Commission/Additional Advocate General of Manipur.
- 17. Special Secretaries to the Government of Manipur / State Election Commissioner/ Chief Conservator of Forest.
- 18. 18. Deputy Commissioners in their respective Districts/ District & Session Judges/ Additional Secretaries/ Joint Secretaries to the State Government/ / DIGs of Manipur/Brigadier-Command.
- 19. Deputy Commissioners outside their Districts/Conservator of Forest.
- 20. Senior Superintendents of Police/ Colonels/ Superintendents of Police in Districts/Lt. Colonels in command.

- 21. Chairpersons of Municipalities/Zilla Parishad Members/ Members of Autonomous District Council (Hills)/ Corporators.
- 22. Head of Departments/Government Advocates.
- 23. Additional District and Session Judge/Addl. District Magistrate/Addl. Deputy Commissioners/Chief Judicial Magistrate/Deputy Secretaries to the State Government/Other Police Officers of the Rank of Superintendents of Police/Lt. Colonels/Commandant of Armed Battalions/Addl. Superintendent Police/Chief Executive of Officer. Autonomous District Council/ District Planning Officer/Deputy Conservator of Forest.
- 24. Sub-Divisional Officer (civil)/under Secretaries to the State Government/ Judicial Magistrate/Majors and equivalent rank/Deputy Commandants of Btns/Assistant Commissioners to the Government of Manipur,
- 25. Heads of Offices not mentioned above// Sub-Divisional Police Officers.
- 26. Deputy Superintendents of Police/ Captain/Assistant Commandants of Armed Btns/Class-1 Officer of other Department not covered above.
- 27. Councilors of Municipalities/ Chairpersons of Nagar Panchayats/ Pradhans/ UpPradhan/ Member of Gram Panchayat.

LOKTAK AND LDA

An interview with Chairman, Loktak Development Authority, Shri M. Asnikumar

We cannot save Loktak in the form of piece meal. It needs to be taken up with a holistic approach and for this, a long-term vision Master Plan of 50 to 100 years is required.



oktak Lake, the lap where the civilization and culture of Manipur started, the source of the socio-economic growth of the State, the regulator of the weather and climate of the region and which is now a lake of importance nationally and internationally too, is deteriorating from various reasons. But the Loktak Development Authority is taking a pivotal role in safeguarding the pristine glory of the lake. Presenting here a conversation with the newly appointed Chairman of the Loktak Development Authority, Moirangthem Asnikumar on the various new steps being taken up by the authority to protect and preserve the Loktak Lake.

MT: How do you feel being appointed as the Chairman of Loktak Development Authority?

Asni:First of all. I would like to thank our Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri N. Biren Singh Ji, for appointing me as the Chairman of Loktak Development Authority and express my gratitude to the national BJP leaders for trusting me with this responsibility. I was born and brought up on the lap of Loktak Lake in Keibul Lamjao. From the days of my youth, I started working on protecting and preserving the lake, the endangered Sangai and also uplifting the livelihood of the people living in and around the lake. Living with the fishermen and dwellers of the lake, I have a strong emotional attachment to the lake. Seeing the deteriorating condition of the lake, and the

thoughts of how the lake can be protected, preserved, and safeguarded to its pristine glory haunt me. So, being appointed as Chairman of Loktak Development Authority, I feel a sense of fulfillment and I see my appointment as an opportunity to work for the people and to save Loktak Lake, and I am fully committed to this.

MT: How did Loktak Development Authority start and what role does the authority play?

Asni: After the commissioning of the Loktak Hydro Power Project and the construction of Ithai Dam in 1984, the Government of Manipur in 1986 formed Loktak Development Authority to protect Loktak Lake. Back then, it was in the form of a Government Society. But after



seeing the rack and ruin of the Lake, the Government of Manipur, in 2006, passed the "Loktak Protection Act" in the Manipur Legislative Assembly. In April of the same year, Loktak Development Authority was entrusted with more responsibilities related to the conservation, preservation, protection, management, and development of Loktak Lake. It sanctioned Legal powers to the authority to solve all issues related to Loktak Lake.

MT: Being Chairman of Loktak Development Authority, how would you describe the importance of Loktak Lake to Manipur?

Asni: Loktak Lake cannot be kept aside when we talk of Manipur. Loktak Lake is the cradle of the culture and civilization of Manipur and also socio-economically, it provides livelihood to thousands of people of Manipur. It is also home to various rare species of flora and fauna and the endangered Brow Antlered Deer - Sangai. Sangai's habitat, the Keibul Lamjao National Park, the only floating National Park is on the south-east side of the lake with an area of forty square kilometres. This park provides a bio-energetic force and acts like an air conditioner. It moderates the local weather and we can call Loktak the kidneys of Manipur. A freshwater lake, Loktak is a fragile yet unique ecosystem. Knowing the importance of the lake, Ramsar Convention in 1990 declared the lake a Ramsar Site of International Importance. But unfortunately, the lake became listed in the Montreux Record's register due to changes in ecological character that have occurred, are occurring, or are likely to occur as a result of development process, pollution, or other human interference in 1993 and the lake still is in that list. This is a reason for lamentation and Loktak Lake needs to be de-listed from the Montreux Record. The struggle to delist is on. It won't be wrong to say that Loktak is of

international importance and our generation should and must protect, preserve and conserve the lake for our future generations. I would like to add that Loktak Lake is also a tourist hotspot and a water sports centre. The Takmu Water Sports Complex and Komlakhong Water Sport Complex is training sportspersons in various water sports like canoeing and kayaking. Water parasailing was held at Chingmei Keibul Ching under the initiative of Manipur Tourism Foundation and Loktak Development Authority during the 2018 Sangai Festival creating more tourists footfall.

MT: How would you describe the present condition of Loktak Lake?

Asni: Loktak Lake is in such a dilapidated condition that it is alarming both environmentally and socio-economically and is badly impacting the lives of the people living in and around the lake. The ecological balance of the lake before the commencement of the Loktak Hydro Electric Project in 1984 has now drastically changed. This is not a positive note. This frightening ecological imbalance of the lake has gone up so much that many fishes that were found in the lake and 19 indigenous fish species went extinct. Plants of economic and food value and rare bird species have vanished. A significant plant of the Loktak Lake which was found abundantly and was of great delicacy for the people living in and around the lake, locally called "Heikak" (Water chestnut) is now near extinction. This fruit has high nutritional value. The produce is so low now once that was harvested, stored, and eaten, cooked along with rice by the lake dwellers, it is not available anymore. The decline of this freely available, carbohydrate-rich fruit which is beneficial to the body created a negative impact on the socio-economic and food habit of the lake dwellers. Other plants which are taken as food are also on the verge of extinction.

Above this, the quantity of fish in Loktak Lake has now decreased. The extinction of various flora and fauna in Loktak is due to the installation of the Loktak Hydro Power Project, threatening the livelihoods of the people living in and around the lake. Living becomes a challenge. The rise in the population increases the biotic pressure which largely impacts the ecosystems of Loktak Lake. The situation is tense and alarming. Experts say that if we do not intervene to protect and preserve the lake in time, the lake will dwindle to small ponds soon. I fear that Loktak Lake might vanish from our eyes in the next 30 years. It is sorry to say that Loktak Lake might come to an end as Lamphelpat, Porompat, Waithoupat, etc. vanished as we gazed.

MT: So far, what steps have Loktak Development Authority taken up to protect Loktak Lake? Any new plans in the pipeline!

Asni: To protect Loktak Lake, Loktak Development Authority has established its technical and infrastructural capacity and also developed the wetland feature database. A Loktak Regulatory Regime was also established. The western vegetative catchment areas are also enhanced. Loktak Development Authority has been continuing to use machinery and manpower to regulate the water bodies in mid-Loktak Lake. To preserve the dwindling species of fishes in Loktak Lake, the Loktak Development Authority in collaboration with the Department of Fishery started making community hatcheries successfully. There is a water allocation policy that aims in balancing the ecological aspect of the lake as well as preserving the water in Loktak Lake as per requirement. But there are some challenges we face in this regard. Loktak Development Authority assisted the people dwelling in and around Loktak Lake to uplift their livelihood and economical stability

and was a success. Loktak Development Authority is providing literature, awareness programs, etc. from time to time. One of the most important works, clearing out of Pumdis, is being carried out by Loktak Development Authority. Loktak Development Authority is the prime agency that is there to protect and preserve Loktak Lake. So after I was appointed the Chairman of Loktak Development Authority, I refined the aims, and objectives of Loktak Development Authority. These have been apprised to the Hon'ble Chief Minister and concerned Ministers after consultations with experts and the Ministry of Forest and Environment, Government of India. I have also deeply analyzed the mandates and functioning of the Chilka Lake Development Authority, one of the authorities that have succeeded in lake management. Earlier, Loktak Development Authority operated with the engineering cell putting in front and other sectors following it. As a new mandate, to protect the lake, I have put the ecological approach on the front with the cooperation and involvement of the community and in consultation with the experts. This approach has already been put into action. Hydrological and wetland experts are putting their expertise into saving Loktak Lake. Community involvement is of utmost importance and I believe that with the support of the community, saving Loktak Lake will be possible. We will go on a mission with the support of the fishermen and dwellers of Loktak Lake. So, I have opened doors wide for them to come and join the mission of saving the lake. More than 30 Community Outreach Programme have been conducted to share knowledge between the people dwelling in and around the lake. There is a good response from the people. The illness tearing the lake from within is so critical that we need expert advice. So, a high-level expert committee of 11 members was formed on June 3, 2022, chaired by Professor Rajiv Sinha of IIT



Kanpur and which also includes Professor Sushma Yadav as one of the members. The committee had its first sitting and a field visit was also conducted. Analysis and assessment were also done during the field visits along with the stakeholders. The committee with come forward with a report on how and why the Lake is on the verge of extinction after in-depth analysis. Once the report comes, it will be easier to devise a plan to save Loktak Lake. Also, after consultation with the Wetland International South East Asia, a Wise-Use Policy has been drafted keeping into consideration the ecological parameters of the lake and without disturbing the biodiversities. After taking approval from the Government of Manipur, the Wise-Use Policy has been forwarded to the Ministry of Forest & Environment, Government of India for approval. We have approached the Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change and discussed the policy and have personally requested the Union Minister to give a go-ahead on the policy. The Ministry has requested IIT Roorkee to look into the policy and after IIT Roorkee vetted it, it was handed to the Ministry. I think the Ministry will approve within a month or two. We cannot save Loktak in the form of piece meal. It needs to be taken up with a holistic approach and for this, a long-term vision Master Plan of 50 to 100 years is required. With the intervention of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the experts of the Asian Development Bank assessed the present situation of Loktak. It is laudable to hear that they have prepared a master plan to protect and preserve Loktak Lake. This will be of great help to Loktak Development Authority in protecting and preserving Loktak Lake.

