



MANIPUR SANGAI FESTIVAL 2022

FESTIVAL OF ONENESS
21ST - 30TH NOVEMBER | SANGAI ETHNIC PARK,
MOIRANG KHUNOU,
BISHNUPUR, MANIPUR



MANIPUR SANGAI FESTIVAL 2022 FESTIVAL OF ONENESS

The Manipur Sangai Festival was launched in 2010 to promote Manipur as a world-class tourist destination. It is held annually from 21st to 30th November. The festival is named after the famed species of brow-antlered, Sangai deer which is endemic to the Keibul Lamjao National Park of Manipur.

A medium-sized deer, the distinctive antlers with its extremely long spiked beam make Sangai a unique and endangered species. Named “brow-antlered deer” due to its forward protruding beam that appears to come out from the eyebrow. It is also called the Dancing Deer with its elegant, dainty hops over the floating foliage of Loktak lake. Sangai can be largely seen on the floating biomass, locally called “phumdi” in the South Eastern Part of Loktak Lake inside the park. These phumdies make the Keibul Lamjao National Park the only floating National Park in the world.

After a hiatus brought on by the global pandemic, the Manipur Sangai Festival 2022

is now back in all its glory, bringing together the ‘Land of Jewels’ to celebrate the Festival of Oneness and showcase the resilient spirit of unity in diversity. It will be organized at Hapta Kangjeibung, Khuman Lampak, Heingang and MSFDS in Imphal East District; Mapal Kangjeibung and Kangla Polo Ground in Imphal West District; Behiang and Khuga Dam in Churachandpur District; Moirang Khunou in Bishnupur District, Makhel and Mao in Senapati District. The star attraction will be the opening ceremony at the magnificent Sangai Ethnic Heritage Park in Moirang Khunou which also houses indigenous tribal huts showcasing the diverse ethnic communities of Manipur and the splendour of indigenous handloom and handicrafts which reveal the rich artistic heritage passed down through the ages.

Spanning 10 days, the festival will feature - World War II exhibitions, film screenings, flower show, theme parks and other entertainment programs like ‘Meet the Stars’, besides fun activities for children throughout the festival. In addition, there will be regular



cultural performances by artists from the different tribes of the State and from other states of India besides international artists and cultural troupes at the Bhagyachandra Open Air Theatre at Hapta Kangjeibung. The Cherry Blossom Festival at Mao and the village of Makhel in Senapati are other experiences that should not be missed. Also featuring the unique Shumang Leela - a form of Manipuri theatre where all the roles were traditionally performed by an all-male cast. It is believed to have originated in the late 19th century.

Witness Sagol Kangjei, a sport which has now evolved into the modern game of Polo, in its very own birthplace at the Men's International Polo Tournament and CM's Sagol Kangjei Tournament at Kangla Polo Ground. Enjoy the thrill of various Indigenous Sports and marvel at the athleticism of Thang Ta, Mukna Kangjei, and Yubi Lakpi.

Explore the various Indigenous Foods at food stalls through an assortment of

freshly prepared dishes from the different communities of Manipur, whether vegetarian or non-vegetarian, allowing yourself to savour the natural ingredients and distinct flavours of each cuisine

As the grandest and most extravagant festival of Manipur, the Manipur Sangai Festival 2022 is expected to welcome national leaders, policymakers, industry experts, business delegates, cultural performers, exhibitors and visitors from countries like Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Cambodia, Czech Republic, Dubai, Egypt, Italy, Japan, Oman, Korea, Myanmar, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, USA, UK and Vietnam.

Pack in a world of Experiences and new Connections

Create lasting memories in this extravaganza of a lifetime at

Manipur Sangai Festival 2022!

FESTIVAL OF ONENESS CURTAIN RAISER HELD



Manipur Sangai Festival, 2022 organised under the theme “Festival of Oneness” will be a grand event and will be organised in around 13 venues across the State, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh said during the curtain raiser event of the festival at western gate of Kangla on 15th November, 2022.

The curtain raiser event was also attended by Rajya Sabha MP Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba, Ministers and MLAs.

We are not confining the festival in the city alone, we want public involvement in the festival from every corner of the State and truly make it state-wide, Shri N. Biren Singh said adding that Mao, bordering Nagaland will also be hosting a curtain raiser.

Further stating that the main venue for the festival will be at Sangai Ethnic Park at Moirang Khunou, the Chief Minister said the public may now visit the park where permanent structures are being constructed so that the festival may be organized there every year.

