

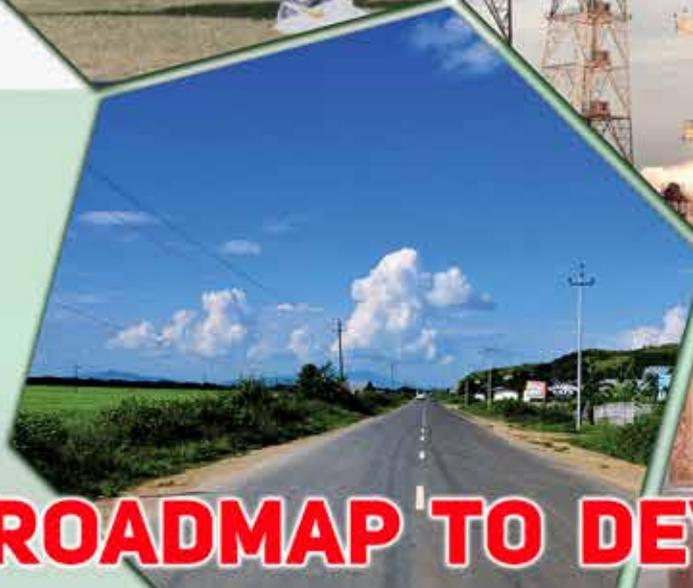
August, 2019

মহাশিল্পের সূচনা

Vol. XL. No. 2

# MANIPUR TODAY

*Independence Day 2019 Special*



**ROADMAP TO DEVELOPMENT**



মহাভাৰতৰ স্মৃতি

# MANIPUR TODAY

*Independence Day 2019 Special*



*Department of Information & Public Relations  
Government of Manipur*

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**DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA**  
GOVERNOR OF MANIPUR



## MESSAGE

I am happy to learn that as done every year, the Department of Information & Public Relations, Government of Manipur is bringing out a special issue of “Manipur Today” on the occasion of the Independence Day, 2019.

Independence Day reminds us of the sacrifices of our freedom fighters in the struggle to free India from the clutches of the British rule. We all have read about the role of our freedom fighters, the sacrifices they made and in the process how thousands lost their lives to get independence for the country. On this memorable day, let us remember those brave souls who sacrificed their everything for the nation. In the last more than seven decades of Independence, India has made remarkable progress in every sphere of life. New challenges have, however, arisen which impact on 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 our hard earned freedom and also contribute in building a better India where all are equal and no one goes hungry or gets victimised.

I wish a happy Independence Day and hope that this publication will be a valuable source of information to all.

*Najma Heptulla*  
(DR. NAJMA HEPTULLA)



**SHRI N. BIREN SINGH**  
CHIEF MINISTER, MANIPUR



## MESSAGE

**I** am glad to learn that the Department of Information & Public Relations, Manipur is bringing out a special issue of Manipur Today on the occasion of Independence Day, 2019.

Independence Day is an important occasion for all of us to look back and focus our thoughts on this great landmark in the history of our nation and rededicate ourselves to the ideals of democracy and freedom. Today, we bow in reverence to the memory of all whose sweat and sacrifices have made it possible for us to enjoy this precious freedom. On this solemn occasion, we should renew our pledge to uphold and promote the spirit of nationhood, unity and integrity as citizens of an independent country. Let us also celebrate this joyous occasion by committing ourselves to create an atmosphere of love and mutual understanding and work for ensuring peace, progress and prosperity in our State as well as in the country.

I extend my warm greetings and best wishes to the people of Manipur on this auspicious day and wish the publication of Manipur Today a grand success.

(N. BIREN SINGH)



सत्यमेव जयते

**SHRI TH. BISWAJIT SINGH**  
MINISTER, IPR



**MESSAGE**

I am happy to learnt that the Directorate of Information & Public Relations, Government of Manipur is bringing out the a Special Issue of “Manipur today” on the occasion of the Independence Day Celebration on 15th August, 2019. It is my unerring hope that the publication will help in enlightening the different indigenous groups inhabiting the State about the various activities of the present Government for the welfare of the whole population of the State and to maintain peace and solidarity and I am proud of the unstinting endeavour of the Department

I extend my profound gratitude to the management and wish the venture all success.

(TH. BISWAJIT SINGH)



## SCIENTIFIC DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA PRE-INDEPENDENCE & POST-INDEPENDENCE ERA

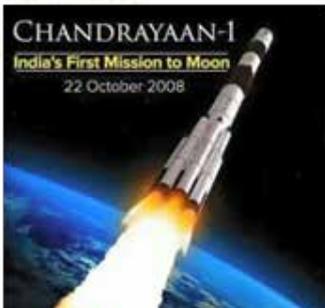
*N Rajmuhon Singh  
Department of Chemistry  
Manipur University*

**T**he most powerful force to affect mankind is the scientific and technological revolution. Science and technology have changed the world more in the past few centuries than in all the millennia of the past. And the end is nowhere in sight.

In fact, the pace of change is accelerating and even the most perceptive thinkers are unable to predict confidently where it will lead us in the future.

India is a great nation with a rich heritage and wealth of knowledge radiating to the whole world. During the last

thousand years or so, multiple invasions eroded its culture, scientific talents and civilizations. India's non-participation in the Industrial Revolution, poor status and of agriculture, mismanagement of resources and increase population, deteriorated the prosperity of this great nation. Great leadership saw India's



independence and evolved a road map for growth. With huge natural resources, biodiversity and human resources and with high technology mission mode programmes, India is poised to recapture the glory of the past. Tracking back the past scientific talents of India to the present day strengths and chalking out the future will help India in becoming a great nation once again.

Out of the many mission modes, the recent successful Chandrayaan Mission may be mentioned here. The launch of October 22nd (2008) put India in a select club of five members that have carried out lunar missions. Chandrayaan-I entered its final orbit around the moon on 15th November 2008. Again, the successful launch of ISRO's Chandrayaan-II from the second launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre on 22 July 2019 at 2.43 PM IST (09:13 UTC) has shown the inherent potentials and unique talents of elite scientists and engineers of the country. In the future of India the budding intellectual minds can play a crucial role by igniting the spark lying within the human potential to reach the pinnacle of glory in our nationhood.

#### **CHANDRAYAAN-I CHANDRAYAAN-II**

Development of Science and Technology in India

In India, the last decades of the nineteenth and early decades of the twentieth century witnessed a national awakening in all spheres of creativity. The 'Indian Renaissance' also produced outstanding scientists. Fired by nationalism, disregarding comforts, and undeterred by severe handicaps, these men did world-class science by indomitable will. We stand on their shoulders today. The thumbnail sketches of the torch bearers present their travails and triumphs. We pay our homage to these masters who gave us strength and confidence.

#### **THE HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN INDIA DURING THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE AND POST-INDEPENDENCE ENCOMPASSES A WIDE SPECTRUM.**

In the last quarter of the nineteenth century, there emerged two major Indian initiatives for the promotion of science. In 1876, an enlightened medical practitioner, Mahendralal Sarkar (1833-1904) established the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science at Calcutta. Mahendralal Sarkar had realized that the time had come when Indians should cultivate science and imbibe its rationality. His patriotic call was so persuasive that several wealthy Indians volunteered to donate gener-

ously for the establishment of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science at Calcutta (now Kolkata).

In Bombay (now Mumbai), there was a rare visionary, Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata (1839-1904), who perceived national regeneration in his own way. With his dedicated endeavours and business acumen, Tata had a triple-standed vision for India's progress: the manufacture of iron and steel, production of electricity, and promotion of higher education. While he had laid a solid foundation for the first two protects, he left their implementation to his two sons. But his heart lay in the establishment of an institution for higher education. In 1898, J.N. Tata individually offered to the Government of India, his 14 houses and other landed property in Bombay (then worth Rs. 30 lakhs) which could yield an annual income of Rs. 1,25,000 for the running of the new 'University' to impart training at a higher level to bright young Indian students. The path was by no means easy. It eventually took the form of the Indian Institute of Science at Bangalore (1909-1911), which began to play a seminal role in the subsequent growth of science and technology in India.

Srinivasa Ramanujan (1887-1920) is probably the greatest mathematician

That India has given the world



and among the greatest that the world has seen. This legendary Indian mathematician S. Ramanujan is considered to be one of the greatest mathematicians of the twentieth century. Well known mathematicians G.H. Hardy and J. E. Littlewood compared Ramanujan's mathematical abilities and natural genius with all-time great mathematicians like Leonhard Euler, Carl Friedrich Gauss, and Karl Gustav Jacobi.

Astonishingly, a faithful cross-cultural collaboration between this young Ramanujan, ill-educated mathematical genius and his mentor at Cambridge University, G.H. Hardy turned the world of mathematics upside down.



Chandrasekhara Venkata Raman (1858-1970) is often remembered as the

genius who won the 1930 Nobel Prize for Physics, working with simple equipment barely worth Rs. 300. C.V. Raman

was one of the greatest experimental physicists of the twentieth century and the first Asian scientist to win the Nobel Prize. His spirit of inquiry and devotion to science laid the foundations for scientific research in India, for not only did he win honour as a scientist but also inspired several generations of students.

The Raman Effect is one of the most significant discoveries of the twentieth century. The discovery of Raman Effect catapulted India into the scientific pedestal of the world and it is our sincere conviction that the vignettes of Raman's life and work will continue to inspire our budding scientists' to strive tirelessly towards scientific excellence in India.

Other torch bearers whose names are worth to mention are:



- Jagdish Chandra Bose (1858-1937): His pioneering works on Wireless Telegraphy, anticipating the existence of p-type and n-type semi-conductors (sixty years before discovering them).

- Prafulla Chandra Ray (1861-1944): He was the driv-

ing force behind the setting up of several industries specially the pharmaceutical industry in India.



- Sisir Kumar Mitra (180-1963): He was remembered for his contributions to the development of broadcasting in India. He started the radio industry in the country. In scientific circles, Mitra is renowned for his contributions to the study of ionosphere.



- Birbal Sahni (1891-1949): Birbal was the most eminent paleobotanist India has ever produced. He founded the Institute of Paleobotany at Lucknow in 1949, the only one of its kind in the world, now renamed after him.



- Meghnad Saha (1893-1956): He grew up to become an astrophysicist of world repute whose theories of thermal ionization of elements and selective radiation pressure revolutionized astrophysical thought.



- Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis (1893-1972): P.C. Mahalanobis was the first Indian statistician to receive world recognition. In fact, the history of statistics in India reads more like Mahalanobis biography.



- Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (1894-1954): Bhatnagar was an institution builder, who played a remarkable role in the development and management of scientific research in the country. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), which he set up almost single handed, today spans a network of nearly 40 laboratories spread throughout the country.
- Satyendra Nath Bose (1894-1974): He was famous



for his Bose-Einstein Statistics. Elementary particles, such as photons that obey Bose statistics, are called 'Bosons' thus ensuring a permanent name for Bose in science.



- Homi Jahnagir Bhabha (1909-1966): Bhabhawill always be remembered as the architect of India's nuclear energy programme. One of India's most outstanding scientists and an imaginative administrator with a multifaceted personality, Bhabha was an ardent nationalist. H.J. Bhabha was the main brain behind the establishments of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai and Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR).



- Vikram Ambalal Sarabhai (1919-1971): The dawn of the vision for India's space programme was made by Prof. Vikram Sarabhai. It was one-page statement made in the year 1970 which stated,

"India with her mighty scientific knowledge and powerhouse of young should build her own communication, remote-sensing and meteorological spacecraft and launch from her own soil to enrich the Indian life in a satellite communication, remote-sensing and meteorology."

Visionary Vikram Sarabhai is known as the father figure of Indian space research.



- Ram Nath Chopra (1882-1973): He will always be remembered by the Indian medical and scientific fraternity as the Father of Indian Pharmacology. He was the first to induce experimental pharmacology (and rudiments of clinical evaluation of drugs) in India. He was also a strong proponent of the need to study "indigenous drugs" with the ultimate aim of making India self-reliant in its drug requirements.



- Darashaw Noshawan Wadia (1883-1969): A most reputed geologist of the country Professor Darashaw Noshawan Wadia was also India's first National Professor in Geology. Much of the earliest knowledge about the Himalayas was through Wadia's exemplary work on the geology of the Himalayas.



- Vasant Ramji Khanolkar (1895-1978): "Within these walls a few work so that many may live..." This was the motto proclaimed by Vasant Ramji Khanolkar when his efforts helped establish the Indian Cancer Research Centre in Mumbai. And true to these words, Dr. Khanolkar and his band of committed researchers engaged in some of the best research in cancer to have come out in India. The first pathologist in India, he made major contributions to the epidemiology and understanding of cancer, blood groups and leprosy and is

called the "Father of pathology and medical research" in India.

- (1894-1991): Dr. C. G. Pandit will be remembered as the man who put India on the world map of medical research, and as the one who helped establish the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Dr. Pandit is also known for his path-breaking work on filariasis and endemic fluorosis.



- William Dixon West (1901-1993): A giant among Indian earth scientists, Professor William Dixon West left indelible footprints on the sands of time as a deeply perceptive author of geodynamic history of the Indian crust and as a great institutional builder. West established the Department of Applied Geology and developed it into a Centre of Excellence in Saugar University (now Hari Singh Gour University) in Madhya Pradesh and promoted the tradition of cooperation between educational institutions and GSI.

In addition to the above men-

tioned torch bearers of Indian Renaissance, it is worth to mention some of the great visionaries of the contemporary India. Foremost amongst some of the visionaries who transformed India by building core competencies in their respective fields using technology and innovative management as a tool were:

Prof. M.S. Swaminathan (father of Green Revolution), Dr. Verghese Kurien (father of White Revolution), Sam Pitroda (pioneering role in communication and information systems in India), A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (father of missile technology), etc.

Among other visionary scientists, Prof. C.S. Seshadri, Prof. C. N. R. Rao, Prof. J. V. Narikar, Prof. S. Narasingham, Prof. Ashok Sen, Dr. S. Kothari, Prof. Ramaseshan, Prof. G. N. Ramachandran, Prof. Satish Dhawan, Dr. Raja Ramanna, etc. all have rendered invaluable service in their respective fields of works.

The anecdotes and biographies of these eminent scientists will certainly inspire and motivate young students and scholars to work harder towards achieving scientific excellence in our country.



Thangjam Joykumar, founder of Thangjam Agro Industries, at his office in Chingmeirong  
Photo: Deepak Oinam

# THANGJAM JOYKUMAR

LIKLA SHOWS HOW MADE IN MANIPUR BRAND CAN BE SUSTAINABLE

Sagolsem Snehprabha  
Editor, HQ, DIPR Manipur

**2** 8 years, two manufacturing plants, a bakery chain and over 800 employees, Thangjam Joykumar Singh, 59, the man behind Imphal based Likla (Dewdrops) brand have ventured into a sector where many fear to tread in Manipur. The first Generation Entrepreneur, who started a small food and fruit processing company, Thangjam Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd, on 14th May 1991

From a brief fling with the apparel sector to founding one of Manipur's biggest food and beverage company

selling only pineapple squash now, is one of the recognised market leader in the food and beverage industry in the North-Eastern State.

Realising the State's suitable agro-climatic conditions that make it ideal for agriculture and horticulture, Joykumar decided to set up one of the first few startups in the food and beverage sector. That decision has now born fruit. The company under its flag-

ship brand, Likla, now offers packaged drinking water and bakery items, apart from fruit juice and other beverages.