MT: What critical challenges do Loktak Development Authority faces in protecting Loktak Lake?

Asni: Various critical challenges are faced

while we are trying to save Loktak Lake. Firstly, the construction of the Ithai Dam on the Manipur River for electricity generation has impacted negatively the ecosystem and water regime of Loktak Lake. Once there was a water outlay for the free flow of water from the Khordak River to the Manipur River. Earlier, the Phumdis, weeds, and pollutants drained naturally through this outlay. On the south of Keibul Lamjao National Park, there is a similar water outlay known as 'Ungamen Maril' which functions the same as the Khordak River does. This water outlay serves in protecting the ecological balance of the Keibul Lamjao National Park. The construction of the Ithai Dam has created a tremendous imbalance in the ecosystem of Loktak Lake. Secondly, there is a conflict with the authority of Keibul Lamjao National Park in cleaning the waterways of the Khordak River. The construction of a small dam in a place called Nimaikhong is also a critical challenge. This small dam is adding to the imbalance being caused by the Ithai Dam. But we are consulting the authority to decommission this small dam. Third, there are 36 streams and rivers together which fall in Loktak Lake. The urban and nonbiodegradable wastes being carried down by Nambul, Nambol, and Moirang River and other streams get deposited in the Loktak bed. The soil sediments being carried down by the rivers and streams due to deforestation in the catchment areas getting deposited in Loktak's bed is also a critical challenge being faced. Another challenge is the flow of fertilizers and pesticides into the lake due to the uncontrolled use of fertilizers and pesticides in the fields by the people living around Loktak Lake. Another bigger challenge is the unbearable human interference and encroachment. As per a gazette notification in 2006, the area of Loktak Lake is read as 236.21 square kilometres. But the encroachment by the people living around the lake, construction of fish farms, construction of houses, and development of roads by departments without the consultation of Loktak Development Authority is a huge challenge for us. Excessive fishing, the act of unfair fishing by non-fishermen using electricity and pesticides, and gang poaching of birds is a threat, a challenge that needs to be acted upon.

MT: What acts can defy these challenges to save the lake?

Asni: A strong political will is required to face these challenges. It is a great fortune for us that our Hon'ble Chief Minister is taking a stand to save the lake and the hills of Manipur. These challenges have been brought to his knowledge and a high-level committee has been set up to solve the issues on encroachments. The committee has officials from the Revenue Department along with stakeholders, deputy commissioners, and officials of the Fishery Department and Settlement Department. Several sittings of the committee have already taken place. Field assessment is underway and a final report will be presented to the Government soon. Loktak Hydro Power Project has also been given strict instruction that they cooperate and must adhere to the steps taken up by the Loktak Development Authority for protecting Loktak Lake. They are also advised to bring up a proper plan to save the huge number of fish being down streamed in the Ningthoukhong Canal and also to cooperate with the Water Allocation Plan being implemented. Cleaning Phumdis is a Herculean task. Cleaning of Khordak and Ungamen waterways, diverting the Phumdis, weeds, and pesticides through these channels to Manipur River and then downstream is the need of the hour. Even though Loktak Development Authority and the Government of Manipur strive to clean Phumdis, if it is being cleaned the natural way, it will have a less ecological impact in the long run. The rise of Phumdi due to the pollutant is a great concern and we will consult with the stakeholders and experts to reduce its growth. Regulation will also be made regarding fishing. Task has been taken up to identify the primary and secondary fishermen. Above this restriction on fishing during breeding season is also a part of the regime. We are trying that the Government assists the fishermen during the breeding season.

MT: What would you say about the stand the Government of Manipur and the Central Government is taking in protecting the internationally important lake?

Asni: Since Loktak has been recognised as a lake of importance internationally as well as by the Government of India, it is a mandate for the Government of India to save the lake. State Government has a clear vision to preserve and protect this lake. In the last Election to the 12th Manipur Legislative Assembly, BJP, in its manifesto mentioned that it will convert Loktak Lake into an Iconic Wetland Site of South East Asia, and to convert the word into action, the State Government is taking up steps under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri N Biren Singh. It is an undergoing mission of the Government to save the lake of international importance.

MT: What steps are being taken up by the Loktak Development Authority to save Loktak lake with cooperation from the people without distorting the ecological balance?

Asni: By going along with the people who have lived for generations with the Loktak Lake we will revive the lost culture which arose with the lake and will protect it without disturbing its ecological balance. Loktak Development Authority has made it a mandate that it will go on in protecting the



lake in consultation with the public. Loktak cannot be saved without the help of the people and in the same way it is required that other lakes like Pumlenpat, Khoidumpat, Kharungpat, Ekoppat, and Lousipat be protected and conserved along the way while protecting Loktak Lake. For this, we have taken up to design a master plan. The help of people's representatives is required to fulfill this task. Understanding between them and Loktak Development Authority and other stakeholders is needed. Ministers, MLAs, and other local elected representatives of the eight constituencies around Loktak Lake are giving their cooperation. I believe they will further extend their cooperation to the fullest.

MT: As Chairman of Loktak Development Authority, what steps are taken up by you above the previous steps taken up by the authority and how would you be steering this?

Asni: Loktak Development Authority has started taking up new initiatives. We are steering on a different path different from the previous. The ecological approach and the Community approaches are leading the path. The ecological approach is the step where we focus on protecting the lakes and wetlands. Wetland and Waterbody are two different entities. We cannot create a wetland. It is a natural resource whereas waterbody can be created artificially. In Manipur, a wetland is considered a wasteland. It's a wrong perception. Wetland has its unique character. The ecological value, biodiversity, socio-economic and cultural values that it gives are quite matchless. Manipuri civilization and culture have its root in the wetland. Loktak Development Authority is bringing to the notice of the people the value of wetlands. Keeping community participation at the forefront, we will go hand in hand with the people. So, using the ecological approach, community approach,

scientific approach, and database approach as the first to save Loktak Lake, the engineering approach will back up when the necessity arises. Checking of water quality of the lake is very much required. The water quality check lab has been strengthened. Streams and sub-streams which fall in the lake bring sediments causing siltation. We will also check the sediment quantity. Cleaning of important rivers like Nambul, Nambol, and Moirang is being taken up in collaboration with concerned departments and will continue. Homestays in the lake will be regulated keeping in mind not to disturb the ecological balance. Above this, the treatment of catchment areas is receiving support from the community. Upgrading Champu Kanggok Floating Village, the only floating village in Loktak Lake to a Heritage Floating Village will be implemented in consultation with the Hon'ble Chief Minister. To promote the folk, traditional and cultural values associated with the lake to the whole world, a Mega Loktak Kala Utsab will be organised starting this year and discussion is on with concerned departments. Along with the promotion of eco-tourism, a 'Loktak Wetland Complex' will be established so that tourists, domestic and international can get to know the cultural, traditional, and socio-economic value of the lake. And I believe that with the recommendation of the experts, if we carry on the task with people's participation, with the stand of the Government, and support from stakeholders to save the Lake, then together we can make it happen and fulfill the dreams of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji and our Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh ji to make Loktak Lake into an Iconic Wetland of South East Asia. It's my firm stand that I will deliver my efforts in making it happen. Lastly, I appeal to the people of Manipur and stakeholders to support this cause to save our Loktak Lake.

STATE CELEBRATES BIJILI BIJILI MAHOTSAV & UJALA DIWAS

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s part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Ministry of Power, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India in association with the State Government celebrated Bijli Mahotsav and Ujala Diwas under "Ujjwal Bharat Ujjwal Bhavishya-Power @2047" in various districts of the State.

The celebration was held across the nation starting from August 25 to 30, 2022 including in all the districts of Manipur with an objective for more public participation and getting across the developments of the Power sector to the citizens at large.

The event is being used as a platform to celebrate the collaboration between the State and Central Governments to highlight the key achievements of the power sector in India and the vision of the country in these sectors for 2047, when India completes 100 years of Independence.

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh appealed to the public to consume electricity and water judiciously and added that keeping such a habit of using only the required amount of electricity and water would help in preserving our valuable energy resource.

The Chief Minister addressed the gathering at the State Level Grand Finale Event of Ujjwal Bharat, Ujjwal Bhavishya, Power @ 2047 (Bijli Mahotsav & Ujala Diwas) today at City Convention Centre, on 30th July,2022, Imphal as a part of the celebration of 75 years of Indian Independence.

Shri N. Biren Singh informed that the State Government purchased electricity from

Power companies at Rs. 10 per unit for supply of electricity to the State. However, the State Government has been providing electricity to the public at the subsidised rate ranging from Rs. 5.50 to 6.50 per unit and as such an amount of around Rs. 350 crore is spent every year in subsidy, he added. The Chief Minister, therefore, appealed to the public not to waste electricity as a large amount of State's revenue, an important factor for taking up development works, is drained out in purchasing electricity.

He maintained that the State Government had been putting in every effort to cover far flung areas of the State in all its infrastructure development programmes. He informed that those areas without electricity connection are provided power supply through off-grid power system adding that 68 Health Care Centres in Churachandpur, Chandel and Tamenglong had been facilitated with 24/7 power supply through solar power system.