He also thanked and appreciated the people and MLAs of Thanga and Moirang Assembly Constituencies for their cooperation and support to all the construction works and said not a single compensation were sought by the public during the whole construction work including road widening process.

The Chief Minister also said that various events will be included in this year’s edition of the festival including indigenous Sagol Kangjei inside the Kangla Kangjeibung. The

festival will also have Arambai throwing event, he said.

Further in his speech, the Chief Minister appealed to the people that the festival there will witness many tourists visiting the State and that we have to show our best behavior and that it would be the time to showcase and highlight our culture, civilization, decency, discipline, etc.



Shri N. Biren Singh also highlighted that events will be held at Makhel in Senapati, Behiang and Geljang in Churachandpur among others.

The Chief Minister along with the other dignitaries also released the Manipur Sangai Festival, 2022 theme song by Mangka Mayanglambam and balloons to mark the opening of the curtain raiser event. Rhythms of Manipur also presented their Dancing Drummer. Other highlights include pungcholom, blowing of conch and penna invocation.

Shri N. Biren Singh flagged off the Sangai Run which will conclude at Indoor Stadium after passing through Lamlong Bazar, Kongba Bazar, Pishumthong, Keishampat, etc. Renowned film actress of the State Soma Laishram was declared festival ambassador by the Chief Minister. Other well-known personalities from different fields including former national and world champion boxer



Laishram Sarita, actors Gurumayum Bonny, RK Somorendro (Kaiku), Hijam Bala, Ningombam Biju and Designer Robert Naorem among others also attended the event.

The Chief Minister also launched the online lottery for distribution of Sangai Festival stalls.

Meanwhile, the Chief Minister along with Ministers, MLAs, Chief Secretary Dr Rajesh Kumar, DGP Shri P. DOUNGEL and others inspected the ongoing work at the Sangai Ethnic Park.

It may be mentioned that for the first time Curtain Raiser of the much-anticipated Manipur Sangai Festival-2022 was held at City Centre, Salt, Lake, Kolkata on 24th October, 2022 with various cultural and entertainment programmes.

Traditional Pung Cholom, Thang-Ta, MaibiJagoi, Kabui Dance and other entertainment programmes enthralled the crowd at City Centre, where many Manipuris residing in Kolkata too attended.



PLACES TO VISIT WHILE YOU ARE IN MANIPUR

Manipur Sangai Festival 2022 will be held from 21st-30th November at Imphal East, Imphal West, Churachandpur, Bishnupur and Senapati districts. Apart from exploring the best of what the state has to offer to the world in terms of art and culture, handloom, handicrafts, indigenous games and cuisines, music, and dance during the biggest tourism festival of the State, it is also a unique opportunity to discover the scenic natural beauty of the land.

IMPHAL CITY

Sprawled in the middle of the central valley, surrounded by green landscapes and blue-green hill ranges, Imphal city, the capital city of Manipur, represents the centre of all cultural, commercial and political activities of the state.

Despite its small size, the city has a rich cultural and traditional heritage which can be seen in its people, traditions, customs and traditional handlooms and authentic handicrafts. There are many spots which are of historical interest and of tourist attraction such as the historic Kangla Fort, Nupi Keithel, the women only market and the Kangleibung or Polo Ground, the world's oldest polo ground in the world.

GETTING THERE

Imphal city is well connected by air as well as land routes with other parts of the country. The Imphal International Airport, the second largest airport in North East India, is located at a distance of 8 Km southwest of the State Capital on the Tiddini Road. There are two national highways connecting Manipur to the rest of India-NH-2, and NH-37.



EXCLUSIVE DESTINATION

MAPAL KANGJEIBUNG(WORLD'S OLDEST LIVING POLOGROUND)

📍 Imphal West District |At the centre of the Imphal City

Modern polo, as we all know it today, traces its origins in the Manipuri game of Sagol Kangjei. Traditionally, this sport was played on the back of the Manipuri pony, a special breed used since ancient times. This game was to test the king's martial and cavalry skills. Don't miss to explore the world's oldest polo ground!



EMA MARKET(SHOPPING)

📍 Imphal West District |At the centre of the Imphal City

A symbol of feminine power- the only "all women" market in this world. This exclusive womens' market is more than 500 years old and is run by over 3000 "Emas" (mothers). Men are not allowed to sell goods here. The best shopping destination in Manipur- very inspiring and interesting place with local and exquisite goods.