Likla is a textbook case of how a “Made in Manipur” brand can also be sustainable while providing quality foods and beverages. Also out of the over 800 employees, women constitute 70% of the workforce.

“By using locally available resources, Likla, has managed to occupy mind as well as market share in the State. For the last 7-8 years, we have managed a 60% year-on-year growth rate in production, turnover and employment generation. In fact, in 2016-17 we reported 80% growth. Likla now employs 600 people and another 250 indirectly,” he said.

### EARLY DAYS

Belonging to a lower-mid-

dle-class family in Chingmeirong East in Imphal, Joykumar, the 7th of 10 children born to Thangjam Birachandra Singh, a marginal farmer who also ran a small grocery shop, completed his Master’s Degree in Economics from Bhopal University, Bhopal in 1983. On his return, he started his hands on various ventures.

The business bug, however, bit him early. “The desire to take up entrepreneurship was born while helping my father in our family business during the 9-10th standard”, he said.

After completing his studies he dabbled in the apparel industry, timber business, and even retailed LML Luna.

In 1991, he launched Thangjam Agro Industries Pvt. Ltd. with just four employees at Chingmeirong East in Imphal selling pineapple juice under the brand name Likla. Pineapple is wide-

ly available across Manipur. The state is the second-largest producer of the fruit in India. “I started my venture from the garage of my home. I was involved in the production, marketing to sales of the pineapple squash”, said Joykumar.

The startup was founded with an initial investment of Rs. 10 lakhs. Manipur Industrial Development Corporation (MANIDCO) provided a term loan of Rs. 5 lakhs and Imphal Urban Co-operative Bank provided Rs 1.5 lakh for the venture.

In the first few years, he faced immense marketing and logistic problems. “Manipur during the ’90s when I started, was beset with myriad of difficulties—problems of transport (both interstate and in-





ter-district due to poor roads and blockades), frequent power outages, lack of financial backing and non-existence of industrial policy”, he said.

After struggling for five years his food processing company started looking up.

#### SCALING UP

In 2010, he steered the company through a

massive expansion mode with finance from Bank of Baroda, Imphal and Venture Capital Assistance from Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium, New Delhi. This helped increase the company’s production capacity to 1000 MT from 200 MT per annum that year which has now increased several-fold.

Packaged drinking water was introduced in October 2011 and bakery items in October 2016. The following year the entrepreneur opened a Likla

Bakery outlet at Moirangkhom, Imphal, the first of a chain of

bakery outlets. “We now have four Likla Bakery Outlet—at Moirangkhom, Sargolband, and TakhelLeikai( all in Imphal West) and Porompat in Imphal East. Six-Seven Likla Bakery outlets will open across the State in the coming years” he said.

In December 2012, the second manufacturing unit was commissioned at Food Park, Nilakuthi, Imphal to meet the increasing demands. The first plant at Chingmeirong East currently also serves as headquarter for the company.

The current product range includes processed foods (Jams, Pickles, and Canned foods), beverages like Squashes and Non-fruit RTS drinks, Packaged Drinking Water and Bakery items.

The startup operates in the Busi-



ness-to-Business (B2B) and Business-to-Consumer (B2C) model.

### CHANGING MINDSET

Joykumar is glad to see the growing industrial sector in Manipur, which can now substitute various imported products with locally manufactured products. “A decade ago packaged drinking water was on the top of the list of imported items but now nearly all of it has been substituted with state production,” said Joykumar.

Likla competes with national giants like Kinley and Bisleri in the packaged drinking water market in the state.

Food processing adds value and elongates the perishable item’s lifespan helping create sustainable economic development for small farm growers. The perishable items are sourced from across the state. Oranges are mainly procured from Tamenglong, Lemons from Ukhrul and Passion fruits from Churachandpur and Senapati districts of Ma-

nipur. Pineapples, however, are sourced from across the state.

Joykumar attributes the growth of the market for processed food and beverage due to its acceptability by a majority of the people. “Our baked items appeal to health-conscious consumers who prefer baked to fried snacks. Factors such as lifestyle changes and rising disposable income have resulted in demand for more processed foods and packaged drinking water,” he said.

### MANTRA FOR SUCCESS

The venture was founded with the vision to harness local resources to grow into a world-class foods company delivering quality food products without burning a hole in their pockets. Quality consciousness is what made the Likla brand stand out. “Quality in products and quality in service is the heart of Likla’s product strategy”, he said.

With a three-pronged approach-- of intensive research (RD team and marketing team researches market trends at the same time maintain quality), core team building and a sound distribution/logistics policy, Thangjam Agro Industries intends that it’s here for the long haul.

### ECOSYSTEM FOR ENTREPRENEUR

For his outstanding contribution to India’s economy through the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector, the Chamber of Small Industry Association (CO-SIA) honoured Joykumar with the Entrepreneurship Appreciation Award, 2010. Joykumar is also the recipient of the Governor’s Trophy for Best Entrepreneur, 2012. “First Generation Entrepreneur needs financial backing and a conducive ecosystem to encourage them in their venture”, he said.

The present Government under Hon’ble Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is making a significant contribution to the promotion of Made in Manipur brands and development of industry and in the State. The government’s industrial policy, 2017 lays stress on the agriculture and horticulture based industries including food processing industries.

“Entrepreneurs, especially the youth should respond to the call of the Government.



At Thangjam Agro Industries 70% of the over 800 workforces are women

The entrepreneurs with the backing of the Government can come up with innovative “Made in Manipur” brands that will help in boosting the local economy”, he said.

The Manipur Start-Up Policy is also a huge morale booster and great assistance to first-generation entrepreneurs. The scheme has already started implementation with the financial assistance of Rs 150 crores over five years during 2017-2022. 334 startups/ beneficiaries were given Startup loans for 2017-18.

Different Startups have helped local employment generation as well as boosted the local economy. According to Manipur’s 17 Employment Exchanges, unemployment figures have more than halved



*L Deben Singh (left), General Manager of Thangjam Agro Industries, started working with Joykumar even before he established the company*

from 8,03,123 to 3,63,475 as on October 2018.

### ROAD AHEAD

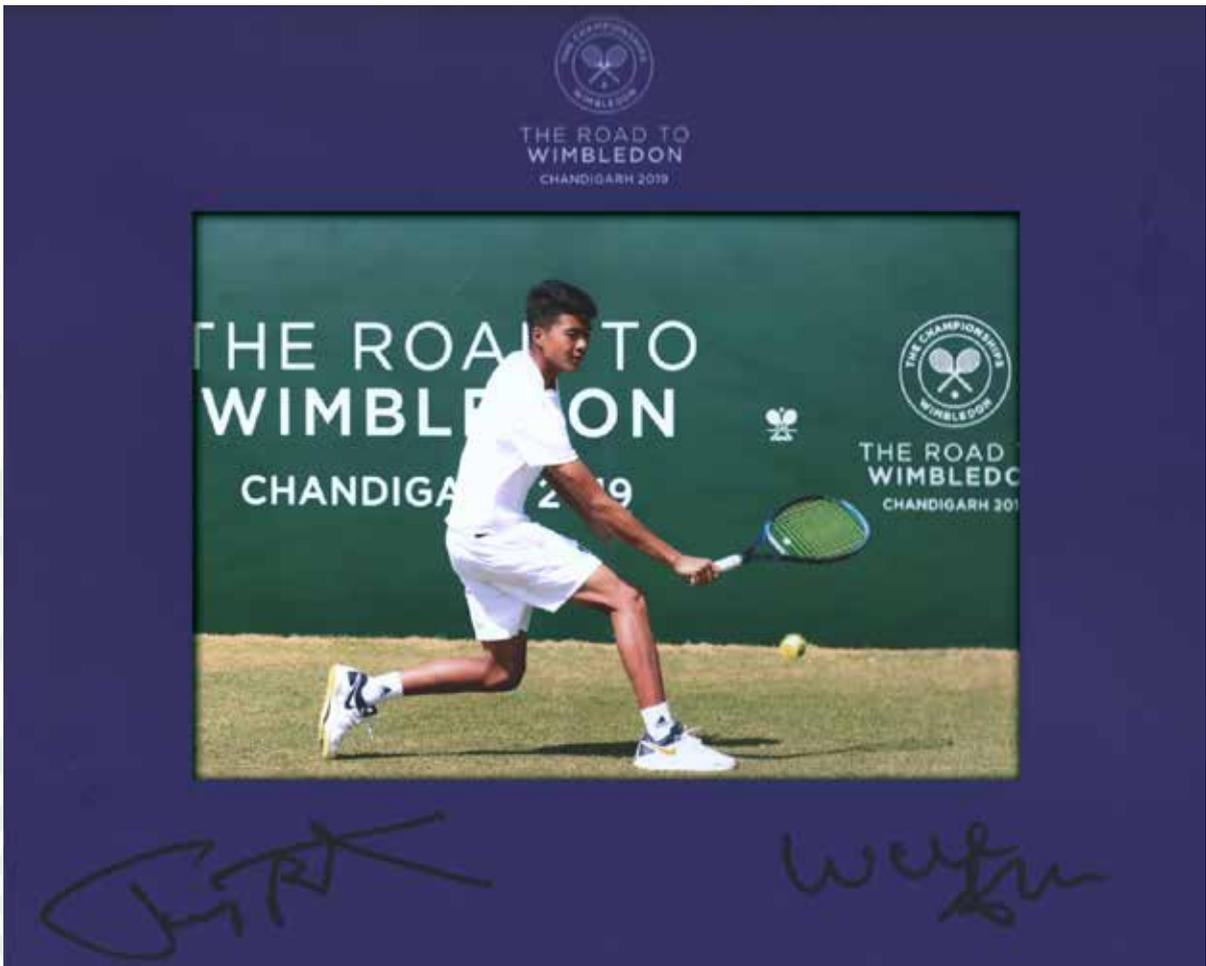
Joykumar’s vision is to expand the product categories for Thangjam Agro Industries and also to enter the education sector. “To provide quality education, we plan to upgrade the recently launched JJ

School Montessori at Imphal West from preschool to High School level,” he said.

Thangjam Agro Industries’ success is inspiring as it demonstrates that in spite of various constraints, genuine entrepreneurship can still be sustainable.



*Thangjam Joykumar with his son Thangjam Jimmy, who manages the Marketing and Advertising unit*



## BHUSHAN HAOBAM 'EXCITED' TO COMPETE AT ROAD TO WIMBLEDON 2019

Laishram Roshan  
Assistant Publicity Officer (Field)

**B**hushan Haobam is one of the 16 finalists and one of the two U-14 tennis players from India selected for the Road to Wimbledon (RTW) 2019 where players from China, Hongkong, Japan, and UK will be competing at the world-famous courts at Wimbledon. Bhushan, whose favourite tennis player is Nick Kyrgios of Australia, is also the first tennis player from Manipur to be selected to play in the International Arena. Bhushan has been selected along with Ayushman Arjeria to represent India after defeating their compatriots in a U-14 RTW tournament taken part by top 17 tennis players in the country.

RTW is the biggest junior tournament in British tennis and allows all U-14 tennis players to progress through to compete on the world-famous grass courts at Wimbledon. Commonly known simply as Wimbledon, or The Championships, the oldest tennis tournament in the world, has been held at the All England Club in Wimbledon, London, since 1877.

Bhushan opened up about preparation for RTW, fitness regime and present scenario of tennis in the state.

**MT: First of all, Manipur Today and DIPR would like to congratulate you on being selected for the RTW tournament?**

Bhushan: My humble gratitude to Manipur Today and DIPR for giving me an opportunity to be interviewed.

**MT: How do you feel on being selected as one of the two players from the entire country to play at RTW tournament?**

Bhushan: I feel excited and also it is a proud moment for our state that we can also compete in the international arena in the game of tennis. It is also a wonderful feeling that I shall be playing at the courts where the Wimbledon tournament is held.

**MT: How is your preparation for the Road to Wimbledon?**

Answer: Right now, I am undergoing rigorous training at Imphal District Tennis Association (IDTA), Lamphelpat under Coach Sir Toijam Brojen and other senior players.

**MT: How do you work on your fitness and endurance?**

Bhushan: As tennis is a game which requires a lot of stamina and endurance, I am working light fitness and on Fridays, I am following the heavy fitness regime.

**MT: What specific training and extra preparation are**

**you working on for RTW?**

Bhushan: Under Sir Brojen's guidance, I am giving extra emphasis on my service and in the last few weeks, I have improved a lot from before.

**MT: What do you think is the present scenario of tennis in Manipur?**

Bhushan: Compared to some years back, tennis has improved quite a lot in the state. In the past, tennis was not given any importance and we didn't hear about any achievements in the game. This might be due to lack of proper coaches, parental support and playing courts. Fortunately, with the dedication and support of associations like IDTA, Manipur Tennis Association (MATA) and others, we get enough space to play tennis. And in IDTA, we can play even in the night time as proper floodlighting has been provided.

**MT: People believe that tennis is a very expensive game. Your views.**

Bhushan: Tennis is indeed expensive but it is affordable. Earlier, people use to travel far away for training and tournaments. But today, we get the same facility and exposure as we have certified coaches and major national and international tournaments are also organised in our state. We also make small adjustments when we travel but to achieve something, we have to face

some difficulties.

**MT: Future goals.**

Bhushan: I have a target of entering the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Top 10 ranking in a few years.

**MT: Your favourite player.**

Bhushan: Nick Kyrgios of Australia.

**MT: Your greatest strength.**

Bhushan: Self-confidence and never giving up.

**MT: To whom will you credit your success?**

Bhushan: I would like to give credit to my father, coach, and grandfather.

**MT: What advice would you give to future and upcoming players who have a dream of pursuing tennis as a career?**

Bhushan: I would like to suggest that hard work, dedication and self-belief is the key to success. Moreover, we should never give up when we face any hurdle in life. We should also obey our coaches as they will be imparting to us the technical and strategic knowledge about the game.

*RTW is the biggest junior tournament in British tennis and allows all U-14 tennis players to progress through to compete on the world-famous grass courts at Wimbledon.*

## BIODATA OF BHUSHAN

Name: Bhushan Haobam

Date of Birth: 23-02-2006

Father's Name: L Haobam Jayanta Singh

Mother's Name: Ratna Mayengbam

Class - IX

School: Kendriya Vidyalaya School, Lamphelpat, Imphal

Address: Uripok Sorbon Thingel, Near RIMS Road, Imphal

1. 13th Governor's Junior Tennis Championship, 2014 (Winner(Under) - 10 yrs, Imphal)
2. AITA Under 12 years Talent Series Tennis Tournament, 2015 (Winner (Under) - 12 years, Imphal)
3. 15th Governor's Junior Tennis Championship, 2016 (Winner(Under) - 12/14 yrs, Imphal)
4. 16th Governor's Junior Tennis Championship, 2017 (Winner(Under) - 12 yrs, Imphal)
5. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2017 (Winner (Under) - 12 years, Guwahati)

6. AITA Championship Series Tennis Tournament, 2017 (Winner (Under) - 14 years, Imphal)
7. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2018 (Winner (Under) - 14years, Imphal)
8. National Ranking Tournament AITA Super Series, 2018 (Winner (Under) - 14years, Imphal)
9. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2018 (Winner (Under) - 16 years, Manipur, Imphal)
10. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2018 (Winner (Under) - 16 years, Assam, Jorhat)
11. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2018 (Winner (Under) - 14 years, Kolkata)
12. AITA Super Series Tennis Tournament, 2017 (Winner (Under) - 16 years, Kolkata)
13. School Games Federation of India 64th National School Games 2018-19 (Mumbai Maharashtra, (Winnder (under) 14 yrs)
14. 26th NMSA All India Ranking National Series, 2019 (Winnder (Under) 16 yrs), Mumbai, Maharashtra
15. The Road to Wimbledon, Chandigarh, 2019 (Qualifier for Wimbledon Boys Master)



*Bhushan with the writer at IDTA Complex, Lamphelpat Photo: Okendro Sanasam*



*Bhushan Haobam with Coach Toijam Brojen Singh*

#### INTERVIEW OF COACH TOIJAM BROJEN SINGH.

**MT:** How long have you been associated with tennis?

**Brojen:** I started playing tennis in 1999 at the time when the National Games was held in Manipur. I won the Manipur state championship for seven times held in 2004, 2007, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018.