Expressed satisfaction on learning that 4.10 out of 5.06 lakh power consumers had been brought under the pre-paid meter system, Shri N. Biren congratulated the Power Minister and the employees of the Power Department for such an achievement. He further informed that procurement of another 2 lakh pre-paid meters is in process and the installation would be done by the year end.

Power Minister Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh, stated the Grand Finale Event was organised in four places of the State at Bishnupur, Churachandpur, Thoubal and the one at City Convention Centre, Imphal. He continued that the achievement of the Power Department was the result of tireless and dedicated efforts of its employees. Informing that the Central Government had come up with Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme with the objective to improve the quality, reliability and affordability of power supply to consumers, he expressed hopefulness that the Power Department would be able to maintain 24/7 quality power supply by improving the power system in the State under the Scheme.

Stating that interrupted power supply is very much necessary for the State to become socio-economically viable, the Minister informed that the stringing line for Imphal-Mariani had been completed and added the State can now bring in power supply from different states. As such, there would be no shortage of power supply in the State, he maintained.

Chandel district. the celebration In was graced by, DC Chandel, Shri. Mayanglambam Rajkumar, Group GM, NHPC, Shri Premananda Laishram, GM III, MSPDCL, Shri P. Shamungou and village Chief of Thamnapokpi, Shri Th. Beshang.

DC Chandel, Shri. Mayanglambam Rajkumar, said that the development in the power sector we see today is the result of the conscious efforts of the people leaders, scientists etc who have worked hard with a vision of providing power in very sectors and every nook and corner of the country. He further added that power is a much for the development of all the sectors, may it be agriculture, service or manufacturing sectors which in turn effects the overall development of a country's economy.

DGM Chandel, Shri Letkhomang Haokip said that almost all the villages in Chandel district including the villages in the far-flung border areas are all electrified through grid or by solar power.

As part of the programme, short films capacity addition, one nation one grid, renewable energy, consumer rights and state achievements were also shown to the public.

Bijli Mahotsav and Ujala Diwas were celebrated for Kangpokpi district at Charhajare Community Hall, Saitu Gamphazol.

Shri Haokholal Hangshing, Caretaker Chairman, Sadar Hills Autonomous District Council spoke on the importance of electrification in hill districts. Stating that he came across people who unnecessarily keep their lights on even during day time, he requested people not to waste the power and urged the officials of Power Department to give necessary awareness to the people.

Deputy Commissioner, Kengoo Zuringla, IAS, highlighted on the importance of the electricity in our daily life and recalled how in earlier days people used to face hardships due to unavailability and shortage of electricity. She opined that advancement and achievements in power sector has been a boon for the people across the country and State, which paves a way for better life and development. She also advised people, including the students to use electricity judiciously.

During the function major achievements of the Power sector through short films and skit video were shown and beneficiaries gave their testimonies.

For Bishnupur District, the celebration was held at Kwasiphai Mamang Community Hall.

Education and Law & Legislative Affairs Minister, Shri Th. Basanta Kumar Singh graced the function as the Chief Guest while Smt. Irengbam Nalini Devi, MLA Oinam AC, Shri Thiyam Dilip Meitei, Member, Nachou Zilla Parishad and Smt. Thoudam Ahanbi Devi, Pradhan, Khoijuman Kwasiphai Gram Panchayat, Deputy Commissioner, Bishnupur Shri Lourembam Bikram, were the Guests of Honour at the function.



Minister Th. Basanta Kumar stressed the importance of energy conservation as the day-to-day quality of life improved with access to energy. The Minister also maintained that electricity is one of the main indicators of a State or a country's development. Stating that irresponsible consumption of power adversely impacted consumers' electric bills as well as the power distribution of the country, the Minister urged the gathering to conserve energy for the benefit of the future generation and the country.

Deputy Commissioner, Bishnupur Shri Lourembam Bikram stated that power sector reforms over the years have ensured power supply even to the remotest corners now. He also informed that the introduction of the pre-paid meter system has considerably enhanced revenue collection in the State. Suggesting that adoption of simple measures like shifting from CFL bulbs to LED will significantly contribute to energy conservation efforts, the DC urged the people for cooperation and support

District Administration Kamjong celebrated the Bijli Mahotsav and Ujala Diwas at Khamlang village under Kasom Khullen sub-division of Kamjong district on 25th July, 2022, as a part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. More than hundreds of villagers who attended the event appreciated the steps taken up by the BJP-led government for bringing such a phenomenal change to their lifestyles through this initiative,

The program was graced by Shri N Wungreiyo, Former EM, ADC Ukhrul and Shri S Thotaseng, Former member ADC, Ukhrul as the chief guest and guest of honour respectively.

DC of Kamjong, Shri Rangnamei Rang Peter and SDO of Kasom Khullen, Shri Duna Duo were the other important dignitaries in the dais today. Shri Rangnamei Rang Peter said that observation of such an event will bring awareness to the villagers about the importance of power supply in such a time and generation where everything related to life is connected to electricity.

District Administration also celebrated Bijli Mahotsav and Ujala Diwas at Multi-Purpose Hall, Senapati.

Shri Mahesh Chaudhari, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Senapati applauded the power department for availing the light and taking trouble where there is power supply shortage in the district.

District Administration, Tengnoupal also celebrated the 2nd Bijli Mahotsav & ujjwal Diwas in Wabaching Village. Smt. Mannuamching, DC who attended the celebration as Chief Guest stressed on the importance of conserving electricity. She said that in the past, there was no electricity, so the government makes it utmost priority to provide electricity not only from fossil fuels but also from renewable energies to every household for development in the country since it has become basic necessity for manufacturing and production of goods, foods and clothing.

She further appealed for everyone in the district to join the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign by hoisting the national flag in every household and says 'It is a pride moment for India' from 13th to 15th August, 2022. The village authorities can avail the national flag from the SDOs office at subsidised rate. This shows that we are grateful to be a citizen of this free nation. She further states that living in this nation has provided us with opportunities, rights and freedom to expression, so, it is time for us to contribute in our own small ways for better future.

STATE CELEBRATES 73rd VAN MAHOTSAV

anipur also joined other State in celebration of 73rd Van Mahotsav by conducting tree plantation drive.Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh led the tree plantation drive of saplings at Eshing Chaibi area of the Nongmaiching Reserved Forest in celebration of the 73rd Van Mahotsav on 7th July, 2022.

Van Mahotsav is an annual tree-planting festival celebrated in the 1st week of July i.e., from 1 July to 7 July every year to spread awareness of forest conservation and to save the environment. Thousands of trees are planted all over the country during this week. It is also known as Forest festival.

It aims to encourage people in India to plant more and more trees as industrialisation and urbanization have led to deforestation at large scale. Deforestation is a serious concern; hence Van Mahotsav week aims to bring more and more people together to grow and save forests in the country. The first week of July is just the right time for planting trees in most parts of India since monsoon arrives that time.

Further during a formal function held at the Sanamahi Kiyong Community Hall, the Chief Minister also released a book titled "The Mother of Dark Chamber" story of a



hornbill couple that nests inside the tree's cavity written by Dr. Kh. Shamungou. The Chief Minister also explained that the book could be translated into different dialects. He explained that various communities of the State revere the Hornbill bird and the book will certainly help in bringing a realization amongst the people that even the great hornbill has nowhere to build its home due to deforestation.

He explained the need to create awareness for the general public, the Chief Minister stressed that today people are aware of what Reserved Forest, Protected Forest or unclassified forest is, and are getting involved voluntarily in mass tree plantation drives across the State. He further expressed his appreciation for the Forest department and its officials.

There has been a huge change in the manner of governance, Shri N. Biren Singh observed, citing that earlier the Van Mahotsav was celebrated inside the Kangla, but now we are celebrating the Mahotsav at Nongmaiching and Koubru ranges.

He further urged the officers to think for the entire society and not just for the community the officers belong to. He also said that it is the responsibility of an Indian Forest Service officer to spread awareness of the various Forests Acts for the people to understand.

Dwelling on government actions to increase forest cover and conservation activities, the Chief Minister stated that the call to save forest cover is not for one individual but for the common good of the public. He further sought support and cooperation of the general public in the movement to save forest cover.

Shri Biren also proposed the development of a model roadside view at Waithou.

Further calling on all to support the government in beautifying the Loktak Lake

and safeguarding it for the people, the Chief Minister also urged the people against disturbing the eco-system at Loktak.

The Chief Minister further assured to bring a change in the landscape of the State in the next five years and sought support and cooperation from the people.

Shri N. Biren Singh also assured that the government will not compromise on certain issues including transparency, corruption free, drugs, anti-social elements, etc.

Forests, Environment and Climate Change Minister Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh said we should be deeply concerned by the environmental imbalances.

He said the Van Mahotsav is celebrated weeklong starting from July 1 to 7 every year. The Mahotsav is also celebrated to create awareness among the people for forest conservation and to save the environment, he added.

Further seeking support of the public, the Minister said that government action is not against any community or individual but for the collective welfare of the people.

He also said that the State's target is to achieve 75 lakh saplings plantation in the State by the end of August to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of Independence. He said that till date more than 29 lakhs saplings have been planted and another 15 lakhs saplings have been distributed for plantation which comes to around 44 lakh saplings.

He said that the department will achieve the Chief Minister's target of 75 lakh saplings plantation by August-end.

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba encouraged the general public to plant trees stating that we are all aware of the benefits of tree plantation.

STATE REMEMBERS KARGIL HEROES ON KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS

emembering the brave heroes of Kargil War, the State observed 'Kargil Vijay Diwas' at the Banquet Hall of the 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles on 26th July,2022.

Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed across the country on 26th July every year, to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the Kargil War by ousting Pakistani Forces from their occupied positions on the mountain tops of Northern Kargil District in Ladakh in 1999.

On the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh recalled the valour and courage shown by Indian Soldiers during the Kargil War driving away the Pakistani forces by recapturing mountain heights that had been seized by Pakistani intruders. He honoured the sacrifices made by Indian soldiers to save the integrity and sovereignty of the Country. He mentioned that Indian soldiers had overcome many challenges, camping at extremely cold regions, during the war which went on for 74 days, informing that the Country lost 527 soldiers in the



The Chief Minister maintained that India had witnessed considerable progress in every field, after 2014, under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. He continued that as the Country progressed in its path of development, many challenges including enmity from neighbouring countries would create impediments to the growth progress. As such, we should maintain our unity and sense of brotherhood and should be ready to face any eventualities on our way towards development. Considering its importance, the Central Government had come up with the Agnipath Scheme.

Shri N. Biren further happily informed that the Agniveer Recruitment for all the districts of Manipur, which was earlier scheduled to be held at Dimapur, Nagaland, had been rescheduled to be held at Leimakhong, Manipur from 23rd November to 5th December, 2022. Youths of the State won't face the problems of going outside the State as they would have the opportunity to appear for the Agniveer Recruitment Rally in the State, he added. He also informed the State Government would provide special priority to Agniveers in the recruitment of State's active services.

Expressed happiness on Manipur bagging the top position in the North East and Hill State category of the third edition of NITI Aayog's India Innovation Index, 2021, he lauded his Ministers, MLAs and all Officials of the State Government for their hard work and dedication towards good governance and welfare of the people.

Mentioning the 'Har Ghar Tiranga', a campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to encourage people to bring the Tiranga home and to hoist it to mark the 75th year of India's independence, the Chief Minister appealed to the public to hoist our National Flag with pride with the thought of one Nation.

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Shri Yumnam Khemchand, delivering his presidential speech, term the Kargil Vijay Diwas as a significant day as it marks the end of the Kargil War in which the Indian forces defeated the Pakistani troops and militants driving them away from the Indian side of the Line of Control. He stated that the valour and indomitable spirit of our brave soldiers should be honoured and added that everyone in this country should feel proud of the bravery shown by our soldiers.

Bishnupur District Administration also observed Kargil Vijay Diwas at the Conference Hall of DC Office, Bishnupur. Two-minute-long silence was observed as a mark of respect for the sacrifices made by our Indian soldiers in the Kargil War.

Deputy Commissioner, Shri Lourembam Bikram, ADC, Shri H. Bobby Sharma AC to DC, Shri Ejaj Hassan, District Level Officials and staff of the District Administration attended the observance.

Shri Lourembam Bikram said Kargil Vijay Diwas is observed to commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the 1999 Kargil War. The supreme sacrifice made by our soldiers is exemplary of valour and patriotism. He asserted that the employees should try to emulate the nationalism shown by the soldiers.

Nationalism, he said, is a sense of duty towards our nation, He asserted that as an employee contributing towards the betterment of the nation by carrying out one's own duty is also nationalism. One should take pride in expressing nationalism, he added. Further he emphasized that nationalism should be instilled in the minds of the young children by telling stories of historical importance of the land.

CONNECTING THROUGH THE FABRIC OF SCIENCE AND REASON



Jyotishraj Thoudam

s a man of science I am bound to have an open mind & heart to its broadest widths&deepest depths (it's the job description of a scientist). To start off this proposition, I recall, Feynman's quote, "Nature uses only the longest threads to weave her patterns, so each small piece of her fabric reveals the organization of the entire tapestry". It is often the obvious connections that we tend to ignore, but within this obviousness we separate humans and nature, and speak as if we are outside the natural circle of the order of things, which we must not. I am, forever a gopi (in the Indian sense of the word), of both Feynman and science. Standing upon their shoulders, this is a mild reflection on the possibility of bringing a connection built on science and reason among all the 34 tribes, includina. Meitei/Meetei, Meitei-Pangans & other citizens residing in this small state called Manipur.

However, this thesis, for now exists as a fantasy or at best a muse inside this curious mind of mine. I humbly submit that, others might have thought of similar things before the writing of this, therefore I shall welcome any comments submitted against or for it. Science is a beautiful subject, many consider it as an art rather than a utility tool. Personally, I feel that anything beautiful must be shared. The beauty of science is only compounded by sharing. For millennia, the Manipuri culture as a whole is surviving like a mini India with all its 34 or more various tribes in harmony or at times in conflict. Although I hold no authority over the entire historical accounts of what may have caused harmony or conflict, an idea is all we need to regain maximum well-being of this state. Here, in this article I intend to provide a point of view built over only three ideas: (1) Building an institute like that of "Institute of Advanced Studies" at Ukhrul which only does research and avoids teaching (2) Reviving and organizing old sciences which may have embedded inside the scriptures of all cultures & tribes within Manipur by coming together experts of different tribes, from within their tribes (3) A science literacy workshops & programs at various hilly locations of Manipur by renowned actors & actresses of various tribes.

The later part of the article is explaining the philosophy of the why and the how. Unlike a religious connection which is filled with multiple stories of the beginning of the universe in various tribes, a scientific connection offers only one, a logical one. Like that of a Pythagoras theorem discovered by the Egyptians, it was also discovered in India and the science is the same, therefore the story somehow makes us feel connected without the need to believe in Egyptian or Indian superstitions. It generates a feeling of mutual respect rather than a divide in the culture as in the eyes of science we are one and the same. Not only that, a scientific point of view provides an inbuilt humility in accepting something erroneous and can error correct itself, which reflects the notion of humbleness and motivates the search for truth. It is in this search for truth using the scientific principles, we can achieve a strong and long lasting bond among ourselves, which will eventually lead to the overall wellbeing of not only the state but the human phenomena as a whole. Here at Ukhrul, among the lush green mountains, where the air quality (measured by AQI, air quality index, low AQI means good air quality) is at



its best and the environment free of noise and pollution, where the nature need no air conditioning, we can unleash our minds in search for more scientific truths. Building this institute also means the locality and the neighboring villages will profit in terms of economy and with various outreach programs. One thing I realized is that there is more to life after 10th or 12th grade. People of Manipur, as a crude observation, has succumbed to believe that achieving a rank/position in 10th or 12th is the pinnacle of achievement (this does not mean that we should stop motivating the students, as a matter of fact, to the best of my knowledge, our state has a reputation for producing one of the best high school graduates compared to other states), but this is not true, and it falls in our experienced hands to bring to notice that there is a world out there to explore! Aristotle, Plato, Galileo, Alexander, Euclid, Newton, Descartes etc. were all philosophers first, and by philosophy, meaning, the love of wisdom. Now, with this institute located in Manipur, people from different states & even our neighboring countries of South East Asia can come to study under specific researchers and do research, and be explorers of wisdom. This institute would serve like that of "Institute of Advanced Studies" in the East coast of United States of America and perhaps we can build something similar to the west in Gujarat, like that of Caltech in the West Coast.

Old sciences is still a new science, and science embedded in one culture or tribe is still a treasure to any tribe because one can use its formulas without doubt as it is verifiable with evidence unlike the mythical stories and rituals which is not absorbed by other tribes. This transferability quality of scientific principles, embedded inside our cultures if discovered or brought out to our eyes will be able to connect to the collective human endeavor which perhaps can be stronger than religious bonds. However, one stark example of the beauty of Mathematical science can be found in the invention of numbers and algebra (from Arabic "reunion of broken parts") from the Muslim brotherhood. It was Al-Khwarizmi who invented algebra. Although, Al-Khwarizmi was not born in Manipur, how deep and beautiful has he made modern Mathematics and has achieved to connect various minds without discrimination and disregard. In this spirit we can, we may build our own hive of reason inside Manipur where our collective tribe join forces as one in this voyage of truth buried deep in our culture.

The last proposal is quite simple, we hack the revered fame of existing actor and actresses to convey the beauty of scientific truths. I must submit once more that, we now live in the age of science and reason, and to "arise and awake, and stop not till the goal is reached", we must be well versed in the actual dance of nature verifiable by experiments and logic. For it not only possess supreme beauty but can bring nations together with scientific principles. Hence the existence of "scientific community".

After all is said and done, there is one more thing left to be noted. Without an open mind and heart, our endeavors, even the ones set out as a blueprint here cannot be achieved. This particular endeavor should be a collaboration between the government and the public, and I believe with the present government's face paced progress will no doubt be able to achieve. As the wise man say, "A thousand miles begins with a single step." So, pick up where you left and begin this endeavors yourself, gather your own truths and let's dive in together in the sea of reason and sail our boats of logic to explore limits of human knowledge, for scientific truths are universal

The writer is PhD Scholar at IIT Gandhinagar. He works on "Nanoscale Heat Transfer which has applications on Rocket Propulsion" and has published three International Journals and is an author of three poetry books. He can be reached at jyotishraj.thoudam@iitgn.ac.in



FOR THE FIRST TIME DURAND CUP IN IMPHAL



ORGANISED BY THE INDIAN ARMED FORCES SUPPORTED BY GOVERNMENT OF MANIPUR



131st EDITION

NOT JUST A CHAMPIONSHIP. A LEGACY.

18th Aug-5th Sept | Khuman Lampak Main Stadium Army Red FT | Chennaiyin FC | Hyderabad FC Neroca FC | TRAU FC

> Online Tickets available at: book my show

Offline Tickets available from 13th Aug: Khuman Lampak Main Stadium Outer Gate 1 & 2 (Indoor Stadium)





or the first time, Manipur will cohost the 131st edition of Durand
Cup, Asia's oldest football tournament, along with Assam and West Bengal.

In connection with the upcoming event, Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh unveiled the trophies for the 131st Edition of the Durand Cup 2022 at the City Convention Centre, Imphal on 27th July,2022 in the presence of Minister, Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Govindas Konthoujam, Chief of Staff (Eastern Command) and Chairman Durand Organising Committee Lt. Gen. K KRepswal.

Shri N Biren Singh appealed to the people of the State to come out and enjoy the matches and encourage the players and organizers of the Cup, who have brought the Cup to the State to provide exposure to the State's sporting talents.