**MT:** Any difficulties faced during your time

**Brojen:** Due to lack of proper guidance and coaches at that time, I couldn't get the facilities and exposure today's players are getting. As a coach now, I am trying my best so that my students get the best in every possible way.

**MT:** When did you switch on to coaching?

**Brojen:** In 2014, I did a Diploma in Coaching at National Institute of Sports (NIS), Bangalore. I also attended various workshops of eminent coach Stalin Nagarajan. I worked at SAI Takypat from 2015-18 and from 2018 I have been giving coaching at IDTA, Lamphelpat.

**MT:** How can tennis be improved in the state?

**Br:** Parents in Manipur focus more on formal education and give less importance to games and sports. Parental support is very much necessary in this regard. Moreover, proper guidance in coaching and choosing of the tournament is also important.



## YOUTH ICONS

### YOUNG MANIPURI NEWSMAKERS

**M**anipur Government appointed Elangbam-Valentina Devi as brand ambassador for the Chief Minister's Green Manipur Mission on 7th August 2019. The nine-year-old girl was in the news recently after a video of her crying inconsolably when two Gulmohar trees she planted were felled went viral on social media.

This year, Manipur's youth became newsmakers as many

trailblazed their path to success in various fields—from Bollywood, Space Science to sports. While a Manipuri actor made his Bollywood debut, another played a key role in the Chandrayan II mission.

Elangbam Valentina Devi, the "Tree girl" of Manipur

Valentina, dubbed as the "Tree Girl", by the media, made the news due to her 'immense love and exemplary affection for trees'. According to reports Valentina, the eldest daughter of Elangbam Prem-

kumar Singh and Elangbam-Saya of Hiyanglam Makha-Leikai, Kakching district had planted two Gulmohar trees about four years ago in her locality while she was studying in Class I.

Now studying in Class V at Amutombi Divine Life English School, Wabagai she wept after seeing the trees being cut down while cleaning the bank of a river in her locality.

The matter reached the authorities of the state govern-

ment after the video clip of her crying went viral in social media. At the time of filing this story, the Facebook post, uploaded by her uncle on 3rd August, 2019 has received 2,900 views, 631 comments and been shared 2,700 times.

The order issued by the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur under the directive of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh stated that she will be Brand Ambassador for the Chief Minister's Green Manipur Mission for one year from the date of issuing the order.

She will be involved in various government-sponsored plantation programmes including ceremonial tree plantation, VIP plantations, World Environment Day and Van-Mahotsava etc. Further, she will be part of all such advertisements/ campaigns which promote an increase in green cover in Manipur.

## SPACE SCIENCE

Hidam Rajeev Singh, a native of Manipur, has made the state proud after playing an integral role in the successful launch of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s Chandrayan-II which took off from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh on 22nd July 2019. Chandrayaan-II is India's second lunar exploration mission after Chandrayaan-I. Rajeev said he is a member



of the team which produced the Stage I Solid Stage Rocket Boosters for Chandrayan-II according to a media report.

Rajeev was also a member of the team which produced solid propellant for Mars Orbiter Mangalyaan launched in November 2013.

Rajeev who was born at Jiribam, a small border town in Manipur, joined ISRO as a Scientist at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota in 2009.

## SPORTS

Manipur known as a sports powerhouse has produced many world-renowned sportspersons. The most popular sporting icon of Manipur - the boxing legend MC Mary Kom, 36, clinched the gold

medal in the 23rd President's Cup Boxing Tournament in Labuan Bajo, Indonesia on 28 July 2019.

The Six-time world champion and Olympic bronze medalist Mary defeated Australian April Franks 5-0 in finals in the 51 kg category.

Former world champion and Padma Shri Awardee Saikhom Mirabai, 25, also won a gold medal by lifting a world record 191 kg (84kg + 107 kg) in 2019 Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship at Apia, Samoa on 10th July 2019.

It's not just established names, but the field of Sports saw rising stars in disciplines otherwise not popular in Manipur.

Shutler Maisnam Meiraba Lu-



wang, 16, won his 1st global title in Russia. One of the rising stars in the galaxy of Indian Badminton, he clinched the U-19 singles title at White Night Russian Junior International Badminton 2019 in St Petersburg, Russia on 7th July 2019. The 3rd seeded Meiraba lifted his first under 19 singles title after knocking out Pune Shutler Varun Kapur in the finals.



Tennis player Bhushan Hao-bam, 13, is one of the 16 finalists and one of the two U-14 tennis players from India selected for the Road to Wimbledon (RTW) 2019 where players from China, Hongkong, India, Japan, and

UK will be competing at the world-famous courts at Wimbledon. RTW is the biggest junior tournament in British tennis and allows all U-14 tennis players to progress through to compete on the world-famous grass courts at Wimbledon, London.

Bhushan, whose favourite tennis player is Nick Kyrgios of Australia, is also the first tennis player from Manipur to be selected to play in the international arena. Bhushan who has been selected along with Ayushman Arjeria to represent India, aims to enter the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Top 10 ranking in a few years.

#### Entertainment

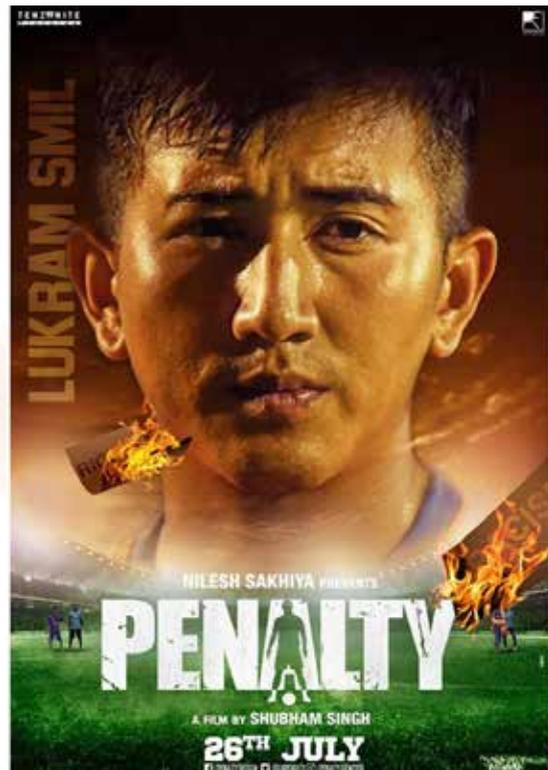
Lukram Smil, made his Bollywood debut with sport-drama, Penalty. Smil, an actor from Manipur plays the lead which is unheard in Hindi films. Directed by debutant director Shubham Singh, the film which also has veteran actor Kay Kay Menon as the coach was released in July, 2019. Braving discriminations, the hero of the film manages to fight for his dream as a foot-

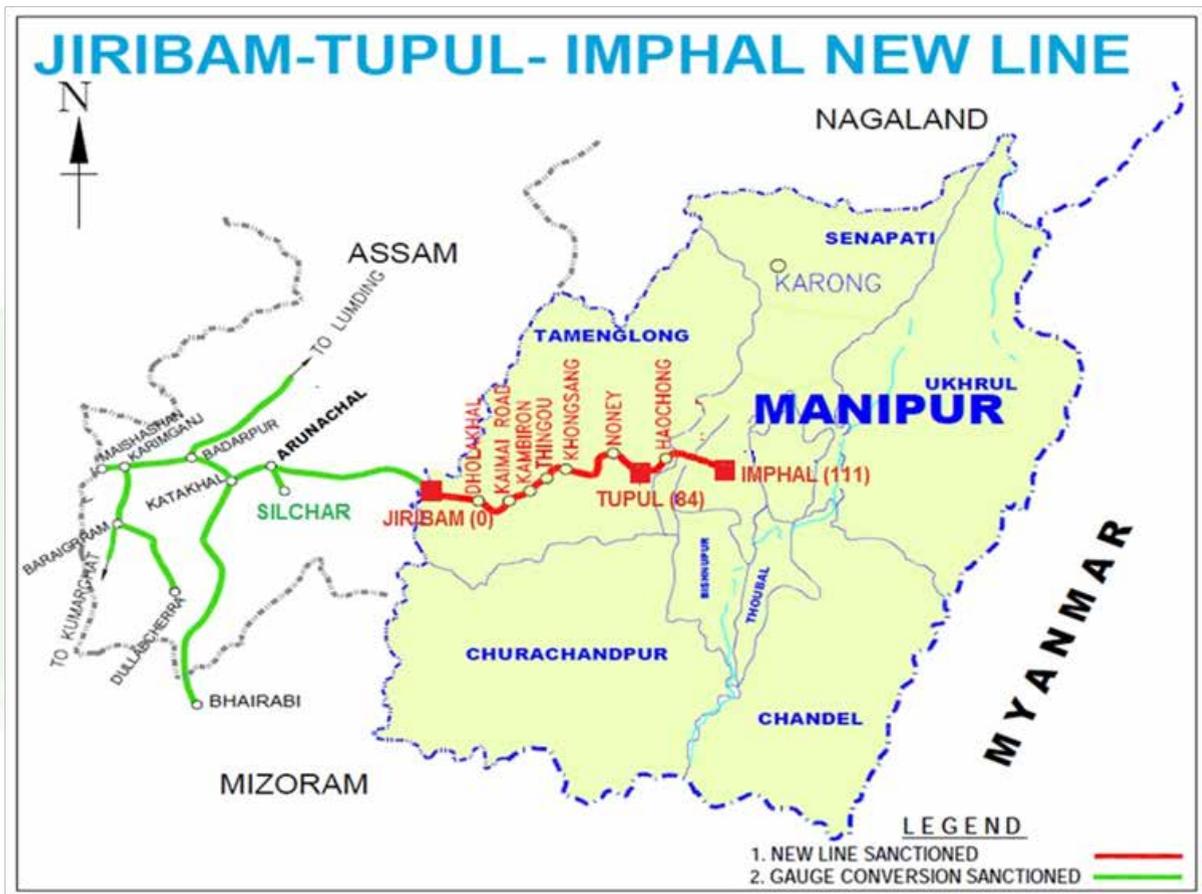
ball player.

Earlier notable appearances include popular Manipuri actor Bala Hijam's supporting role in 'Zindagi on the Rocks' and model Lin Laishram in "Mary Kom", which had Priyanka Chopra Jonas playing the titular character.

Maibam Duranbikash Singh, Duran in short, a Bollywood playback singer, came to the limelight this year by singing the Anthem Song of Hindi film "Manto", starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui in the title character.

In 2013, he attended Indian Idol audition in Mumbai as well as in Kolkata but was rejected. The failure didn't deter him. He also has released a single, "Mujhko Teri Zaroorat Hai".





## JIRIBAM-TUPUL-IMPHAL RAILWAY PROJECT, AN OVERVIEW

*N. Bidyandana Singh*

**A** national priority railway project is taking shape in the state of Manipur. The much awaited Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line in Manipur, a part of the broad-gauge network of the country is on the verge of completion very shortly. The new railway line will connect Imphal with the rest of the country by broad gauge network. The rail project is set to help strengthen India's ties with the ASEAN countries, boost the country's defence and also spur tourism.

Development of railway connectivity in the North Eastern Region is the top most priority of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led NDA Government in the centre.

The project was taken up in 2008 and declared as the National Project because of its strategic importance and the cost of the project is expected to be around Rs. 13,809 crore. Around Rs. 8487.745 crore has been spent in the ongoing project till March, 2019.

The 110.625 Km. Long Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway lines is set through difficult

hilly terrains which passes through steep rolling hills and traverse through a number of deep gorges and several other rivers flowing at low ground levels.

Jiribam-Tupul-Imphal railway line is one of the most prestigious Railway Project in the Manipur being taken up by North East Frontier Railway. This project has been challenged for a number of reasons like access to the sites of tunnelling, remoteness of the location, difficult topography, design and technical challenges etc.



This rail line is divided into two legs, leg-I of the project which is from Jiribam to Tupul is 84 km in length and leg-II which is from Tupul to Imphal will be 27 km. The target date for commissioning of 4 phases of the project has been fixed at 2020 as per the vision statement of the project. This project of providing broad-gauge connectivity to the Imphal is progressing at a very fast pace. The 1st phase of the project (Jiribam to Dholakhal now Vangaichungpao) which is 11.80 km has already been completed and CRC inspection also has already been completed. Passenger Train service in this section was also started from 24th March, 2017. The 2nd phase of the project (Vangaichungpao-Kaimai-Kambiron) which is 24.30 km is targeted for completion till December, 2019. The 3rd phase of the project (Kambiron-Tupul) which is 49.00 Km and 4th phase (Tupul-Imphal) which is 26.095 km is targeted for completion by March, 2020 and March, 2022 respectively.

## TUNNELS

The total number of tunnels in this line will be 46 of which 37 are in Jiribam-Tupul Section and the remaining 9 are in Tupul-Imphal section. The total length of this project is 61.2 km. Of the 37 tunnels in the 84 km Jiribam-Tupul Section, 80.86% of tunnelling work has already been completed

as on March, 2019. The 48 km of track inside the tunnels and their approach track have been blended with futuristic balance lace track using New Austrian Tunnelling Method (NATM) procedure which is being used in soft rocks. The tunnelling work on leg-I (Jiribam-Tupul) of the project is in progress at over 72 locations. Major resources like Rocket Boomers, Shotcrete Machines, Concrete Pumps, Hydraulic Rotary Rigs, Excavators, Crushing plant and Batching plants are being deployed besides deployment of around 6000 strong skilled manpower.

The execution of work on maximum tunnels falling under leg-I of the project has been completed so far. The construction of Tunnel T6-A, T6-C, T7, T11, T11-B and T11-C has been awarded to reputed construction firm Bharatia Infrastructure Projects Ltd. (BIPL). BIPL is credited with having contributed a lot to the railway infrastructure in the region. Work on tunnel T6 is being executed by Tribeni Construction Ltd. This tunnel also falls in difficult terrain of the region throwing many challenges to the engineers. Tunnel no.T3 which is 4858 meters in length with an adit of 823 meters falls in this line. Tunnel no. T4, T5, T6 and T6-B also fall in this line. Tunnel T4, T5, and T8 have already been completed while the construction of tun-

nel no, T6 with a total length of 1236 meters is in progress. Construction of tunnel no.T7 with a length of 1928 meters has also been completed. The work on 3.3 km long tunnel no. T10 have been completed. The construction work of tunnel no. T11 and T11-A is near completion. The construction work of tunnel no. T13 and T15 is near completion while construction of tunnels T19, T20, T21, T22, T23 and T23-A besides T14, T16, T17, T18, T19-A has already been completed. The length of tunnel no. 18P2 is 1370 meters. The construction work is being executed by SUSHEE TTS (JV). It has a 2 degree curve. The end point of this tunnel is Tupul Yard. Construction of tunnel 18, 19-A, and 19 has already been completed. Construction of tunnels T24, T25, T26, T26-A and T27 which fall between Noney and Awangkhul is near completion. There will be an open surface track between tunnels T26-A and T27.