For the first time, Imphal will host 10 group matches of the Durand Cup, the oldest football tournament in Asia, from August 18 - September 5, 2022. In what is also a historic moment for the State, all three Durand Trophies, the President's Cup, the Durand Cup and the Shimla Trophy have reached Imphal and were unveiled by the Chief Minister during the ceremony. The Chief Minister said it is indeed a matter of great pride and privilege to be present at the monumental event of unveiling ceremony of trophies for the 131st edition of the Durand Cup, 2022. He thanked the Indian Army and the organizers of the Cup for bringing the iconic tournament to the "Football passionate State of Manipur."

"I wish the 131st edition of Durand Cup 2022 all the very best and I assure all support in making the tournament bigger and better than the previous years," he said and further wished the participating teams.

He said Manipur is one of the States producing the highest number of Indian Super League players.

Stated that he had himself played in the tournament as a Left defender for BSF in the 1981 edition in which his team won the trophy at Ambedkar Stadium, New Delhi, the Chief Minister said that Durand Cup matches happening in Imphal is like personally walking down the memory lane.

The Chief Minister wished all success to the tournament and also appreciated YAS Minister Shri Govindas Konthoujam and his team for their efforts.



Shri N. Biren Singh said 10 league matches will be played in Imphal.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the sacrifices of the Indian Army for the Nation and said that to further strengthen the bond with the Armed Forces, the Cabinet reviewed the remuneration awarded for gallantry award winners of the Armed Forces. He said earlier, only a paltry amount was awarded which we have enhanced significantly this time to Rs. 25 lakhs.

He said Manipur has the highest per capita officers in Armed forces in the country and further congratulated the Red Shield Division in their initiative to launch an outreach program to train and groom the youth of Manipur for entry into NDA, IMA and OTA and further assured assistance to the Red Shield Division. Lauded the State's sporting prowess, the Chief Minister said Manipuri sportspersons are playing in various disciplines and bringing laurels for the nation.

The 131st edition of the Durand Cup will be played at the five venues of Khuman Lampak Stadium (Imphal), Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium (Guwahati), Naihati Stadium (Naihati), Kishore Bharati Krirangan and Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (Kolkata). Altogether 20 teams, including defending champions FC Goa and runners up from last year, Mohammedan Sporting, 11 teams from the Indian Super League, four Services team, NEROCA FC, TRAU FC, SUDEVA FC of Delhi and Rajasthan United FC will play in this edition of the Durand Cup.

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN DISTRICTS OF MANIPUR



BISHNUPUR AT A GLANCE

Nongmainganbi Maibam DIO Bishnupur







ishnupur district, adorned by Loktak Lake and various tourist spots, is a major tourist destination for domestic and foreign tourists in the State. The Keibul Lamjao National Park, home to the brow antlered deer 'Sangai' is unique for being the only floating island in the world. The island villages of Thanga, Karang and Ithing add to the elegance of the lake. The district headquarters is now located at Mini Secretariat Complex is 31 km from Imphal City along the Tiddim Road, NH-150. The district is divided into 3 (three) Sub-divisions/C.D. Blocks Nambol, Bishnupur and Moirang.

The District Administration is led by Deputy Commissioner Shri Lourembam Bikram, with Shri N. Herojit Meitei, IPS as Superintendent of Police. Under the DC, different departments are implementing various schemes and projects in the district for the welfare of the district and its people.

Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi had conferred the prestigious Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration, 2021 for Best Performance in the implementation of 'Promoting excellence in sports and wellness through Khelo India scheme' to Bishnupur District.

Under the State Government's Sub Division Development Mission initiative, T. Ranjit, IAS, Commissioner, Govt. of Manipur is the District Coordinator, while Hannah Kamei, MCS, is Prabhari for Moirang Sub Division, Romita Athokpam is Prabhari for Nambol Sub Division.

- Area 496 sq. km
- Population 2,37,399 (2011 census)
- 64 Revenue villages,
- 227 polling stations,
- Total voter 1,82,901
- Population density 479 per sq. km
- Literacy Rate 75.85%.

ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS SCHEMES AND ITS ACHIEVEMENTS:

EDUCATION SECTOR:

The Zonal Education Office, Bishnupur is also implementing various schemes and projects in the district. The district has 8,992 students in Government schools and another 2,546 students in government aided schools in the district.

Under the Samagra Shiksha Manipur, free textbooks are sanctioned to government and Government aided schools. Two sets of Uniform have been provided to all students of elementary government schools @ Rs.600/ per child per year.

The district also has a Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), Thamnapokpi with an intake capacity of 200 Girl students for Class VI to X and another Residential School with an intake capacity of 100 students from Class VI to VIII. The KGBV is located at Thamnapokpi Moirang AC and the residential school is located at Laingoubi, Kumbi AC.

SCHOOL FAGATHANSI MISSION: constituencies of Bishnupur District in the Second phase. The schools are Bishnupur Hr. Sec School, Bishnupur, Kumbi High School Kumbi, Kwakta High School Moirang, Haokramband High School Nambol, Ngaikhong High School Oinam and Keirenphabi Junior High School Thanga. The School Fagathansi mission was initially implemented in six Schools under Six Assembly Constituencies of Bishnupur District in the first phase. The Schools are:-Ningthoukhong Hr. Sec School, Bishnupur, Wangoo High School, Kumbi, Moirang Multipurpose Hr. Sec School Moirang, Leimapokpam Public High School, Nambol, Oinam Girls Higher Sec. School Oinam, Thanga Higher Secondary School Thanga.

GOVERNMENT SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT OF HSLC EXAM, 2022

TABLE NO. 1							
Name of school	Students Ap- peared	1st Div	2nd Div	3rd Div	Total Passed	Pass %	
Moirang Multipur- posed Hr. Sec School	71	44	24	0	68	95.77	
Ningthouk- hong Hr. Sec. School	85	41	29	0	70	82.35	
Oinam Govt. Hr. Sec. School	43	16	17	0	3	76.74	
Leimapok- pam Govt. Public High School	30	27	3	0	30	100	
Thanga High School	29	5	19	2	26	89.66	
Wangoo Hr. Sec. School	113	42	41	1	84	74.34	

TABLE NO. 1

VARIOUS CSS SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED IN THE SUB DIVISIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U) is a flagship mission of the Central government. The mission aims to address the urban housing shortage among the EWS/LIG and MIG categories by ensuring a pucca house to all eligible urban households. (Please see TABLE NO. 2, 3 & 4)

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:

The Public Works Department District office is implementing various projects for road development. A few projects are:

NORTHEAST SPECIAL INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (NESIDS)

"Upgradation Of Moirang Sendra Road Upto Sendra Hillock And Road From Moirang Sendra Road To Omba Hillock And Keina Bazar On Moirang Khunou To Thanga Keibul Road 8.50 Km For Promoting Tourism Bishnupur In Manipur During 2019-20".

Court Building: Construction of G+2 Annexe building for the Court of District & Sessions Judge at Bishnupur.

CENTRAL ROAD & INFRASTRUCTURE FUND (CRIF) ONGOING

Upgradation of road connecting Moirang Sendra and Moirang Okshongbung Leikai via Thana Leikai and Sribon Leikai upto Uyungmakhong

ONGOING 5054 WORKS

Improvement works of :

- Malom Chingphu road (Lairenjam Makha to Ishok) Phase-II
- Moirang Kumbi road to Keirenphabi Mamang Leikai
- IVR at Wangoo connecting ring road
- Maibam Chingning IVR starting from NH-150 Japanese War
- Road from Nambol Hiyangthang road to Laitonjam IVR via Hospital Nakal and Khori Leikai - 2 Km

SOCIAL WELFARE:

Physical & Financial Progress Report on implementation of schemes/ programmes achieved by the District Social Welfare Office, Bishnupur during year 2022-23 (**Please see TABLE N0. 5**)



TABLE NO. 2

Implementation of CSS Schemes by the Urban Local Bodies (Municipal Councils) of Bishnupur District:

	PMAY-U		Individual Household Latrine Scheme		Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)		PM SVANidhi		
Municipal Council	Beneficia- ries	Scheme Fund Released (Rs)	Benefi- ciaries	Scheme Fund Released (Rs)	SHGs	Total amounts of revolving fund of Rs.10,000 released	LoR Appli- cation ap- proved	LoR Ap- plication received by banks/ eligible applica- tions	Loan disb- ursed by banks
Nambol	1,110 (1st BLC project) 2,325 (2nd BLC project)	10,72,20,000 (1st BLC project) 43,80,000 (2nd BLC project)	1,541	1,07,62,600/-	206	19,00,000/- (released to 190 SHG)	398	358	141
Bishnupur	1035	7,44,60,000	698	44,22,000/-	204	10,20,000/- (released to 102 SHG)	286	26	106
Moirang	2,127	13,50,60,000	1,223	1,15,38,000/-	-	5,30,000/- (released to 53 SHG)	267	75	75
Kumbi	1,315 (MIS entered)	7,66,20,000	1,232	99,84,000/-	52	5,20,000/- (released to 190 SHG)	137	137	22
Kwakta	1st Phase 794	5,71,20,000/-	926	55,62,000/-	101	8,60,000/- Released to	3	-	1
	2nd Phase 430	-				86 SHGs			
Oinam	830	4,55,70,000	252	29,76,000/-	63	6,30,000/- (released to 63 SHG)	8	8	7

District Child Protection Unit, (DCPU) Bishnupur has been providing different Child Protection Services including Institutionalization; Adoption; Sponsorship; Counseling; Support Person to victim of POCSO; Social Investigation Report (SIR) for both CNCP and CCL, CHILDLINE (Toll Free No. 1098 Night and Day 24/7) and PM CARES for Children Scheme and Chief Minister gi Angangi Tengbang (CMAT) for

COVID Orphans.

The district has seven Child Care Institutions (CCIs) separate for boys, girls, girl child with special need and one Specialized Adoption Agency.

Sponsorship, which is financial assistance of Rs 2000/- per month, has been provided for three years to 39 Children.