**LONGEST TUNNEL:** The 27 km long Tupul-Imphal section of this project will have the country's longest tunnel. Tunnel No. T12 with a length of 11.5 will be the longest railway tunnel in India bypassing the 11.217 km long Pir Panjal Tunnel constructed on Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla railway line in Jammu & Kashmir. Mining length of tunnel T12 is 9.7 km while cut and cover portion is 1.1

km and RCC portal will be about 641 meters. Ruling gradient in this tunnel is rising 1 in 80 towards Imphal. This tunnel lies in between Hao-chong and Imphal Station. Construction of this tunnel is in progress. There will be another 8 tunnels between Tupul and Imphal. The target of completion of this important section has been fixed for 2020.

it was abandoned in 2004 in order to convert it from Meter gauge to Broad gauge. Altogether, there will be 10 railway stations in this line. Out of this construction work of 3 stations is in progress. The old station of Jiribam is presently housing the security forces. Vangaichungpao (VNGP) will be the next station on this line after Jiribam followed by tunnel T1,

project as it fall between Tunnel no T12 and bridge no.130. Thingal will be followed by Noney station and Tupul station. Construction work of Tupul Yard and Noney station building is in progress.

**IMPHAL STATION:** The most important station with a touch of aesthetic culture and history will be the Imphal Station. The foundation stone for this railway station was laid by the former Union Minister of Railway on 30th July, 2016 at Imphal. The rich cultural heritage of Manipur would find due importance in the proposed Imphal station and the design incorporating various architectural elements of Kangal Fort Gate and Shree Shree Govindajee Temple, the two historical monuments of Manipur.



## STATIONS

In addition to tunnelling work, earth cutting and filling work at various locations including construction of some minor bridges and the station building is being executed by BIPL and TCL and some other construction companies. Jiribam is the starting point of this project which has been on the railway map of India since 1989 when Silchar-Jiribam section was operational. Since it was a meter gauge,

T2 which have already been completed. Vangaichungpao (VNGP) will be followed by Kaimai Road Station. It will be a 3 line station and will cater to the needs of the people of Ahomlong Village and its surrounding areas. Kambiron station with a total length of 114.3 meters will be the next railway station after Kaimai Station. Construction work of Thingal station is in progress. This station will be one of the most important station of this

## BRIDGES

The first major bridge on this section is bridge no. 44 which has 555 meters in length and has 6 (six) piers of different heights. The highest pier on this bridge is 100 meters. This bridge will connect Kaimai Road Station with tunnel no. 2. Bridge no.130 one among the six tall bridges on this line is being constructed over Irang River and fall between Khongsang Yard and tunnel no. T13. The remoteness of the area is the main drawbacks of the construction of this tunnel. However, with the use of latest technology and endeavour from the railway



engineers, construction work is progressing in a very fast pace. This bridge with a span of 2x71.5 meters and 5x106 meters will be the second tallest bridge in the Jiribam-Tupul section. The pier height of P3 and P4 is 118 meters. Open wave ladder is being constructed over this bridge. This bridge will have a total of 375 numbers of piles out of which 360 piles have already been completed. Construction of the remaining piles is in progress. Bridge no.144 fall between tunnels no.T20 and T21. The work on this bridge along with other minor bridges is near completion.

### TALLEST BRIDGE

The special feature of this project is bridge no.164 being constructed over Irang river at Noney will become the world's tallest girder bridge when completed. This bridge will have 7 piers of which 2

piers will be 141 meters high. With this height of piers it will bypass the present tallest girder bridge, the MALA RIJEKA VIADUCT in Montenegro on Belgrade Bar Railway line in Europe with 139 meters high pier. It will be as high as 2 Qutub Minars stacked on top of each others. The other 5 piers of this bridge will be of the height of 90 meters, 48 meters and 98 meters. The bridge is located in seismic zone-v and in view of this all precautions, particularly a site-specific design spectrum, had been developed to ensure long-term stability of the bridge. To ensure safety, the works are under surveillance through CCTVs, drone cameras and remote monitoring

The other 5 tall bridges of the project will be B130 over river Irang, B53 over river Barak, B44 over river Makru, B40 and B65 which falls between

tunnel T11-C and T11-D. Out of the 6 tall bridges, construction work on B164, B130 and B44 has been awarded to MESSERS SIMPLEX INFRASTRUCTURE LTD, a diversified company established in 1924. The work on other 2 tall bridges B40 and B53 has been awarded to BIPL while B65 is being constructed by TRIBENI CONSTRUCTIONS LTD. Besides these 6 tall bridges, the number of other major bridges will be 22 while minor bridges will be 129. The speed potential on this line will be 100 km/hour.

### CHALLENGES

The transportation of rails to be laid on this line has been a major challenge for the engineers. However, all the 88 TKM rails required for the project have since been transported to Uchathol and Noney in tow of mountainous ranges. As many as 22000 sleepers



have also been transported to the first phase of line which is Jiribam to Vangaichungpao while 12300 sleepers have been transported to Khongsang and Noney. Transportation of sleepers for Tupul and Imphal has also started.

The Jiribam-Imphal-Tupul railway passes through deep gorges, steep mountains and riverbeds of Manipur making it the most difficult project of NF Railway. Deployment of machineries is another major issue. The machinery had to be taken first from NH-37 & NH-2 down to the riverbeds then across the river and then again up the mountains to the required sites. The 7 bridges on this portion of NH-37, which are weak and old with severe restriction of load and speed and break down frequently, the transportation of materials had to make its own path in this steep hilly terrain.

### **ENDURANCE**

To the utter surprise of all, despite the severity of earthquake with a magnitude of 7.8 in richter scale occurred on 4th January, 2016 in the morning at around 4.30 am., there was no damage due to the infrastructure of rail line and all tunnels and bridges stood safe and unharmed.

### **ADVANTAGE**

After the completion of this project, Manipur which has many places to visit will become the most sought after tourist destinations of the North East State. The historic Kangla Fort, Commonwealth War Cemetery, Loktak Lake, Siroi Hills, Dzuko Valley, INA Museum, Govindajee Temple, ISKCON Temple and Nupi Lal Memorial Complex besides Khwairamband Market will be the main attraction of history and nature loving tourists. The rail line will not

only provide reliable and feasible and affordable transport facilities to the people of the state. Mobility of locals will also increase as a number of serviceable roads have been constructed for the project in the adjoining areas of the rail line. This project has a considerable potential of generating for the youth of the state. Presently, local youths are being employed as drivers, operators, mechanics etc. Over 1000 locals are employed by the companies on daily basis directly or indirectly. Manipur which acts as India's gateway to the east, the bottleneck of connectivity will be solved to a certain extent once the project is being completed. The proposed Trans-Asian Railway (TAR) if constructed will pass through Moreh, the last border town of Manipur. It will be connecting India to Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore.





## PROMOTING TOURISM AS A KEY DRIVER OF DEVELOPMENT IN MANIPUR

*W. Ibohal Singh  
Director*

*Tourism, Government of Manipur*

**M**anipur is a land of great tourism potential. The state's natural gifts have the power to mesmerize tourists from all over the world. Apart from our natural landscapes, the cultural heritage spread of the state also offers huge potential for the development of tourism in the entire state of Manipur.

Our sacred and religious places like the Shree Shree-

Govindajee Temple in Imphal where the well known Raas Leela dance is performed attract tourists from across the country every year. Tourist attractions like the Loktak Lake, the largest freshwater lake in the North-East India, located in Bishnupur District are a wonder to every visitor. Famous for its floating islands, locally called 'Phumdis' and floating huts known as 'Phumsangs', the lake is a major tourist attraction for our state. Keibul-Lamjao National Park, which is a part of this lake is the

world's only floating National Park. It is also the last natural habitat of the 'Sangai' (*Rucervus eldii*), the "Dancing Deer" of Manipur. This lake is also now home to the first of its kind floating elementary school.

The state has abundant sites of historical significance and INA Memorial at Moirang is one such place connected with India's Freedom Struggle as well as World War II. It was at Moirang that the flag of the Indian National Army was

first unfurled on 14th April 1944. The INA Museum has a collection of letters, photographs, badges of ranks and other war memorabilia and reminds visitors of the noble sacrifices made by the INA soldiers under the charismatic leadership of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

Ancient tourist spots like the Kangla Fort presents the proud history of our state's erstwhile Asiatic Kingdom dating back to 33 A.D. There are also other ancient sites spread across the state which have the potential to attract a huge number of travellers. In the field of art and culture, we are best represented by our classical and folk dance forms. Our art-forms and cultural expressions and ramifications distinctly showcase our state to the world. Our classical and folk dance forms have a different style and gesture of movement and are somewhat similar to the dance forms of countries like Cambodia, Malaysia, and Vietnam.

The Manipuri Nat-Sankirtana, an art form conceived by the famous Manipur King Bhagyachandra Singh in the 18th century is recognised by UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Our state is a treasure trove of traditional indigenous games. Besides, our Ema Market is also known as the world's largest only women market; Manipur's Polo; Shirui Lily



and the state's amazing variety of flora and fauna are all rarest of the rare attractions in the whole world. The most unique of all is, however, the "Dancing Deer", popularly known as 'Sangai'.

The abundance of all these attractions is still not enough to promote Manipur as a preferred holiday destination for traveller from across the globe. It is an agreed fact that the State has a high potential for the development of tourism but we still lack when compared to other famous destinations in the country. India is ranked third in the Power Ranking of the 2018 report of World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC) which evaluates the performance of 185 countries and ranks countries using WTTC's annual economic impact data across four main indicators – total contribution to GDP, visitor exports (international tourism spend), domestic spending and capital investment. Tourism is the only indus-

try which could become the backbone of the economy of a state like Manipur but lack of financial resources in the state has been a major hindrance in developing infrastructures related to tourism in the state as a whole. Lack of infrastructure is a big challenge for the tourism sector of the State of Manipur.

Tourism-associated economic and social infrastructure – hotels, connectivity, human resources, hygiene, health facilities, etc are still at a nascent stage in the state. The quality of infrastructures in the state is still incomparable to many states earning high revenues from the tourism industry. The state receives assistance from the centre as well as from NEC and DONER for development of tourism-related infrastructures. For the creation of tourism infrastructure, major schemes have been implemented in the State under the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India's Swadesh Darshan



(Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits) scheme. The Department of Tourism has also sought assistance for the development of tourism infrastructures under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NE-SIDS) and expects to kick off various projects soon.

Safety and security concerns of international travellers coming to Manipur is another major roadblock to the development of tourism in the state. There is a general notion amongst travellers from across the globe that Manipur is not safe for tourists. Many raise questions about the state's ability to welcome tourists from far away countries. However, our state continues to welcome scores of tourists from various countries throughout the year. The influx of tourists is noted to be maximum during the state's major tourism festival like the Manipur Sangai Festival and the Shirui Lily

Festival. The Department of Tourism considers promoting the state as a safe destination for travellers as an important part of tourism development in the state.

Our state received 9,794 Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) and 1,66,032 Domestic Tourist Arrivals (DTAs) in the year 2018-19. The increase in FTAs is quite remarkable last year and can be attributed to our major festivals. In the year 2017-18, Manipur's tourism sector witnessed a growth of 12.90% in terms of DTAs as compared to 2016-17 with 1,45,685 arrivals. The Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) to Manipur in 2017-18 was pegged at 164,483, a 24.73% increase from 3,036 FTAs in the financial year 2016-17. The Department of Tourism aims to double last year's visitor arrival figures in the next financial year.

To achieve this end, we will explore ways to promote ourselves to the world with

our niche tourism products to highlight Manipur as a 365 days destination that includes adventure, medical, polo, cultural heritage, rural tourism, war remembrance tourism, etc. The department will reach out to the business community in India as well as in other countries to invite them to invest in our state for the development and promotion of tourism-related infrastructures. Our state lacks behind industrially but the natural beauty and the unique products of our state are our strengths. It is the right time for all the industry's stakeholders to delve deeper and collectively work together for the promotion of tourism in the state and see where we stand as compared to other states.



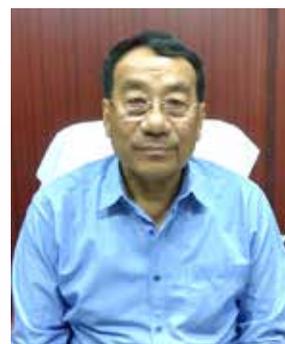
## DOUBLING FARMER INCOME BY 2022 THROUGH ANIMAL HUSBANDRY SECTOR

**A**nimal Husbandry is an integral component of Indian Agriculture supplying livelihood of more than two third of the rural population. In present scenario livestock can play a crucial role of developing a sustainable Agricultural system especially in Indian condition where land holdings are shrinking due to rapid increase in population and increase urbanisation. When the Livestock sectors strength is seen in term of the economic and the social security, it gives 60% of the population engaged in animal Farm sector. Animals provide nutrient rich food products, draught power, dung as organic manure and domestic fuel, hides and skin and are a regular source of cash income of rural household. They are natural capital which can be easily reproduced to act as living bank with offspring as interest and insurance against crop failure and natural calamities.

Driven by the structural changes in Agriculture and food consumption pattern the utility of livestock has been undergoing a steady transformation. More than 30% of the GDP from Agriculture sectors is contributed

from animal husbandry sector. In view of its importance and the vital role being played to Socio-economic upliftment of the rural masses, Govt. of India has created a new Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Husbandry & Dairying by separating from the Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Ministry in the recent past.

The Department has been implementing Beneficiaries Oriented Scheme on Piggery, Goatery & Poultry Development Schemes amongst others during 2017-18 under National Livestock Mission



*H. Chaoba Singh  
Director,  
Vety. & A.H. Services, Manipur.*

towards doubling Farmer income by 2022. The distribution of farmer beneficiaries is as follows:

Sl. No.	District	Piggery (5 Pigs)	Goatery (5 Goats)	Poultry (45 Chicks)
1.	Imphal West	70	35	250
2.	Imphal East	70	35	250
3.	Bishnupur	70	35	250
4.	Thoubal	55	25	175
5.	Churachandpur	105	95	450
6.	Tamenglong	55	25	200
7.	Noney	15	10	50
8.	Senapati	70	35	250
9.	Ukhrul	55	25	200
10.	Kakching	15	10	75
11.	Chandel	105	70	300
12.	Jiribam	30	10	50
13.	Tengnoupal	30	10	50
14.	Kangpokpi	45	10	50
15.	Pherzawl	25	10	50
16.	Kamjong	15	10	50
	<b>Total:-</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>2700</b>

Towards, devolution of power to Panchayati Raj Institutions and Autonomous District Councils of the State the department is distributing Low Input Technology Poultry Birds under Backyard Poultry Scheme to the beneficiaries farmers selected by the concerned PRI(s) and the A.D.C.(s) for the year 2017-18. The distribution of beneficiary is as follow:



Sl. No.	Name of Zilla Parishad	Poultry (23Chicks/ beneficiary)
1.	Imphal West	117
2.	Imphal East	142
3.	Bishnupur	92
4.	Thoubal	83
5.	Kakching	50
6.	Jiribam	16
	<b>Total</b>	<b>500</b>

profitable work for the avail-

Sl.No.	Name of District Councils	Poultry (23Chicks/ beneficiary)
1.	Chandel	125
2.	Ukhrul	125
3.	Senapati	125
4.	Tamenglong	125
5.	Churachandpur	125
6.	Kangpokpi	125
	<b>Total:-</b>	<b>750</b>

The Pig is an efficient converter of feed into pork which has high nutritional values in human diet. They produce more live weight gain than other class of livestock as much 1 k from 3 kg of feed in short duration. Pig farming creates

able labour on the farm as it can be successfully combined with dairy or other agricultural activities. Swine excels in dressing percentage yielding 65-80 percent of their live weight when dressed. The pigs have two farrowing per

year with litter of size (No. of Piglets per farrowing) ranging from 8-15 on an average. A Piglet/Weaner (45 days to 60 days) cost between Rs. 3500 to 4500 as per present market rate. A farmer having a piggery unit of one sow can easily earn more than Rs. 50,000.00 per annum under good managerial conditions. The enterprise requires moderate investment and is well adapted to the Practice of self feeding.