During COVID-19 Pandemic, DCPU

TABLE NO. 3 PMAY-Grameen

	SECC							
	2016-17 to 2018-19		2019	-20	2020-21			
Block Name	Target fixed by district	Completed	Target fixed by district	Completed	Target fixed by district	Sanctions with verified accounts		
Bishnupur	96	96	40	28	32	30		
Moirang	251	251	180	160	167	166		
Nambol	-	-	53	12	46	44		
Total	347	347	273	200	245	240		

*Number of houses where registration and sanction are being taken up from non-SECC list in the district is 672 for financial year 2021-22.

TABLE NO. 4

MAHATAMA GANDHI NREGA IN BISHNPUR DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 2021-22

	Total Number Of Job- Cards		Employment Availed				Work Details	
Blocks	Applied For	lssued	House- hold	Person	Total Per- sondays	% Tage Of Mandays	No Of Works Started	Not Yet Completed
Bishnupur CD Block	16650	16590	16223	17027	879512	54.21	457	457
Moirang CD Block	18047	18045	17592	18858	954371	54.25	475	475
Nambol CD Block	16958	16931	16700	17128	898653	53.81	355	355
Total	51655	51566	50515	53013	2732536	54.09	1287	1287

identified 3 COVID orphans and have been enrolled for Chief Ministergi Angangi Tengbang (CMAT) Scheme. Also 30 COVID semi orphans have been identified and all the children have been uploaded at Bal Swaraj portal of NCPCR.

The 3 COVID Orphans are also enrolled for PM CARES for Children Scheme. The scheme provides financial assistance of Rs 10 Lakhs, PM-JAY Health Card, Financial assistance of Rs 20 thousand from Ministry Of Higher Education per annum and financial assistance of Rs 4000/- per month from Child Protection Services to every child.

ICDS

Tree plantation drives are also undertaken in the district as part of the State's Green Manipur Mission in the State. The Integrated Child Development Services, Bishnupur District as on July 2022 had carried out tree plantation at 820 Anganwadi Centres at Bishnupur & Moirang, organised as a part of the observance of the Van Mahotsav from 4th July 2022 around 1000 trees were planted in the campus and nearby areas of respective Anganwadi centres.

Under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), altogether 229 pregnant and lactating mothers have been provided financial assistance ranging from Rs 1000 to Rs 5000, in 3 instalments for a total amount of Rs 12,20,000/- only.

Construction of 36 Anganwadi centres out of 43 Centres allocated to be constructed



TABLE NO. 5

Physical & Financial Progress Report on implementation of schemes/ programmes achieved by the District Social Welfare Office, Bishnupur during year 2022-23

SI.	Name of Colomos	No.of existing	Rate of payment
No.	Name of Schemes	beneficiaries	per beneficiary
1.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) 60 to79 years	5115	Rs.200/- p.m.
2.	Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) 80 and above years	627	Rs.500/ p.m.
3.	Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) 40 to 59 years	414	Rs.300/- p.m.
4.	Indira Gandhi National disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) 18 to 59 years	119	Rs.300/- p.m.
5.	Manipur Old Age Pension (MOAP) Scheme 60 years	6990	Rs.200/- p.m.
G	Care-giver allowance/Maintenance Grant to Persons with Disabilities with	700 (Existing lists)	Rs.1500/- p.m.
6.	High Support Needs under "Chief Ministergi Shotharabasingi Tengbang" (CMST)	41 (Additional lists)	Rs.1500/- p.m.
7.	Scholarship of students with disabilities under "Chief Ministergi Shotharabasingi Tengbang" (CMST)	08	Class - 1 to 5 - Rs. 3000/- p.a. Class - 6 to 8 - Rs. 4000/- p.a. Class - 9 to 10 - Rs. 6000/- p.a.
			Graduate & above - Rs. 8000/- p.a.
8.	Free travel and Concession of PwDsunder "Chief Ministergi	20 smart cards	
0.	Shotharabasingi Tengbang" (CMST)	distributed.	-

under VI Phase (2020-2021), have been started.

DISTRICT SERICULTURE OFFICE, BISHNUPUR

Under the Integrated Sericulture Development Project (ISDP), altogether 695 beneficiaries have been selected for the year 2014-15; 2015-16 & 2016-17. Out of these beneficiaries, 161 beneficiaries have received full sanction of funds. From the remaining 534, altogether 256 have received 70 percent of the fund, while 278 have received 40 percent of the fund.

EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE BISHNUPUR

TABLE NO. 6

Registration	S u b m made	ission	Vocational Guidance		
1123 (as on 31-	3963	(2021-	1018	(2021-	
3-2022)	2022)		2022)		

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Under the Chief Minister's Health for all (CMHA), the district has screened 19,423 individuals and started 15 health facilities as on April 20th, 2022. There are 10 ASHA + Device Active in the district and the scheme has already been started in 76 villages out of which screening has been completed in 43 villages.

COVID Vaccination in Bishnupur

Out of an intended target of 1,96,373 individuals in the 18+ age group, 1,45,334 which is 74.01 percent has received the 1st dose of COVID Vaccination in the district. Altogether 1,21,244 which is 61.74 percent has received the second dose and 11,768 have received the precautionary dose. The target is provided by the GOI.

In the 15-18 years group, 9,298 individuals and 5,638 individuals have taken the first and second dose of vaccination respectively. In the 12-14 years group, 5,401 and 2,456 have taken their first and second dose of COVID Vaccination, respectively.

TABLE NO. 7

HIV +ve detected for last 10 years in Bishnupur District.

Cat.	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gen	56	54	49	37	30	30
ANC	4	13	6	8	2	0
Cat.	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022 Apr- June 2022	Total
Gen	19	28	11	16	3	330
ANC	1	3	0	1	0	38

MSPDCL

Manipur State Power Distribution Limited has also been successfully implementing Honb'le PM's flagship programs of SAUBHAGYA & UJALA Schemes. The district has already provided 11,000 power connections under the SAUBHAGYA Scheme and provided 20,000 numbers of LED Bulbs under the UJALA Scheme.

Conversion of naked wire LT lines to insulated LT Aerial Bunched (AB) Cable lines upto 70% of total network has been achieved in the district so far.

TABLE NO. 8

The total number of 11/0.415KV Distribution Sub-Stations(Transformers) in operation under different Sub-Divisions as on 31.07.22 are:

	Name of Sub-	Total No. of	Associated	Distribution L	ines (Kms.)	Consumers Covered (No.)	
SI. No.	Division	Sub-Station (DTR)	11KV (HT)	LT AB Cable line	LT Bare Conductor	Pre-paid	Post-paid
1	Nambol S/D	189	125.65	253.45	50.56	15935	400
2	Bishnupur S/D	237	203.40	119.50	90.00	11777	550
3	Moirang S/D	225	139.75	360.00	69.00	11761	579
4	Kumbi S/D	131	82.85	177.00	240.00	8310	44
	TOTAL:	782	551.65	909.95	449.56	47783	1573

Physical and Financial Status of Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM)

Under this Scheme, financial assistance are made available to the farmers on purchase of farm machineries on subsidized rate. The allocations for the year 2021-22 (2nd Inst.) both for Central & State share are given the table 10.



TABLE NO. 9

Ongoing Scheme/programs under Horticulture & Soil Conservation

Activities	Scheme/ Mission	Benefitted
Distribution of Fruits sapling a) 6000 no. Of banana Tc b) 2000 no. Of Dragon Fruit c) 2000 no. Of citrus sapling	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture(MIDH)	100 farmers.
Distribution of Vegetables seeds > Summer vegetable seeds: 75 hectare to cover (Okra, Chilli, Cucumber, Onion etc.)		150 farmers
Creation of Water Resources Construction of Farm Pond		11 farmers
Construction of Pack House		5 farmers
Construction of Retail Outlet		2 beneficiaries
Construction of Primary Processing Unit		1 beneficiary at Oinam Awang

TABLE NO. 10

SI.No.	Nome of Machinery/Equipment	Pattern of	Central &	Recommended to the Director
51.NO.	Name of Machinery/Equipment	Assistance in lakhs	State Share	of Agriculture, Manipur
1.	Farm Machinery Bank (Limit to 4 lakhs)	4.00	7	7
2.	Farm Machinery Bank (Limit to 9.5 lakhs	9.50	4	4
3.	Tractor 2WD	2.50	7	7
4.	Tractor 4 WD	3.00	11	11
5.	Power Tiller (8 BHP & above)	0.85	25	17
6.	Reaper	0.75	20	20
7.	SP Rice Transplanter (4 row)	1.50	6	6
8.	Plow, Cultivator, Case wheel, Ridger, Harrow	0.20	20	0
9.	Leveler Blade	0.30	20	2
10.	Rotavator (5 feet)	0.42	20	1
11.	Rotavator (6 feet)	0.45	20	20
12.	Harvesting & Threshing equipments	1.00	10	10
13.	Post Hold Digger	0.40	4	1
14.	Power Weeder (Engine operated above 5bhp)	0.63	6	3
15.	Straw Chopper/Shredder/ Mulcher Mounted type 5ft	0.67	20	2
16.	Chaff cutter	0.20	30	11
17.	Mini Rice Mill	0.15	50	29
18.	Water Pump	0.15	30	30
19.	PP Manual, Power Sprayer	0.0075	30	0
20.	Cono Weeder	0.012	30	0
	тот	AL =	370	181

ACHIEVEMENT UNDER UKHRUL FOREST DIVISION

Shanngam S, IFS Divisional Forest Officer Ukhrul Forest Division Government of Manipur





evenue collection: Revenue in the form of royalty are collected by the Department as per the Schedule rate of Royalty, 2021 notified by the Secretariat: Forest, Environment & Climate Change vide No: 57/3/91-For dated 24/02/2021. During the financial year 2021-22, Ukhrul Forest Division collected a total of Rs. 3827063/-(Rupees Thirty eight lakh twenty seven thousand and sixty three) only from 4 (four) Beat Offices namely, Litan, Hundung, Ngahui & Jessami Beat Offices. Major and minor heads of revenue collection are as follows