Animal Husbandry Sector will play a vital role in fulfilling the vision of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi ji of doubling the Farmer income by 2022.





## TRAINING WORKSHOP ON “MANAGING LIVELIHOOD AND SOCIAL PROTECTION IN NORTH EAST INDIA”: KEY OUTCOMES

Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum  
 Coordinator, Centre for NE India,  
 V. V. Giri National Labour Institute

A five-day training workshop on “Managing Livelihood and Social Protection in North East India” was organised by the Centre for North East India, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute, Noida in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Tribal University- Regional Campus Manipur and Dhanamanjuri Community College, Dhanamanjuri University from 10-14 June, 2019 at DM Community College, Imphal.

70 workshop participants in-

cluding students, research scholars, and faculties from different colleges and universities attended the workshop. The workshop included eleven technical sessions facilitated by various experts from different fields, government departments and universities. Each session focussed on specific areas under the broader framework of livelihood management, government schemes, possible alternatives for new entrepreneurial enterprise and different facets of livelihood issues.

The aim of the workshop was

to generate awareness among the participants on social protection and livelihood security issues in the North East region in general and Manipur in particular.

In the inaugural function, W. Malemnganba Chenglei, Director (University & Higher Education), Government of Manipur, emphasized the role of education among the youth to generate livelihood and reduce the issue of unemployment in the state.

Day 1

The session titled “Youth,



Employment & Development in North East India” mentored by Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum, Co-ordinator, Centre for North East India, V.V. Giri National Labour Institute under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, Noida highlights the major issues concerning the youth in North East such as education, employment, community engagement and migration. The Mentor also discussed how to identify issues regarding youth unemployment in the state and need for government’s intervention as well as other kinds of initiatives and support needed to be taken up by the government to overcome such issues.

The main focus of the second session titled Livelihood & Social Protection: An Introduction”, also mentored by Dr. Otojit Kshetrimayum was to identify major issues concerning livelihood and social protection in the North East.

Manipur (36.89 percent) and Arunachal Pradesh (34.67 percent) are among the five worst states for percentage of persons living below the poverty line. The session highlighted the four agencies that provide social security to the people. These are the State, Market, Family/Kin groups and Member-Based Organisations.

#### Day 2

Dr. Raheijuddin Sheikh, Director, DDU Centre for KAUSHAL, DMCC presentation titled “Generating Livelihood through Skill Development” was on achieving a sustainable livelihood through skill development initiated through government schemes. He discussed about the relevance of education, need for integrating skills in the Higher education, for employability, revitalising and revamping the skill gap analysis relevant to the basic requirements of the local industry partners, relevance to

the choice-based system of the local youths and strengthening the National Skill Qualification Framework in the fast-growing skill competencies in the South Asian Countries.

Two resource persons from the Department of Information and Public Relation (DIPR), Government of Manipur, Sagolsem Snehprabha (DIO) and Seema Sanjembam (PRO) presented on “Welfare Schemes Under the govt. Of Manipur: Initiatives and Coverage”. This presentation gave an overview of the initiatives and coverage of state government welfare schemes so far and how such welfare schemes have been able to bridge the gap between the government and the people. The discussion focused on four key categories – governance, health, education and women empowerment.

Prof. Rajmani Aheibam, Professor, Department of Commerce, Manipur University presented on “Managing Livelihood through Financial Management” focused on the importance of financial education in generating a sustainable life. His presentation emphasized on identifying livelihood strategies, giving an important aspect to look into household life cycle financial needs.

#### Day 3

Mentors L. Ibomcha, RO, Ma-

nipur Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, and K. Tikendra, Labour Inspector, Department of Labour, GoM presented on “Welfare Schemes under Manipur Labour Department”. Tikendra highlighted 25 legal Acts which the state Labour Department has the responsibility to implement and see discrepancies or any complaints regarding violation of any of the rights given under the Acts. Some of the main Acts that the department frequently deals with include the Minimum Wages Act 1948, the Industrial Disputes Act, 1967, the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976, etc.

Major hurdle or challenge faced by the Labour Department in both the districts i.e. Imphal West and Imphal East (illustrated by the two Mentors) is the absence of a proper permanent official campus and lack of manpower.

The session of Dr. Sinam Yoirentomba, MSME-TC, Imphal, titled “Aromatic & Medicinal Plants in Manipur: Scope for Livelihood Opportunities” dealt with the prospects of new aromatic and medicinal plants industry in Manipur.

T. Deepamanjuri Devi, Department of Sociology, MU presented a session titled “Gender, Social Exclusion and Livelihood Issues”. Deepamanjuri highlighted the everyday hardships of not

getting basic livelihood facilities by the transgender (TG) community of Manipur. This includes access to school education, health, workplace and problems regarding inheritance and so on. Her presentation was focussed on providing awareness about the crucial need for people to change their attitude towards the transgender community.

Day 4:

Tejkeshwar Kshetrimayum, Producer, EMMRC, MU conducted a session titled “Developing Communication Skills” and elaborated on various aspects of communication.

Prof. Ch. Ibohal Meitei, Director, Centre for Entrepreneurship & Skill Development, MU presented on “Developing Entrepreneurship Skills”. He discussed the basic understanding of what entrepreneurship means, who is called an entrepreneur and the requirement to start a new venture. He also said that Manipur has a lot of potential in

the field of fish farming, organic farming, vermiculture, floriculture, and handloom.

Dr. Immanuel Varte, Guest Professor, IGNTU-RC Manipur presented on Role of NGOs in Livelihood Generation in North East India. He discussed the role of NGOs, their strengths, weaknesses, threats, and challenges faced by them. According to Dr. Varte, if there is a proper collaboration, NGOs can excel in many areas and work effectively.

Key Outcomes and Recommendations of the Training Workshop

1. As the maintaining of livelihood and social protection starts from the early childhood of every individual, there is a need to investigate on how some of the government schools use of lottery system in admission and common entrance exam which is indeed against the RTE Act 2009 provided in the Constitution of the country,



need mechanism for constant screening systems, set up to watch the public school functioning in the state.

2. As Communication Skills is one of the important components of life skills for effective livelihood management and social protection, communication skill should be made an integral part of the curriculum and syllabus in school and colleges.

3. Strengthening the skill-based vocational education systems amongst the youths and reaffirming integrating skill development in the higher education relevant to the local industries and employability under the National Skill Qualification Framework.

4. Identification of relevant skill potentials with quality and competency and revisiting the report on skill gap analysis for NE states under the National Skill Development Corporation and creating a skill hub at International standards in some identified skill sectors to compete with youths in the countries like Korea, Japan, China, etc.

5. Need for updating departmental websites and proper maintenance to ensure information accessible to the public especially the ones regarding the welfare schemes.

6. Raised concern to add “yet to cover population and area” of various development

and welfare schemes in the state in the monthly report published by DIPR, to ensure transparency and accuracy and show real work in reporting.

7. Need to examine the conditions of womenfolk earning livelihood in the unorganised sectors especially the problems faced by the women vendors in the Ima Market at Imphal and other women vendors in the district headquarters. The attention of the concerned authority is drawn towards providing proper social protection and security systems for improvement of their livelihood earnings.

8. Need for providing avenues for promoting start-ups and entrepreneurship particularly related to local based resources.

9. Abolition of wage disparities between female and male labours. Need strategies to ensure equal remuneration of male and female labourers and also generate awareness among workers to prevent violation of their rightful payments under various labour laws and spread information regarding various benefits available to them under various schemes and Labour Acts.

10. To collect feedback from actual beneficiaries of welfare schemes to get an assessment from the grass-root level and of the actual value addition done by these schemes.

11. Need to create an environment for better sensitivity in the society towards other gender categories, and also there is a need to reform Gender Identity Change, affidavit issuance, raise recommendation for addition of “other” as a category by sensitizing the queer identity issue as a whole.

12. Special provisions and policy for strengthening the livelihood of the youths through arts & culture in the NE states.

13. Substance abused female suffers from lack of exclusive female rehabilitation centres. There is a dire requirement to set up rehabilitation centres only for women suffering from substance abuse.

14. There is a strong need for proper correlation and coordination between the Government and NGOs and also among the NGOs in effective implementation of various social security and livelihood schemes.

**MAJOR HURDLE OR CHALLENGE FACED BY THE LABOUR DEPARTMENT IN BOTH THE DISTRICTS I.E. IMPHAL WEST AND IMPHAL EAST (ILLUSTRATED BY THE TWO MENTORS) IS THE ABSENCE OF A PROPER PERMANENT OFFICIAL CAMPUS AND LACK OF MANPOWER.**



# LAONII FESTIVAL PRESERVING CULTURAL HERITAGE

Photo and text by  
Oinam Ibomacha and Oinam Deepak

**L**aonii Festival is a post-transplantation festival of the Poumai Naga ethnic group of Phuba Khuman village in Senapati District of Manipur. Celebrated every year after the com-

pletion of paddy transplantation in July, the festival is meant to rejuvenate after toiling hard during sowing and transplantation.

Agriculture is the main occupation of the people of Phuba

Khuman village also called as "Phyabu" which mean the original home of all the Phymai - The Phubas, Phya being a shortened form of Phymai and Bu meaning place. Located around 92 km from state capital Imphal, the people

practice terrace cultivation here. Rice, maize, potato, cabbage, squash are the major products of this village.

A display of performance of traditional songs, feasting and merrymaking form part of the six-day celebration. The festival is of great significance as it highlights the cultural and ritualistic heritage of the Poumai Naga ethnic group before the advent of Christianity.

One of the major attractions of Laonii Festival is the yearly erection of a tree as a totem to ward off bad omen at the community ground as part of the custom. It is believed that through this ritual, the almighty will protect them from all kinds of disease and ill luck.

This is also the only time of the year that felling of a tree from the forest is allowed. Phuba Khuman is committed to the protection of forest and conservation of wildlife. The village has banned felling of trees as well as hunting for more than ten years. "We are taking strict measures as a community to prevent anti-poaching and deforestation. Anybody caught hunting will be asked to pay a fine. We also request the government to declare Phuba Khuman as a Bio-Diversity Park", said village headman D. Maithai.



***The village youths after felling the tree, drag it towards the community ground by using "vines" as ropes***



***The villagers erecting the tree in the community ground. The villagers have placed curses and bad luck of the entire year on top of the tree***



*After the ritual erection of the tree, the whole village partakes in feasting and merrymaking. (Above, centre) the village headmen along with villagers in traditional attires are served with rice beer in containers made of banana leaves*



*A traditional Poumai Naga house*



*The people here practice terrace farming*



*A waterfall at Phuba Khuman village*

## SUSHMA SWARAJ, “BEST-LOVED POLITICIAN” CREMATED WITH FULL STATE HONOURS



**S**ushma Swaraj, 67, former foreign minister and one of its most outstanding politicians who died on 6th August 2019, was cremated with full state honours on 7th August in the presence of top leaders including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) patriarch L K Advani among others.

Swaraj's death due to a cardiac arrest has left political leaders across party lines and her legions of admirers in grief. Swaraj died at Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS). Her body was kept at the BJP headquarters for party workers and leaders to pay tributes and then moved to the Lodhi Cremato-

rium. Manipur's Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and Inner Manipur MP R.K. Ranjan Singh also attended the cremation.

Swaraj was a trailblazer in many ways and had many firsts to her name as a woman politician. From being the youngest Cabinet minister of a state at 25 years of age in Devi Lal's Janata Party government in Haryana in 1977 to being the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha in 2009.

Born Sushma Sharma in Haryana on 14 February 1952, Swaraj was renowned for her oratory even before she joined politics. She was the president of Haryana's Hindi Sahitya Sammelan for four years.

In 1973, Swaraj started prac-

tice as an advocate in the Supreme Court of India. She began her political career with Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad in the 1970s. Her husband, Swaraj Kaushal, was closely associated with the socialist leader George Fernandes. After the Emergency, she joined the BJP.

Swaraj became active in national politics in the nineties and was made a Cabinet minister in Atal Bihari Vajpayee's 13-day government in 1996.

Swaraj became the first female Chief Minister of Delhi on 12 October 1998. However, she resigned from the position in December the same year

In 2009, Swaraj became the Leader of Opposition (LoP).

After the NDA's win in 2014, Swaraj served as the Minister of External Affairs of India in the first Narendra Modi government (2014–2019). She was the second woman to hold the office, after Indira Gandhi.

Swaraj was called India's "best-loved politician" by the US daily Wall Street Journal. She decided not to contest the 2019 Lok Sabha election due to health reasons as she was recovering from a kidney transplant and hence did not join the Modi Ministry in 2019.



## CM CONGRATULATES JEET KUNE DO GOLD MEDALISTS

**C**hief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh congratulated the five Jeet Kune Do players who clinched gold medals in the recently concluded International Championship Jeet Kune Do held at Dhaka, Bangladesh from 27th – 30th July 2019 on August 1, 2019.

In his congratulatory message, the Chief Minister said that the whole State feels proud of the three Jeet Kune Do players for their feat in the Championship. Such achievement has once again proved to the world that Manipur is

the Sports Powerhouse of India and the State can be rightfully claimed to be the Sports Capital of the country.

Expressing hope that the Jeet Kune Do players would bring more laurels to the country and the State, the Chief Minister conveyed his best wishes for their future career and competitions.

Ningshung Hungyo, Mashungngam Horam and Nimreiso Khodang from Ukhrul won gold medals in senior weight category while Keisham Lanchenba Singh and Omnivash Oinam from Thoubal won gold medals in

the sub-junior weight category.

Around 600 athletes from nine countries participated in the championship. India was represented by eight players of which five were from Manipur. The team from Manipur was led by Dr. M. Ibomcha. All the five players from Manipur won gold medals in the championship.

It may be mentioned that Shri Ningshung Hungyo is presently working as a coach for Wushu and Jeet Kune Do and is also a certified National Referee for the said disciplines.



## CLIMATE CHANGE - A GLOBAL CHALLENGE

*Tenshubam Ranita  
Information Assistant*

**C**limate change has become one of the most critical global challenges of our times. The impact of climate change range from affecting agriculture, endangering food security, rise in sea-level accelerating erosion of coastal zones, increasing intensity of natural disasters, species extinction and the spread of vector-borne diseases.