Month: March, 2022				(Amount in Rupees)					
SI No.		Name of Forest Produces	Unit	Till previous months		During the month		Cumulative	
	Range	Produces		Qnty	Amount	Qnty	Amount	Qnty	Amount
	Ukhrul Division	1. Compounding of offence number 11 of 2020 for illegal ex- traction of hill earth with 100% fine	Cu.m	2384.76	119238	0	0	2384.76	119238
		2. Royalty collection from hill earth	Cu.m	144.44	3611	0	0	144.44	3611
		3. Stone aggregates	Cu.m	4464.99	244730	0	0	4464.99	244730
1		4.Royalty collection for transportation of auctioned Dalchini bark	Kg	500	100000	0	0	500	100000
		5. Sand	Cu.m	465	27900	0	0	465	27900
		6.Converted Timber	Cum	58.37	20449	0	108788	58.37	129237
		7. Auction	Cum	30.79	143688	0	0	30.79	143688
		8. Firewood	Ton	14	3400	7	1700	21	5100
		9. Sawmill		0	37813			0	37813
		10. Dept. Extraction (A1 & A2)	Cum	425.98	940488	164.03	474671	590.01	1415159
		11. Dept. Extraction (B & C- Class)	Cum	0	0	504	712235	504	712235

		12. Marking and Felling Charge (10% royalty charge) (A1 &A2)		0	92595	0	47311	0	139906
		13. Marking and Felling Charge (10% royalty charge) (B & C class)		0	0	0	71223	0	71223
		Sub-Total (Ukhrul Division):-		8058.12	1696031	675.03	1415928	8733.15	3111959
		1. Firewood	Ton	1124.5	387600	0	0	1124.5	387600
		2. Auction Timber 2 T/L		0	0	0	0	0	0
		(i) Log of A2 Class	Cu.m	16.6	76410	0	0	16.6	76410
		(ii) Size	Cu.m	2.6	22953	0	0	2.6	22953
	Ukhrul	(iii) Round log A2 class, TP of dt 03/03/2021	Cu.m	3.5	34545	0	0	3.5	34545
2	Range	(iv) Marking charges	Cu.m	3.5	3455	0	0	3.5	3455
		(v)16 TP from dt 22/03/2021 to 12/04/2021 for A2 class	Cu.m	0	33604	0		0	33604
		3. Sawn Timber	Cu.m	0	8026	0	0	0	8026
		Sub-Total (Ukhrul Range):-		1150.7	566593	0	0	1150.7	566593
	Jessami	1. Firewood	Ton	145	62900	0	0	145	62900
3	Range	Sub-Total (Jessami Range):-		145	62900	0	0	145	62900
	Chingai	1. Auction Round Log of A-Class	Cum	8.44	39230	0	0	8.44	39230
4	Range	2 Firewood	Ton	7	3400	21	5100	28	8500
		Sub-Total(Chingai Range):-		15.44	42630	21	5100	36.44	47730
	Total (1+2+3+4)		9799.47	2406035	696.03	1421028	10495.5	3827063	
	Major	1. Sawn Timber	Cu.m	58.37	28475	0	108788	58.37	137263
		2.Timber Log auction	Cu.m	65.43	353885	0	0	65.43	353885
4		3.Dept Extraction (A1 & A2)	Cum	425.98	940488	164.03	474671	590.01	1415159
		4.Dept Extraction (B & C)	Cum	0	0	504	712235	504	712235



		5. Marking and Felling Charge (10% royalty charge)(A1 &A2)		0	92595	0	47311	0	139906
		6. Marking and Felling Charge (10% royalty charge)(B & C class)		0	0	0	71223	0	71223
		Sub-Total (Major):-		549.78	1415443	668.03	1414228	1217.81	2829671
		1. Firewood	Ton	1290.5	457300	28	6800	1318.5	464100
		2. Hill Earth	Cu.m	2529.2	122849	0	0	2529.2	122849
		3. Sand	Cu.m	465	27900	0	0	465	27900
		4. Stone aggregates	Cu.m	4464.99	244730	0	0	4464.99	244730
5	Minor	5.Royalty collection for transportation of auctioned Dalchini bark	Kg	500	100000	0	0	500	100000
		Sawmill		90.63	37813	0	0	90.63	37813
		Sub-Total (Minor):-		9249.69	990592	28	6800	9277.69	997392
6	Misc	Nil		0	0	0	0	0	0
-		Sub-Total (Misc):-		0	0	0	0	0	0
		Grand Total:-		9799.47	2406035	696.03	1421028	10495.5	3827063

2. Forestry activities: The Division implements forestry activities under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Green India Mission (GIM), National Bamboo Mission (NBM). Under these Schemes, Ukhrul Forest Division are carrying our plantation over an area of 4348.53 ha spread across the District at various stages (Advance Work, Creation, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th& 5th Maintenance). Some of the activities are shown below:



Adv.work NPVARK.Walleley20Ha



Adv.workNPVARK.Khayangkho10Ha



Adv.workNPVMIXEDShirui30Ha



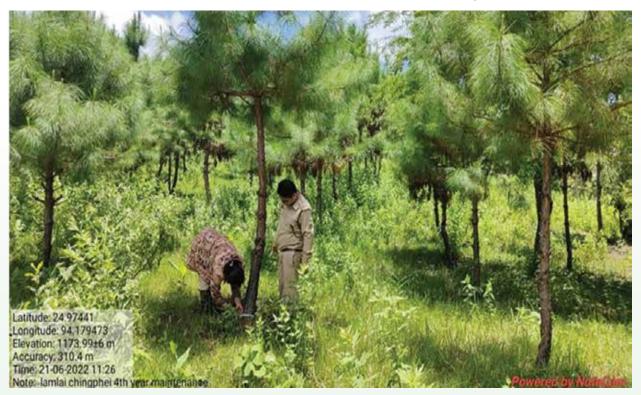
CreationCATYaolenChepu100Ha



Maint-ICATChoither100Ha



Maint-IVCAChepuYaolen-II100Ha



Maint-IVPCALamlaiChingphei70Ha

113 | Manipur Today | August, 2022



3. KFW: This is an externally aided project for holistic development of Thoubal Catchment areas in Ukhrul District. The project is funded by KFW, a bank in Germany. The name of the project is called Community-based Sustainable Forest Management for Water Resource Conservation in Manipur (CSOFOM).25 (Twenty five) villages of Ukhrul District in the Thoubal River catchment areas have been identified to be part of this project. Some of the activities undertaken by these villages are shown below:



Community nursery at Nungshong Khullen village



Community Nursery – Choithar



EPA SHIRUI – Water Distribution Tank - 1



EPA SHIRUI – Water Distribution Tank - 2



EPA SHIRUI – Water Distribution Tank - 3



PRA exercises at Hoomi Village

4. VAN DHAN VIKAS YOJANA under TRIFED: Under the Scheme, Self Help Groups are club together to form Van Dhan Kendras, to work together with all the available resources .Not only were the Van Dhan Kendras provided with technical knowledge of value addition products but were also given basic materials to kick start the production. The tribals in the region gave an overwhelming response and training was given at their doorsteps. With time the value added products of the district increases and from local producers it has started exporting various products such as Amla Candy, Wild Apple Candy, Plum candy etc to other parts of the country. There are 21 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras with a total of 6408 ST members in the District. Till date the revenue generated by all the Kendras from the sales of Value added products have cross 50.00 lakhs and effort are being made to push marketing so Some of the activities carried out by this VDVK are shown below:



Advocacy programme



Inauguration of Hungpung Kaziphung Haat Bazaar at Kaziphung



Visit of Hon'ble Forest Minister and Local MLA at VDVK Stall during StateShirui Lily Festival, 2022



Inauguration of Storage room at the Oo Range Forest Office, Ukhrul



Inaugration of VDVK Outlet at Ukhrul Forest Complex

Value addition process

Latitude

Decimal

25.076945

Longitude 94.328099 94*19'41 E

DMS

25°4'37" N

115 | Manipur Today | August, 2022



5. VAN MAHOTSAV CELEBRATION 2022: "The festival of Forest" 2022 was celebrated in the 1st week of July, 2022 in the following locations:

SI. No	Name of Plantation Site	Location (Latitude, Longitude)	No. of Seedlings planted	Name of dignitaries inaugrated the event	Date of plantation
1	Lunghar Jorcheng	25° 8'49.08"N 94°27'38.02"E	3000	Shri. N Sonzalian, IFS Adll. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests	01-07-2022
2	Nayi Kaphung	25° 8'23.33"N 94°20'35.92"E	1500	Shri. K Siyo Range Forest Officer	01-07-2022
3	Ngahui	25°17'1.06"N 94°28'2.61"E	1500	Shri. Z Soreingam Forester	02-07-2022
4	Jessami	25°37'48.83"N 94°32'16.14"E	1500	Shri. K Siyo Range Forest Officer	04-07-2022
5	Yaolen Chepu	25° 0'7.21"N 94°12'9.00"E	3000	Shri. Shanngam S, IFS DFO Ukhrul	05-07-2022
6	Hamleikhong	25° 5'17.25"N 94°21'36.94"E	800	Shri. Ram Muivah (Rtd. IAS) MLA, 44 AC	07-07-2022









REPORTS ON VARIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS AND PROGRAMMES UNDER HEALTH DEPARTMENT, PHERZAWL DISTRICT (2021- 2022)

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istrict Health Profile: Pherzawl Health Department has only 1 Block - Tipaimukh that include Vangai Block (as per Administration). Being a newly created district and located in the most remotest part of the State, the district lacks basic infrastructure and Manpower in all health care centres as compared to other much developed districts in the state. In spite of its challenges faced, the department is doing an excellent works in providing its best to be at par with other districts.