India released the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) to mitigate and adapt to climate change

on June 30, 2008, almost a year after it was announced. The action plan outlines several steps to simultaneously advance India's development and climate change-related objectives.

The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) encompasses a range of measures focusing on eight missions—National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water

Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem, Green India Mission, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

MANIPUR STATE ACTION PLAN ON CLIMATE CHANGE, 2013

Manipur State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC) was prepared by the Directorate of Environment as State Nodal Agency in collaboration with 20 line departments/agencies

of the State Government to cater not only to the present needs but also to the future requirements, to tackle Climate Change impacts and related vulnerabilities in the State.

The Government of Manipur has put in place a comprehensive structure by constituting three committees in the state for preparation of SAPCC—State Level Advisory Committee on Climate Change (SLACCC), State Level Steering Committee on Climate Change (SLSCCC) and Sectoral Working Group Committee (SWGK).

The SAPCC - Manipur focuses on understanding climate change, adaptation, mitigation, and natural resource conservation through eight sectors as mission mode namely Ecosystem, Biodiversity & Livelihood Sustainability; Water Resources; Sustainable Agriculture Practices; Health; Forest Resources Conservation; Enhanced Energy Efficiency and Conservation; Urban Planning and Climate Change Strategic Knowledge & Information. It provides a multi-pronged and integrated framework for addressing climate change issues.

Key Strategies under Ecosystem Biodiversity & Livelihood Sustainability sector

\*Appropriate policy for mountain farming especially:

\* Inclusion of multipurpose tree-like Alder (*Alnusnepalensis*) in jhum cultivation, which provides timber, fuelwood and fixing nitrogen;

\*Conservation of native crop varieties with a scientific approach at the community level;

\* Market institutionalization at district level & inter districts marketing network;

\* Promotion of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) with skill development & HRD;

\*Promote sustainable livelihood through the promotion of ecotourism and non-timber forest products [NTFPs].

Key Strategies under the Water Sector

\* Reduction/minimization of distribution loss of water supply and efficient demand-side management including water budget auditing;

\* Enhancement of water sources /catchment/forests & improvement of river/ stream basin health on priority basis with people's participation;

\* Policy, regulatory, delivery options, technologies, R&D & HRD, Survey & monitoring for adapting the impacts of higher or shortage annual rainfall;

\* Watershed management, water harvesting [including rainwater] at the community level;

\* Conservation of water resources [Wetland, lakes, rivers, major water bodies] and encouragement of indigenous & community pond/lake through PPP model.

Key Strategies under Agriculture and its allied sector

\* Rainfed agriculture with climate [flood, drought] & pest-resistant crops varieties through farmers capacity building & skill development

\* Application of modern scientific approach in agriculture & horticulture with different crop varieties & organic farming

\* Encouragement of indigenous fish culture & climate resistant breed at fishermen level

\* Encouragement of indigenous & climate resistant livestock R&D, HRD, more information, new technology including monitoring on agriculture & allied.

Key Strategies under the Health Sector

\* Outbreak investigation and response (early warning signals of impending outbreaks of epidemic-prone diseases and help initiate an effective response on time)

\* Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme (IDSP), nutrient survey for baseline nutritional status and subsequent impact & its mitigation

\* Control of malaria and other climate variability related vector-borne diseases including sentinel Surveillance of Dengue, Japanese Encephalitis, Chicken Guinea, Scrub Typhus, Rabies, host agents, waterborne diseases, airborne diseases

#### Key Strategies under Forests Sector

\* Enhancing quality of forest covers and improve ecosystem service through GIM, NAP, and CAMPA, among others.

\* Conservation of forest through Communities, i.e Joint Forest Management Committee (JFMC), among others

\* Rehabilitation of Shifting cultivation through eco-restoration, HRD & skill development activities.

\* Promotion Agroforestry & Social forestry in rural areas and Urban forestry to enhance Carbon Sinks

\* Forest Fire Management to prevent, detect, report and control forest fires.

#### Key Strategies under the energy sector

\* Promotion of grid-interactive power generation

option using renewable energy technology

\* Promotion of off-grid intervention of solar energy technology

\* Promoting small and medium hydropower project

\* Drafting of State Energy Policy

\* Reduction of AT&C losses

#### Key Strategies under the Urban Sector

\* Improvement of waste management including waste to bio-energy like a domestic waste to bio-gas, electricity, among others

\* Encourage of climate-sensitive architectural urban infrastructures [water distribution system, lighting at the street, public places, offices, etc.] and public transport system including green and low carbon footprint pathway

\* Encourage of green buildings - Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in the line of India Green Building Rating System for Construction

\* Implementation of Rainwater harvesting as part of building by-laws

\* Policy for Decentralize action of urban

#### Key Strategies under strategic Knowledge & Climate Change Information Sector

\* Activities aimed at the mapping of the knowledge base and data resources relevant to climate change for the mobilization of state-specific strategic knowledge. Identification of the institutional support to be provided for the formation of a state-wide knowledge network and networking of the state-level institutions,

\* Performance monitoring of ongoing related activities for feasibility assessment and also the budget analysis for the current and the following five-year plan

\* Protecting the vulnerable sections of society through participatory resource management strategies and development of livelihood options

\* Enhancing ecological sustainability through the development of the human resource, deployment of technologies and promotion of community-based management measures

\* Activities to promote proper land use planning with sustaining traditional knowledge. This can be achieved through the promotion of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK), ecotourism, non-timber forest products (NTFPs) and development of market strategies for vegetations.

An achievement which can be highlighted undertaken by the Directorate of Environment is the project of making Phayeng under Lamsang Assembly Constituency, Imphal West as a model carbon positive eco-village to adapt climate change issues. It is a multi-integrated project involving more than 20 line departments of the State with the Directorate of Environment as a Nodal Agency. A village is given the carbon-positive tag if it sequesters more carbon than it emits, slowing the accumulation of greenhouse gases and mitigating the effects of climate change.

The village was identified to develop as India's first carbon-positive settlement and the initiative was taken up in 2015 as a three-year pilot

The National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) encompasses a range of measures focusing on eight missions—National Solar Mission, National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency, National Mission on Sustainable Habitat, National Water Mission, National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem, Green India Mission, National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture and National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change.

project under the centrally sponsored scheme National

Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC).

Climate Cell of the Directorate of Environment has also made a study report on the current climate variability and historical climate trends in the last 30 years in Manipur in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and IIT, Guwahati. The climate vulnerability assessment will be incorporated in the revised Manipur State Action Plan on Climate Change.

The Directorate of Environment is working on the revision of the SAPCC along with 20 line departments of the State with technical support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.





## MINISTER KARAM SHYAM FLAGS OFF WORLD TOUR OF CYCLIST GI INGOBI CHINGTHAM

**M**inister CAF & PD, Revenue, Shri Karam Shyam flagged off World Tour of cyclist Gi Ingobi Chingtham at Kangla Main Gate on 3rd August 2019. Ingobi, 21, embarked on a solo seven-nation tour of South Asian countries—Myanmar, Thailand, Malaysia, Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam, and Singapore—to spread the message of brotherhood.

Ingobi, the eldest of three sons of Chingtham Ingocha Singh and Tampakleima Devi and a resident of Sapam Mayai Leikai, Khongjom, in Thoubal district, wants to spread awareness on the Act

East Policy, women empowerment, Ema Keithel, the famous mother's market in Imphal, among others.

In his first-ever foreign venture, cyclist Ingobi first embarked on a 16 days tour of Manipur and will take about 30 days to cover the important places of Myanmar. Further, he will be exploring Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore in around 43, 19 and 10 days respectively. His tour to Singapore includes the route from Johar Causeway up to the Water Dragon Statue. The whole cycle journey spanning 1,272 km is targeted to be completed within seven months.

Minister Karam Shyam said, "This is a bold and innovative

mission that is fuelled to create a unique identity of Manipur across the globe."

Calling him "a brave son of Manipur", the minister said such adventure needs indomitable courage, talent, and sound health to brave all odds on the way. "The government supports such an innovative activity that will put a small state like Manipur with a population of 28 lakh in the lime-light," he added.

Minister Karam Shyam also provided financial assistance to support his noble cause.

Last year, Ingobi had also undertaken a tour from Imphal to New Delhi with a message of "Beti Padhao and Beti Bachao".

## CHIEF MINISTER N. BIREN EXPRESSES JUBILATION FOR PASSING OF TRIPLE TALAQ BILL



**C**hief Minister of Manipur, Shri N. Biren Singh expressed his jubilation at the passage of the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill on 30th July 2019. Popularly called the Triple Talaq Bill, the bill makes instant triple talaq a criminal offence and provides for a three jail term to a Muslim man for the crime.

The triple talaq bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha and passed by the house last week. The bill was passed by Parliament with the Rajya Sabha approving the bill. The bill will now go to President Ram Nath Kovind for his assent. The Supreme Court had earlier declared the practice of instant triple talaq unconstitutional and a divorce pronounced by uttering talaq three times in one sitting void and illegal.

Shri N. Biren Singh expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi for his vision and leadership and said that with the passage of the bill, an out-of-place and medieval practice has finally been confined to the annals of history. He said India is truly moving in the right direction as the bill aims at ensuring gender dignity, justice, and equality. Shri N. Biren Singh said he is extremely happy for the Muslim community as the bill will now empower Muslim women and provide them justice.

The passage of the bill is a major political win for the Narendra Modi government. It was the first draft legislation that the Narendra Modi cabinet passed after being voted back to power in the 2019 Lok Sabha election.

## FULL TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS IN 2ND EPISODE OF 'MANN KI BAAT 2.0'



**M**y dear countrymen, Namaskar. As usual, you and I eagerly keep waiting for 'Mann Ki Baat'. This time too, numerous letters, comments & phone calls have poured in – full of stories, suggestions & inspiration – everybody wants to do something or the other; also wanting to say it out. One can feel that sentiment. All this touches upon myriad facets which I wish to sum up, but cannot do so on account of constraints of time duration. It seems I am being put to test. Yet, once again I want to offer you your own precious thoughts, woven together on the singular thread of Mann Ki Baat.

It must be part of your recent memory that in the earlier episode, I had referred to a collection of short stories by Premchandji, We had decided that on reading any book, some of its facets should be shared with all through the NarendraModi App. I have seen that people in large numbers have shared a lot of information on a variety of books. It is heartwarming to see them discuss books published on subjects such as Science, Technology, innovation, history, culture, business, life-sketches and so on. Some have advised me to dwell upon many other books. Fine. I shall discuss with you on other books as well. But

I must candidly admit here that I am not able to devote much time to reading books these days. But I have gained a lot, in the sense that based on your correspondence here, I got opportunities to know about the themes of many kinds of books. But the experience over the last one month makes me feel that we need to take it forward. Why don't we create a permanent book corner on the NarendraModi App, so that, whenever we read a book, we write about it and discuss it on this platform! And you can even suggest an apt name for our book corner. I want this book corner to be an active forum for readers & writers alike. So keep reading & writing; sharing with all friends of Mann Ki Baat alongside.

Friends, I touched upon the subject of water conservation in Mann Ki Baat and today I feel that it was an issue close to your heart even before I referred to it, a matter of universal human interest. I have experienced the fact that this topic has stirred the nation's heart strings collectively. Many an informed, effective endeavour is afoot across the country. People have shared information on traditional methods. The media has embarked upon quite a few innovative campaigns. Be it the Government or NGOs, something or the other is being carried out on a war footing. Witnessing the might of

the collective is in itself heart warming & satisfying. A case in point is village Aara Keram under the Ormanjhi block, not very far from Ranchi in Jharkhand. The fervour & Zeal displayed by villagers there towards water conservation has turned out to be exemplary for one & all. The rural folk donated sweat, toiling collectively, to change the course of a mountain spring. It was a purely indigenous, home grown method. This has led to not only stopping soil erosion & prevention of crop damage, but also facilitated effective irrigation of fields. And you will be happy to know that the beautiful North Eastern State of Meghalaya has become the first state to have formulated its own water-policy. I congratulate the Government of Meghalaya.

In Haryana, crops that require meagre water are being encouraged. Farmers thus are saved from suffering losses. I specially congratulate the Haryana Government for establishing a connect with the farmers to wean them away from conventional modes of farming towards crops that do not require much water.

It is the season of festivals. Many fairs are held on these occasions. Why don't we use these fairs to spread the message of water conservation? All sections of society turn up in fairs in large num-

bers. Here, we can effectively spread awareness on the need to save water through forums such as exhibitions and street plays, thus using the festive fervour to convey the message of water conservation with ease.

Friends, certain turns in life make our hearts swell with joy & zest; especially our children's achievements, their feats fill us up with energy. And that is why today, I feel like mentioning about a few children. They are Nidhi Baipotu, Monish Joshi, Devanshi Rawat, Tanush Jain, Harsh Devdharkar, Anant Tiwari, Preeti Nag, Atharva Deshmukh, Aronyatesh Ganguli & Hrithik Alaamandaa.

What I tell you about them will fill your hearts with pride & verve as well. All of us know that just the word CANCER is more than enough to scare the world. It conjures images of Death waiting at the doorstep. But each of these Ten children, not only fought against the dreaded disease cancer in their battle of life, but also brought glory & laurels to the country. In sports and games, we often get to see a player becoming a champion after winning a tournament or bagging a medal; this was a rare occasion when the participants were champions BEFORE they entered the contest... they were champions of LIFE, the battle.

Actually, this month, the

World Children's Winners Games were held in Moscow. It is a unique sports tournament meant for young cancer survivors; only they who have emerged fighting cancer, can take part. In this tournament, sports & games such as shooting, chess, swimming, running, football & table-tennis are organized. All Ten champions of our country won medals in this tournament. Out of these, some players even won more than one medal.

My dear countrymen, I firmly believe that you must have felt immensely proud on India's achievement beyond the skies... in outer space... Chandrayaan II.

People from across the country, such as Sanjiv Haripura from Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Mahendra Kumar Daga from Kolkata, P. Arvind Rao from Telangana, and many others have written to me on Narendra Modi App and mygov, urging me to speak on Chandrayaan II in Mann Ki Baat.

In fact, in the realms of Space, 2019 has been a very fruitful year for India. Our scientists launched the A-Sat in March. After that, amidst the hectic engagements during Elections, an important development such as the A-Sat could not be a prominent part of the discourse. Whereas the fact is, through the A-Sat, we have acquired the capability of destroying a satellite three

hundred Kilometres away in a mere three minutes. India became the fourth country in the world, possessing this capacity. And now, on the 22nd of July, the nation watched with pride Chandrayaan II taking strides into space from Sriharikota. Visuals of Chandrayaan II lifting off filled our countrymen's hearts with glory, zest and joy.

Chandrayaan II is a mission that is special on many counts. It will lead to a better understanding of the Moon on our part. We will be able to gather detailed information & knowledge. But if you ask me what the two greatest lessons I have received from Chandrayaan II, I shall say they are Faith & Fearlessness. We should trust our talents & capacities; we should have faith in them. You will be glad to know that Chandrayaan II is INDIAN to the core. It is thoroughly Indian in heart & spirit. It is completely a swadeshi, home grown mission. This mission has proved beyond doubt, once again, that when it comes to attempting an endeavour in new age, cutting edge areas, with innovative zeal, our scientists are second to none. They are the best... they are world class.

The second important lesson is – never lose hope in the face of stumbling blocks or obstacles. The way our scientists rectified Technical issues in record time, burning

the midnight oil, is in itself an exemplary, unparalleled task. The world watched the Tapasya, the awesome perseverance of our scientists. We should also feel proud of the fact that despite hindrances, there is no change in the arrival time... many are amazed at that. We have to face temporary setbacks in life... but always remember- the capacity to overcome them resides within us. I fervently hope that the Chandrayaan II mission will inspire our youth towards Science & Innovation. After all, Science is the path to progress. We are now expectantly waiting for the month of September, when Lander Vikram & Rover Pragyan will land on Lunar surface.

Through Mann Ki Baat today, I wish to share with students, my young friends, information on a very interesting competition ... I invite young boys & girls to a Quiz Competition. Your inquisitiveness regarding Space, India's Space Mission, Science and Technology will be the salient features of this Quiz Competition. For example, How is a rocket launched, how is a satellite placed in orbit, what information do we gather from a satellite, what is A-Sat... and many more of these. The details of this competition will be available on the Mygov website.

I urge my young friends, students to participate in this

competition and make it interesting and memorable through their participation. I specially call upon schools, parents, enthusiastic teachers & mentors to strive hard to ensure victory for their respective schools. Encourage all students to join. And the most thrilling part is that students scoring the highest in their respective states will be invited to visit Sriharikota, with expenses borne by the Government. There in September they will get an opportunity to witness the moment when Chandrayaan would be landing on the surface of the Moon. For these winners, it will be a historic event of their life. But for that, you will have to participate in the Quiz competition, score the highest & be a winner.

Friends, I'm sure you must have liked my suggestion... isn't this an interesting opportunity? So, let us not forget to participate in the Quiz... let us encourage & inspire as many friends & fellow students to do the same.

My dear countrymen, you must have observed one thing. Our chain of Mann Ki Baat has lent pace to the cleanliness campaign from time to time. Similarly, efforts towards ensuring cleanliness have always inspired Mann Ki Baat. A journey that began five years ago gathered momentum with mass participation & is now setting up new-

er benchmarks in cleanliness & sanitation. It is not that we have reached the ideal yet, but the way we have achieved success in ODF & clean public spaces, it displays the collective will & strength of the resolve of a hundred & thirty crore countrymen. But we are not stopping at that. This movement has now advanced from cleanliness towards beautification. Just a few days ago, I was watching the story of Shriman Yogesh Saini and his team on the media. Yogesh Saini is an engineer who left his job in America and returned to serve Mother India. Recently, he has picked up the gauntlet to not just clean up Delhi, but to beautify it. With his team, he began with the garbage bins of Lodi Garden. Through the medium of street art, he has decorated many localities of Delhi with aesthetically appealing paintings. From over bridges to school walls to hutments he gave a free hand to his talent, garnering huge public support on the way, on the lines of an effective campaign. Remember how, during the Kumbh, Prayagraj was decorated with street paintings! I came to know that Yogesh Saini & his team played a stellar role in it. Colours & lines may be mute, but when they merge to form a picture, the rainbow that emanates speaks louder than a thousand words. We experience this in the beauty, the aesthetics of the Swachchata

Abhiyan. It is imperative that the culture of transforming waste to wealth develops in our society. In a way, we have to move ahead on the path of converting garbage to gold.

My dear countrymen, a few days ago, I read a very interesting comment on Mygov. This comment came from Brother Muhammad Aslam who stays in Shopian, Jammu & Kashmir.

He wrote, "I like listening to the programme Mann Ki Baat. I am happy to let you know that I played a positive active role in organizing the community mobilisation programme- Back to Village in my state Jammu & Kashmir. This programme was organized in the month of June. I feel such programmes should be organized every quarter. Simultaneously, there should be a provision for online monitoring too. According to me, this was a one of a kind programme where the public directly entered into a dialogue with the Government.

Brother Mohd Aslamji had sent me a message upon reading which I felt curious to know more about the 'Back to village' programme and when I got to know it at length, I felt that the entire nation should get to know about this programme.

The people of Kashmir are eager to join the national mainstream, their enthusiasm is

reflected in the mechanism of this programme. For the first time, senior officials reached the villages, directly, even those officials who had never visited a village were available to the villagers at their doorsteps, to judge for themselves to gauge the obstacles in the path of progress and to remove the hurdles. This week long programme encompassing about 4500 panchayats witnessed the govt. officials briefing the villagers about the schemes and programmes implemented by the Government and also inquired whether these facilities were available to them or not.

How to impart more might to the Panchayats? How to increase their income? And how the facilities rendered by panchayats can affect the day to day life, were topics that were discussed and people too interacted in a participatory fashion telling about their problems. Literacy, sex ratio, health, hygiene, water conservation, electricity, water, Girl education, senior citizen's concerns etc. were some of the topics that were discussed at length.

Friends, this programme was not a mere Government formality that officials roam around the village and return to base, instead of this the officials spent two days and a night at the panchayat, enabling them to spend time in the village and meet almost

every denizen of the village and to reach across to every establishment in the village. To make this programme even more interesting many other means were employed. Many sports competitions for kids were organized under the aegis of 'Khelo India'. Sports Kits, MNREGA job cards and SC/ST certificates were distributed. There were Financial Literacy camps and Agriculture and Horticulture Department set up stalls where knowledge about govt. schemes was disseminated. In this manner, this programme became a festival celebrating development, a festival of people's participation and a festival of people's awakening!

The people of Kashmir open heartedly became equal stakeholders in this festival. The most heartening aspect of 'Back to village' programme is the fact, that it was organized in such remote villages, where even officials had to traverse difficult terrain and climb mountains while walking on foot over a period of day or day and a half. These officials also reached the panchayats on the border which live under the shadow of cross-border firing, not only this the officials reached the sensitive villages in the districts of Shopian, Pulwama, Kulgam and Anantnag, without any fear. Some officers were so overwhelmed by the reception they received, that they decided to extend

their stay upto two days in these villages. The organizing of Gram Sabhas in these villages, wherein the people participated in large numbers and chalked out schemes for themselves is something that is an extremely pleasant experience. A new resolve, a new fervor and grand results. Programmes like these and people's participation or stake holding indicates that our brothers and sisters in Kashmir want good Governance and proves the dictum that the power of development is stronger than the might of bullets and bombs. It is clear that those who wish to spread hatred en route to development, pose hurdles will never succeed in their sinister plans.

My dear countrymen, Shri-man Dattatraya Ramchandra Bendre, gyanpith laureate and poet has described the significance of the month of Sawan in this manner- in his poem.

होडगिमडगि आग्येदलग्ना |  
अदराग भूममिग्ना |

Meaning that the relationship between drizzling rain and stream of water is wondrous and earth gets bedazzled by such spectacle! In entire India, people of different cultures and languages, celebrate the onset of rainy season in their own fashion. Whenever we look around us in this season it appears as if earth has draped itself in a sheet of greenery! There is generation of renewed energy all around

us. In this pious season many devotees perform the Kanwad Yatra and many proceed on the Amarnath pilgrimage, many observe fasts and eagerly wait for festivals like Janamasthmi and Nag Panchmi. It is during this season that the festival of Raksha Bandhan symbolizing the bond between a brother and sister also falls.

While we are talking of the month of sawan, you will be glad to learn that the number of pilgrims in the Amarnath Yatra this year has been the greatest in the past 4 years. A total of 3 lakh pilgrims have had the darshan of the holy Amarnath shrine from 1st July till now. In 2015, the number of devotees who performed this pilgrimage over 60 days has been crossed over by the number of pilgrims in mere 28 days this year!

I would especially like to thank the hospitality of the people of Jammu- Kashmir while referring to successful organization of Amarnath Yatra. Those who return after performing this pilgrimage become imbued with the feelings of warmth and kinship displayed by the people of the state. These are portents of booming tourism in the future. I have been told that within a span of a month-and- a half of the commencement of Chardham Yatra in Uttarakhand this year, more than 8 lakh devotees have

had the darshan of Kedarnath Shrine. This is a record number of pilgrims post the apocalyptic events of 2013.

I appeal to all of you to visit those tourist spots within our country whose scenic beauty is to behold during the monsoon. There are no better ways to witness this nation's beauty and people's sentiments and no better teachers than tourism and pilgrimage.

I extend my felicitation to you all that may this beautiful and lively month of Sawan fill all of us with new energy, new hopes and new expectations. The month of August also brings the memories of 'Quit India' movement. I wish that all of us celebrate 15th August with special preparations and find out new ways to observe this festival of freedom with greater participation of masses. You must ponder over the fact how 15th August could be celebrated as a folk-festival and also as a people's festival? On the other hand, heavy rainfall in many parts of the country has resulted in countrymen suffering due to floods. Floods wreak havoc at various levels. I assure all the citizens affected by floods, that the Centre in tandem with State govts. is working at lightning pace to provide relief and succour. On television, we witness just one aspect of monsoon- floods everywhere, water logging and traffic jam! The other picture

of monsoon- the overjoyed farmer, chirping birds, gurgling waterfalls and earth wrapped under a green cover, to witness this you will have to step out along with your family. Rains bring freshness and happiness with them, my heartiest wish is that the monsoon keep on bringing happiness to you and you all enjoy best of health.

**My dear countrymen, where to begin 'Mann Ki Baat' and where to end it, is a difficult task! But there is a time limit! I'll be back after a month's wait and meet you again. You'll have lots to tell me after a month's interval and I'll incorporate the information in the next episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' and let me remind my young friends that do not forget to participate in the quiz competition, do not forgo the opportunity to visit Sriharikota at any cost. Many thanks to you all. Namaskar.**



## 73RD INDEPENDENCE DAY 15 AUGUST 2019: TRIVIA

**I**ndia celebrates its 73rd Independence Day on 15th August 2019. The day is marked by flag hoisting ceremony in the presence of the Prime Minister who later addresses the nation from the rampart of the Red Fort in Old Delhi. Flag hoisting ceremonies and cultural programs are also held in the state capitals.

On this day in 1947, the republic of India gained its independence from British rule. Since then every year, 15th August is celebrated as the Independence Day in India to commemorate its freedom from the 200-year-old British government.

The struggle for India's Independence began in 1857 with the Sepoy Mutiny in Meerut. Later, in the 20th century, the Indian National Congress and other political organisations, under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, launched a countrywide independence movement. Colonial powers were transferred to India on 15th August 1947.

On this day, 73 years ago, free India's first Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru gave his famous "Tryst with Destiny" speech. During this speech, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru said "Long years ago we made a tryst with destiny, and now the time comes when we will redeem our pledge, not wholly or in full measure, but very substantially. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom. A moment comes, which comes, but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends and when the soul of a nation, long suppressed, finds utterance. We end today a period of ill fortune, and India discovers herself again."

India Independence Act 1947 was an Act passed by the Parliament of the United Kingdom (UK) that divided British India into two new independent dominions of India and Pakistan. The Act received the assent of the royal family on 18th July 1947 after which, India came into existence on 15th August and Pakistan on 14th August in the year 1947.

The Act repealed the use of 'Emperor of India' as a title for the British Crown and ended all existing treaties with the princely states. Lord Mountbatten continued as Governor-General and Jawaharlal Nehru was appointed India's first Prime Minister, Muhammad Ali Jinnah became Pakistan's Governor-General and Liaquat Ali Khan its Prime Minister.



## CONTRIBUTION OF SUGGESTIONS ON DRAFT NEP IS NEEDED: EDUCATION MINISTER

**E**ducation Minister Shri Thokchom Radheshyam stated that opinions and views specifically focusing on the areas that are strongly felt essential to be introduced into the education system of Manipur, need to be pointed out and contributed as suggestions on the Draft National Education Policy (NEP), 2019 to make the education system of Manipur better 24th July 2019.

The Minister was speaking at the “1-Day Consultative Meet” on National Education Policy (NEP), 2019 organised by Directorate of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) held at the Multipurpose Hall, SCERT. He explained that there are many choices and making the right choice has become difficult. The children, he added, need to be taught to make the right choice and remain relevant for future too. The education policy, he stressed is the guideline on how to prepare the young minds through better education.

Education is to make children curious and imagine new things. Th. Radheshyam said, children should not be pressurized but rather let them grow freely. He highlighted that due to excessive academic pressures and demands from parents and peer groups there is issue of high rate of suicide cases in the country. He asserted that in this draft policy, certain views should be put up to address these issues and bring a positive change.

Joint Secretary, Shri L. Nandakumar Singh said that by 2020, half of the India’s total population will be under 26 years of age. India being a diverse nation, it is important that suggestions on the Draft NEP, 2019 be put up before it is finalized so that the views and suggestion specifically made in accordance to need of the state could be furnished as part of the education system.

Director, SCERT, Dr. M. Meenakumari Devi, highlighting the different parts of the Draft NEP, 2019, said that the consultative meet is focussed on the School Education under which - Pedagogy & Curriculum in Schools, Teachers and Teachers Education are the sub-section being discussed. Reading out the vision of the Draft NEP, 2019 she said that the new policy is drafted in order to meet the need and demand of the 21st Century.

## DISCUSSION ON 'DRAFT NATIONAL EDUCATION POLICY, 2019' HELD

**E**ducation Minister Shri Thokchom Radheshyam said that education is the only means to realize the dream of a new India, transforming India into a strong nation on July 22, 2019. Discussion on Draft National Education Policy, 2019 is the means to refine and redefine the education policy of the country to pave way for better education system in the country, he added.



The Minister was speaking at the one day Discussion Session on Draft National Education Policy, 2019 jointly organised by Directorate of University & Higher Education, Manipur and Intellectual Forum of North East (IFNE) held at Classic Royale Hall, Imphal. Citing survey reports stating that every hour one student commits suicide in the country because of the pressure and system for education adopted. He highlighted the issue of high rate of suicide cases in the country due to parental pressure and from peer groups.

He said as per definition education is to bring forward the best of the children and not to pressurize and be demanding towards the students. Education is not just to get jobs but to live and to let others lead a good life. The main player in education is the teacher who will bring out the best and weaknesses in the education and its system. He urged the gathering to retrospect on how amendments can be making to strengthen the education policy and the system.

Director of University and Higher Education Shri W. Malemnganba Chenglei said that it is the need of the hour to draft the new education policy, with the rapid changes witnessed in the technological field. It is imperative to know the roles and contribution of India so that India is not left behind and is propelled forward. The draft National Education Policy, 2019, he said defines the different aspects to improve the educational landscape of the country. He stated that the draft emphasizes on critical thinking, communication skill and understanding India's social, moral and ethical values.

Chairman of NIOS, Ministry HRD, Prof. C.B. Sharma stated that the draft policy need to have more diverse views that should be able to change and shape the country towards positivity. He pointed out that school education need to be given more emphasis and address the critical issue of suicide cases of young students. He said that draft education policy need to bring a policy to curb the mushrooming of coaching centers and migration of university professors to the higher paid institution.



## HEALTH MINISTER INAUGURATES 10 BEDDED AYUSH HOSPITAL

**H**ealth and Family Welfare Minister Shri L. Jayantakumar Singh inaugurated a 10 bedded AYUSH hospital at Thoubal, WangmaTaba, inside the premises of CMO Office, Thoubal on 29th July 2019.