Some of the achievements made by Health Departments are:

- 1. CHC Parbung: The only health centre functioning as district hospital in the district achieved "Commendation Award" under KAYAKALP in the year 2020 -2021, the most coveted National Cleanliness Award for health centre.
- 2. PHC Sibapurikhal: The farthest PHCs located in vangai block is being awarded the prestigious National Cleanliness Award KAYAKALP as "Best PHC Award" for 2 consecutive year 2019 2020 and 2020 2021 respectively.
- 3. Installation of 250-capacity PSA Oxygen Plant at CHC Parbung in the year 2021.
- 4. Availability of 5 bedded ICU at CHC Parbung 2021
- 5. Availability of 4 bedded COVID Isolation ward at CHC Parbung.
- 6. Truenat Testing Facility installed at CHC Parbung.
- COVID-19 Vaccination Activities: COVID Vaccination is carried out in all interior villages going by boat, on foot (walking long distances 7-8 hrs. The achievement of vaccination is as below:

SI. No.	Doses	Achievements	Age wise	Achievements
1.	1st Dose	16604 (45.5%)	12 - 14 years	1179
2.	2nd Dose	16190 (97.5%)	15 - 17 years	2025
3.	Precautionary Dose	1963	18 - 43 years	17337
			44 Years & Above	9341
			HCWs	598
			FLWs	678

8. COVID-19 Testing Activities

DISTRICT PROFILES

INDICATOR

SI.	Name of District	Pherzawl
1	Total number of Blocks	2
2	Total number of Villages	52
3	Population	26658
4	Literacy rate	79%
5	Estimated numbers of OPD	8593
6	Estimated numbers of IPD	495
7	Estimated number of deliveries	242
8	Estimated number of C-section	Nil
9	Estimated numbers of live births	241
10	Estimated number of eligible couples	1768
11	Estimated number of leprosy cases	Nil
12	Estimated number of Malaria cases	Nil
13	Total CHC	1
14	Total PHCs	3
15	Total PHSCs	13











(From top right: 250 LPM Capacity PSA Oxygen Plant (PM CARES), CHC Parbung, 4-Bedded COVID Isolation Ward, CHC Parbung, 5-Bedded ICU, CHC Parbung, COVID Vaccination Activities, CHC Pherzawl)

119 | Manipur Today | August, 2022



National and Other Health Programmes implemented in the District include:

SI. No	NHM Programmes implemented in the District	Activities performed
Α.	CHILD HEALTH	
A1.	National Deworming Day (NDD)	De-worming of children's 1-19 years of age.
A2.	Intensified Diarrhoea Control Fortnight (IDCF)	Control of Diarrhoea cases under 5 years of age.
A3.	Weekly Iron Folic Supplement (WIFS)	Weekly Supply of Iron Folic Tablets to Schools and AWCs.
A4.	Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS)	Screening of Children for Pneumonia and its management
A5.	Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)	Screening of Children for Malnutrition at Schools & AWCs
A6.	National Iron Plus Initiative (NIPI)	Supply of Iron Syrup and Tablets to all children's
A7.	Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram (RBSK)	Screening of new born for birth Defects, Disease, Deficiency & Delayed
В.	Adolescent Health Programme (RKSK)	Adolescent Clinics and Distribution of Sanitary pad, PE Programmes.
С	National Programme for Prevention & Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases & Stroke (NPCDCS)	
C1.	Non Communicable Disease (NCD)	Screening of 30+ above population for NCD.
C2.	National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP)	Implementation of COTPA Act 2003 in Schools & Offices
C3.	National Mental Health Programme (NMHP)	Counseling on mental health in all health centre's
C4.	National Programme for Health Care of the Elderly (NPHCE)	Screening of Elderly patient at home by ANMs/ASHAs
C5.	National Programme for Palliative Care (NPPC)	Care of Terminally III patients at Home by ANMs/ASHAs
D.	Maternal Health (MH)	Care of Pre & post Natal care of Mother
D1.	Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)	Free ANC Check-up on 9th of every month.
E.	Family Planning Programme (FP)	Aim to provide Healthy Family through safe & secure family planning methods
F.	National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)	Monthly malarial positive surveillance
G.	Integrated Disease Control Programme (IDSP)	Monthly Diseases Surveillance Programme
H.	Ayushman Bharat	
H1.	Health and Wellness Centre (HWC)- Ayushman Bharat	Conversion of PHSCs into HWCs
١.	National Quality Assurance Standards Program (NQaS)	Kayakalp certification of CHC/PHCs/HWCs
J.	National lodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme (NIDDCP)	Testing of household salt
К.	National Viral Hepatitis Control Programme (NVHCP)	Providing free testing and treatment at CHC Parbung
L.	Immunization Programme	RI, IMI, IPPI
М.	COVID -19 Vaccination	12 - 14 years, 15 - 17 years & 18+ above
N.	National Dialysis Programme (PMNDP)	Under Progress
0.	Chief Minister Health for All (CMHA)	Health Screening not yet Initiated
Р.	Ayushman Bharat Yojana (PM- JAY/CMHT)	Enrollment and treatment actively underway
Q.	250 Capacity PSA Oxygen Plant	Centralized 02 in all ICU Beds

August 2022 | Manipur Today | 120



STATE BEGINS HAR GHAR TIRANGA CAMPAIGN

began "Har Ghar tate Tiranga"campaign in various districts. 'Har Ghar Tiranga' is а campaign under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to encourage people to bring the Tiranga home and to hoist it to mark the 75th year of India's independence. Our relationship with the

flag has always been more formal and institutional than personal. Bringing the flag home collectively as a nation in the 75th year of independence thus becomes symbolic of not only an act of personal connection to the Tiranga but also an embodiment of our commitment to nationbuilding. The idea behind the initiative is to invoke the feeling of patriotism in the hearts of the people and to promote awareness about the Indian National Flag.

The campaign was launched on 22nd July 2022 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to encourage citizens to hoist the national flag at their homes during the period of 13-15 August to celebrate the 75th Independence Day under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav Initiative.

Ukhrul District has started the "Har Ghar Tiranga" campaign with the various government and private schools under Zonal Education Officer (ZEO), Ukhrul by conducting slogan and painting competitions on the theme "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" and "Har Ghar Tiranga" at their



respective schools.

Ukhrul Central School, Somdal NK Higher Secondary School and Maringmi Memorial School. Students and teachers hold the tri-colour national flags and placards with a few phrases that read as "I love my country", "salute to freedom fighters", "relieved from bondage", "one happiness", "independence brought freedom, right & liberty" etc. The ZEO and CEO/ADC are expected to organise quiz, rallies, debates and song competitions in all the schools and colleges until 15th of August 2022.

The Deputy Commissioner of Ukhrul district, Shri. Krishna Kumar, IAS has instructed all the DLOs to hoist the tricolour national flag at their respective offices. He also further decided to hoist the national flags at every household, institutions (both private and government), Anganwadi centres and hospitals all over the district during the weeklong campaign of Har Ghar Tiranga.

The District Administration Kangpokpi distributed the National Flags for the





'Har Ghar Tiranga' (HGT) campaign to the various departments in the district at the Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex in Kangpokpi Headquarters.

A total number of 19,314 National Flags were received from the General Administrative Department (GAD). Following the guidelines, various departments collected 7,936 National Flags till the office hour.

The flags will be hoisted at the various institutions including offices, schools and households in the district during the HGT campaign which has been launched as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' which is being celebrated to commemorate and celebrate the 75 glorious and historic years of a progressive Independent India.

Deputy Commissioner, Pherzawl District received altogether 3226 National Flags from GAD, Govt. of Manipur for the Har Ghar Tiranga (HGT) Campaign. The Deputy Commissioner handed over 131 National Flags to the ZEO/Pherzawl District for display in Schools during the Independence Week Observance from 11th- 17th August 2022. Zonal Education Officer (ZEO), Pherzawl also conducted slogan and painting competitions on the theme "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav" and "Har Ghar Tiranga" at their respective schools.

A total of 3000 National Flags alone will be distributed in households across the district for the Campaign and 226 National Flags have been earmarked to be hoisted in Anganwadi Buildings, Govt. & Private Schools, Government Offices & Buildings and One Stop Centre.

District Administration, Thoubal also handed over National Flags for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' (HGT) campaign to various government departments in the district at the Deputy Commissioner's Office Complex, Thoubal. The National Flags were also handed over to the office of the Executive Officers of Municipal Council/NP in respect of Urban Area and BDO's in respect of Rural areas for distribution of flag at household level.

Volunteers of NYK Thoubal conducted affiliation of Youth Clubs with NYKS and distributed National Flags for hoisting at Youth Club offices and motivated members for the campaign. As part of the campaign, the district administration will be organising a rally, slogan writing, painting and debate competition.

District Administration Kamjong distributed the National Flags for the Har Ghar Tirangga (HGT) campaign to the various departments in the district. The distribution was held at the DC Office Camp, Kamjong at 2nd MR.

A total of 6491 National Flags of various sizes were received from the General Administrative Department (GAD). Following the guidelines, DLOs of various departments collected the flags personally from the Deputy Commissioner of Kamjong, Shri Rangnamei Peter himself.

Handing over the flags, the DC also appealed and instructed the officials to make sure that the protocols of the Flag Code of India of the Indian tricolor is strictly adhered to.





MANIPURI PLAYERS CONTINUES TO WIN MEDALS AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

layers from our State continued to win medals at International Level, in the recently concluded Commonwealth Games 2022 held at Birmingham, Saikhom Mirabai Chanu which bossed the 49kg field as expected to defend her Commonwealth Games title and give India the first gold medal of the Birmingham edition. The Olympic silver medalist aggregated a total of 201kg (88kg + 113kg) to stamp her authority in the competition and achieve a Commonwealth Games record in the process. Meanwhile, Weightlifter Sorokhaibam Bindyarani Devi (55kg) clinched silver in the women's 55kg as India continued its medal rush at the Commonwealth Games. Bindyarani lifted a total weight of 202kg (86kg+116kg).In Judo, Shushila Devi Likmabam won silver medal in the women's -48kg. Hockey player, Sushila Chanu Pukhrambam also won bronze medal at commonwealth games as Indian Women's Hockey Team beat New Zealand by 2-1 at Shoot out.

Shanglakapam Nilakanta Sharma won silver mesal as Indian Men's Hockey Team was runner-up in the final match played between Australia. 7 players from the State participated in the recently concluded Commonwealth Games and out of them, 5 players were able to win medals at the Competition.



August 2022 | Manipur Today | 124