Speaking as Chief Guest at the inaugural function, Shri Jayantakumar Singh said that health sector is considered to be one of the most important segments of human beings. Everybody wish a happy and longer life. In order to fulfill the wish of the people, Health department not only initiates better health services but also has introduced wellness programmes of the people. In this regard, many Health and Wellness Centres have been opened in different districts in the state. The Primary Health Sub Centres have also been replaced by the Health and Wellness Centres in order to fulfill the new objective of the Health department, minister added.

Jayantakumar also explained that the Ayush method of treatment is no longer a new concept of advanced medical application. There are a lot of prospects in opting Ayush method as it has become cost effective and easily affordable. Both ayurvedic and allopathic forms are equally preferable during these days according to the suitability of the prevailing condition/ case of the person, Minister added.

He maintained that the newly opened 10 Bedded Hospital will benefit the people of Thoubal and also help to ease the problem of scarcity of Ayushcentres in the region. He said that the Government is always ready to accept suggestions from the public with regard to boosting the health sector in the state. The Minister also urged the public to cooperate with the initiatives of the government especially in the health sector.

The inaugural function was also attended by L. Promila Devi, Director Ayush, Government of Manipur, Dr. Y. Lukhoi Singh, Additional Director Ayush & Member Secy. State Health Society as President and Guest of Honour respectively. Staff from Ayush, health staff, ASHAs and others also attended the function.

## MINISTER BISWAJIT CALLS FOR PROMOTION OF HANDLOOM PRODUCTS TO ACHIEVE GROWTH AND



## DEVELOPMENT

**T**extiles, Commerce & Industries Minister Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh stated that concerted effort is needed for the promotion of handloom and handicraft products to achieve growth and development in the State on 2nd August 2019. He was speaking on the occasion of 20th State Handloom Day celebration held at G.M hall, organized by Handlooms promotion Council, Manipur.

The Minister observed that handloom industry is the second source of income in our State, there is a need for dynamic positive change to accelerate the development process in Manipur. Looms are owned in almost every household both in the valley and hill, as it is an intrinsic part of our rich social and cultural tradition. Promotion of handloom products requires active involvement of all the stakeholders including individuals residing in our State. The Minister assured to provide all possible help from Government in promoting handloom and handicraft products.

He stated that to facilitate the weavers, the Government had introduced Handloom Delivery System with the aim to increase production and income of the weavers. He also informed that the Central Government is ready to provide training to 10,000 weavers to enhance their skills. The State Government is planning to enlist weavers residing in the State to access their value of contribution. He also advised the officials of Textiles, Commerce & Industries to carry out G.I. registration of indigenous products of our state at the earliest. The Minister also informed that during the upcoming Manipur Textiles Expo, 2500 looms will be distributed free of cost to the weavers.

The celebration is aimed to highlight the contribution of the handloom industry in the socio-economic development of the State. As part of the celebration, 35 weavers across the state were feted for their enormous contribution in promoting handloom products across the country.

The Celebration were attended by Principal Secretary of Textiles, Commerce & Industries Shri Paulunthang Vaiphei, President of Manipur Apex Handloom Weavers & Handicrafts Artisans Cooperative Society Ltd, Smt K. Indira Devi, officials of Textiles, Commerce & Industries, weavers among others.



## MEGA FOOD PARK CONSTRUCTION APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE: RAMESWAR TELI

**T**he Government of India has approved in principle, the construction of Mega Food Park in Manipur estimated at Rs. 80 crores (approx), said Hon'ble Minister

of State, Ministry of Food Processing Industries Shri Rameswar Teli, on 8th August 2019.

Addressing the inaugural function of the one day workshop on Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana at Hotel Imphal, Minister Teli said that the Mega Food Park project will receive Rs.50 crore subsidies from the Centre. He observed that there is no lack of fund in the ministry for entrepreneurs and further encouraged to send in proposals to the government to avail the available funds.

Addressing the gathering as the Guest of Honour, Hon'ble Minister Textiles, Commerce and Industries, Government of Manipur Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh urged entrepreneurs to take advantage of the provisions of the scheme. He said the entrepreneurs should not limit themselves to the valley districts, and instead spread their units to hills districts so that they can employ the locals as well as build up the feeling of national integration.

Encouraging entrepreneurship in the State, Shri Biswajit reiterated that increase in the number of entrepreneurs can help in solving the unemployment issue in the State. He further urged the Centre for setting up of a Small State Development Policy. Shri Biswajit also lauded the entrepreneurs for their success without any financial assistance from both the government and the banks till now, and at the same time, he encouraged them to link up with his department so that they can avail the schemes for them.

Meanwhile, a one-minute silence was observed by the gathering as a mark of respect to the departed soul of former Minister of External Affairs Smt. Sushma Swaraj. The inaugural function was also attended by Chief Secretary Dr. J Suresh Babu, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, Dr. Rakesh Sarwal, Principal Secretary, Commerce and Industries, Government of Manipur Shri P. Vaiphei, Director General, Indian Chamber of Commerce Dr. Rajeev Singh, among others.

The workshop is being organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce supported by the Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industries, Government of Manipur and Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India with the main aim of spreading awareness about the Kisan Sampada Yojana among the entrepreneurs. State entrepreneurs and bankers also attended the workshop. Several officials and resource persons spoke on various components of the scheme in the afternoon session.

## ENHANCE THE INNATE TALENTS OF CHILDREN: EDUCATION MINISTER

**E**ducation Minister Shri Thokchom Radheshyam emphasised on the importance of providing opportunity to the students to raise query and express freely to bring out innate talents. It is highly needed that such environment be created for students and teach to reason and be imaginative to enable to answer the famous Kipling Method of 5Ws and 1H that would help them in solving problems.

The Minister was speaking at the 22nd & 23rd Prize Distribution Ceremony & Award of Certificate for Participation in the Three Day Workshop (Oct. 4 - Nov. 30, 2018) organized by the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur (COHSEM) at MSFDS Auditorium, Palace Gate.

During the ceremony - Online Enrolment website was also launched by the Minister. He said that the youths have huge potential and talent and what they need is to be mentored and guided. It is therefore necessary from the teachers and parents side that the ideas and views conceived by children be appreciated and directs them towards the right direction.

Director, Education(S), Shri Thokchom Kirankumar Singh stated that the curriculum being prescribed for the students by the concerned authority as such the SCERT and NCERT are transmitted through teachers. He said that it is thus important that the teachers are provided with training and capacity building training programmes to enhance their knowledge so that they could provide the best of teaching to the students.

Highlighting the initiatives taken up, Chairman, COHSEM Shri L. Mahendra Singh said that workshops have been conducted in which teachers from both government and private schools participate. He added that teachers of colleges where standard 12th is attached also attended the workshop. He said that these workshops are conducted to help the teachers adapt to the changes especially in the field of education so that the teachers could impart education in effective way.

Prizes were distributed to the students who had held positions in the higher secondary examination of 2018 & 2019 conducted by COHSEM. Retired principals and teachers were also honoured with token of appreciation.

Academicians, concerned officials, teachers and students attended the programme.





## SHRI BISWAJIT LAUNCHES TOLL-FREE NO.1800-345-3872 TO AIR GRIEVANCES FOR RD&PR SCHEMES

**R**ural Development and Panchayati Raj (RD & PR) Minister Shri Thongam Biswajit Singh launched toll free number 1800-345-3872 to help callers air any grievances or complaints regarding implementation of schemes under the department on 18th July, 2019.

The toll free number was launched during a One Day Awareness on “Roles and responsibilities of Gram Rozgar Sahayak (GRS) & Other Technical Staff on implementation of the MGNREGS” at the Panchayat Bhawan, Porompat, Imphal East.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Biswajit said that callers can use the tollfree number to air their grievances or problems, so that proper action may be initiated.

Shri Biswajit asked authorities concerned, including the District Programme Coordinator to bring any issue or problem to the knowledge of the government. He said there are only two options at the moment which is to reward those working with sincerity and to initiate action against those who are negligent and fail to perform their responsibilities.

He also stressed on the need to properly screen beneficiaries, and said that wage payment should be made to only active job-card holders. The GRS should properly check and verify job-card holders and conduct door-to-door verification of beneficiaries to assist those seeking job cards, he added.

Shri Biswajit also said that the awareness programme for GRS & Other Technical Staff was organised at a short notice considering that it is important for all stakeholders to properly understand their roles and responsibility in the successful implementation of a scheme. He said similar awareness programmes for different stakeholders will be held from time-to-time.

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## **SOUTH EAST ASIA CULTURAL ORGANISATION (SEACO) CELEBRATES ITS 9TH FOUNDATION DAY**

### **ROLE OF SEACO IN PRESERVING CULTURE AND IDENTITY OF MANIPUR IS SUBSTANTIAL: MINISTER KARAM SHYAM**

**W**ith a view to preserve the unique history, culture, identity and religion of Manipur, the 9th Foundation Day of South East Asia Cultural Organisation (SEACO) was held at Lamyamba Sanglen, Konung Mamang on 5th August, 2019.

Minister CAF & PD, Revenue, Karam Shyam, President, SEACO, Kolomcha Achoubi Khuman; Convenor, Act East Policy, R. K. Shivchandra Singh; Advisor, SEACO, Akham Langol; Chief Editor, KanglaPao, Pukhrambam Ibochouba; Propreitor, Arun Enterprises and social worker, Thangjam Arun; Nodal Officer, MOMA (Manipur Organic Mission Agency), Agriculture Department, Government of Manipur and North East in charge, Infotech Standard Organisation, Thokchom Jimi Singh graced the dais as the chief guest, president and guests of honour respectively.

Addressing the function, Minister Karam Shyam highlighted on the importance of the role of SEACO in preserving our indigenous history, identity, religion, culture and tradition of Manipur. There is a strong need to analyse history, rectify the past mistakes and create a new, better indigenous culture that will sow the seeds of human civilization in the present and future, he added.

## **STATE OBSERVES KARGIL VIJAY DIWAS**

**R**emembering the brave heroes of Kargil War, the State observed the “Kargil Vijay Diwas” at the Banquet Hall of the 1st Manipur Rifles on 26th July 2019.

Speaking as Chief Guest of the function, Minister for Agriculture, Shri V. Hangkhanlian said that during the 74 day long Kargil War, 527 Indian soldiers sacrificed their life for the country. On this occasion, we feel proud for the selfless sacrifices and courage of our soldiers who fought valiantly for the country, he added.

Shri V. Hangkhanlian recollected that after the Pakistani Army and terrorists breached the Line of Control (LOC), the Indian Armed Forces retaliated back with “Operation Vijay” in 1999. Paying homage to the valour of the soldiers, he said that such supreme sacrifices cannot be forgotten.

While delivering his Presidential address, Minister for Forest and Environment Shri Th. Shyamkumar said that we should not forget the courage and valour of our soldiers who fought tirelessly to uphold the sovereignty and integrity of the country. He mentioned that on such occasion, we remember our martyrs, by revisiting the sacrifices and instilling pride and respect among us. Minister appealed to the people of the State to fight collectively against terrorism and other external forces which threatens our country.



## THOUSANDS OF ADC PENSIONERS TO GET BENEFITS FOR FIRST TIME AS MINISTER KAYISII INAUGURATES PENSION CELL

**T**ribal Affairs and Hills Minister Shri N. Kayisii inaugurated a Pension Cell at the Directorate of Tribal Affairs in Imphal marking the day as a red-letter day for thousands of pensioners of the six Autonomous District Councils (ADC) in the State on 2nd August 2019.

Speaking at the inaugural function as the Chief Guest, Minister Kayisii said that pensioners of ADCs have been deprived of their pension benefits since its establishment in 1973. With the inauguration of the pension cell at the Directorate, the pensioners can now breathe a sigh of relief. Thanking and acknowledging his predecessors and staff for their dedicated service for the success of the scheme, the Minister expressed hope that the scheme will help in bridging the gap among various sections of the people.

Minister Kayisii also inaugurated a Mobile Dispensary Van and Ambulance for the tribal people of the State. Commenting on the services, Kayisii expressed his joy that tribals of the State living in remote and far-flung areas will have access to basic health care services.

The mobile dispensary and ambulance will be handed over to an NGO – Karuna Trust, which is managing PHCs in remote villages not covered by the line department. Minister Kayisii also inaugurated a Conference Hall with a seating capacity of 200 persons approximately. The Minister opined that the conference hall will be an asset for the Directorate which will help organise programmes like training, conferences, and meetings.

Shri Letkhogin Haokip, Addl Chief Secretary (TA & Hills) and Shri Arthur Worchuiyo, Director (TA & Hills) attended the function as the Guest of Honour and Functional President respectively. The inaugural function was also attended by Chairmen of ADCs, officials, and staff from tribal affairs directorate.

## EDUCATION MINISTER OPENS EAST ZONE SAINIK SCHOOL SPORTS & CULTURAL FESTIVAL CHAMPIONSHIP

**T**he East Zone Sainik School Sports & Cultural Festival Championship, 2019-20 was declared opened by Education Minister Shri Thokchom Radheshyam on 22nd July 2019. The championship was held for five days at the



Sainik School, Imphal. Speaking as the Chief Guest of the function, the Minister stressed on the importance of maintaining good health. He said poor health hampers and hinders in coping with the various chores of school activities. Health is the most precious wealth for human being, as the saying goes 'a sound mind is in a sound body', he added. Th. Radheshyam opined that the event will create opportunity for the students to become a more complete individual. He said that such event will help in bringing unity and oneness among the students. He advised the students to make many friends developing the bond of brotherhood so that they could cherish and enjoy the moments.

The Minister stated that realizing the need to emphasize on holistic approach towards education, the centre as well as the State Government has now made sports and co - curriculum activities as an essential part of education. Under Samagra Shiksha, sports and physical education has been made an integral part of School Education. The scheme covers from pre-school to senior secondary level aiming to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels.

Principal, Sainik School Imphal, Shri HCS Chauhan said that it is a matter of pride for the school that it is hosting the East Zone Sainik School Sports & Cultural Festival Championship for the second time after 12 years. He said that the aim of the competition is to promote team spirit, fair play amongst cadets, develop camaraderie amongst cadets and selection of Sainik team for further competitions in the Inert - Zonal and National level.

The inaugural function was attended by the wing commanders, teaching and non-teaching staff and student contingents of six Sainik Schools across the East Zone - Sainik School Purulia, West Bengal; Sainik School Goalpara, Assam; Sainik School Punglwa, Nagaland; Sainik School Chhingchhip, Mizoram and Sainik School East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh along with the hosts team. The event kicked off with the contingents of six Sainik Schools marching the parade and taking the oath. The championship will have competition in various events of games & sports and co - curriculum activities and will be held in two categories. In the games & sports category contingents will compete in - football (Jr.) U-17; (Sub. Jr.) U - 14 hockey, basket ball and volleyball. In the co - curriculum activities competition will be held in - debate (English and Hindi); quiz and variety entertainment programme.

The Minister also inaugurated the Radheshyam Gallery and also launched the Sports T-Shirt. As an opening of the Championship the first match of U- 17 Football was played between Sainik School Punglwa, Nagaland and Sainik School Imphal. Overall 333 cadets are participating in the East Zone Sainik School Sports & Cultural Festival Championship, 2019-20.



Government of Manipur  
Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry

5<sup>th</sup> NATIONAL

One Weaver One Tree

HANDLOOM DAY

CELEBRATION AND PLANTATION OF TREE

7<sup>th</sup> AUGUST 2019 Time: 9:30 A.M.

SWC Ground, Khongman, Imphal East



ORGANISED BY  
DIRECTORATE OF  
HANDLOOMS & TEXTILES



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