MOREH (BORDER TRADE)

📍 Tengnoupal District |Distance from Imphal 110 km

A busy town right on the Indo-Myanmar border, it serves as a gateway to Southeast India. A huge commercial hub which is known as a shopper's paradise. Visit Moreh to witness the confluence of varied cultures and traditions. This is the only exit from East India



HISTORICAL SITES

RED HILL (MAIBAM LOKPACHING) & INDIA PEACE MEMORIAL

📍 Bishnupur District |Distance from Imphal 16 km.

A renowned historic place in Manipur, this World War II site is where the Japanese soldiers joined the Indian National Army and fought against the British. The war veterans have built a monument named as “India Peace Memorial” to honour the Japanese Martyrs. It is a place of pilgrimage for Japanese tourists.



KHONGJOM WAR MEMORIAL

📍 Thoubal District |Distance from Imphal 36 km.

This memorial commemorates Major General Paona Brajabashi putting his courage and skill on full display as he beat back the might of the British army in 1891. The foot of the hillock where he laid down his life is honoured by the memorial atop Kheba hill. People pay their respects to the the martyrs on Khongjom day every 23rd of April.



IMPHAL WAR CEMETERY

📍 Imphal East and West Districts |Within Imphal city

A poignant site dedicated to soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the battle against Japanese forces during World War II. Maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commissions it is the final resting place for 1600 Commonwealth service personnel. Each memorial bears the insignia of each of the fallen soldier in brass plaques. A trip to Imphal is not complete without paying tributes at this historic site.



HISTORICAL SITES

INA MEMORIAL

📍 Moirang, Bishnupur District |Distance from Imphal 48 km.

A place of great significance in India's struggle for freedom. This memorial honours the noble sacrifices made by Indian soldiers under the leadership of Netaji Subash Chandra Bose. The museum has a collection of priceless photographs, letters, badges of rank and other war memorabilia. A visit to this memorial will give deeper insights on India's freedom struggle.



KANGLA

📍 Imphal West District |At the centre of the Imphal City

A symbol of Manipur's glory, a must-see for history buffs and art lovers. Kangla is the most important historical and archaeological site in Manipur. Kangla served as the royal palace since the period of Pakhangba. Numerous holy shrines are spread across the palace and the site is a sacred place for the Meiteis. Located at the heart of Imphal, this ancient capital of Manipur was reinvented by the British. The enticing beauty of the fort and the dramatic elegance of the surrounding makes it a major destination for tourists. A perfect place to quickly unwind yourself and relax for a moment



SHAHEED MINAR

📍 Imphal West District |Centre of the Imphal City

Also known as the Martyr's Memorial, this imposing pillar is a homage to patriotic Meitei and tribal martyrs including the then crown prince, Bir Tikendrajit Singh who was hanged to death having fought the British during Anglo-Manipuri war in 1891. The monument consists of three vertical beams held together at the top by three mythical dragons.



CULTURAL & HERITAGE

SHREE SHREE GOVINDAJI TEMPLE

📍 Imphal East District |Within the Imphal City

Shree Shree Govindajee temple is a historic centre of the Vaishnavites in Manipur. Twin domes covered with gold plated sheets, paved courtyard, and large congregation hall are noted features. The presiding deity, Radha-Krishna is carved out of a jackfruit tree. The temple attracts large number of devotees who participate in various devotional activities. Tourists are welcome to come and join in the daily festivities and even enjoy a huge vegetarian spread (prasada) at a nominal fee.



SHRI BIJOY GOVINDAJI TEMPLE, SAGOLBAND

📍 Imphal West District |Within the Imphal city

Considered the oldest temple in Manipur by many, it is believed that the elder brother of the god in the Shree Shree Govindajee Temple resides here, and thus has many architectural similarities with the temple. Peaceful and serene, the temple gives the visitor a sense of tranquility and utter bliss.



KAINA TEMPLE & SHRI BUNGSHIBUDON TEMPLE

📍 Thoubal District |Distance from Imphal 29 km

A small hillock held sacred to Hindus, it is a centre of culture. Granting a look into the Hindu culture, Kaina Temple is also home to a divine jackfruit tree, from which, it is believed that an idol of a god was carved. Shri Bungshibudon Temple is located at Khangabok, Thoubal district a few kms away from Kaina temple



CULTURAL & HERITAGE

SHRI GOPINATH TEMPLE

📍 Bishnupur District |Distance from Imphal 35 km

The second largest temple in Manipur, the sheer grandeur of the temple shows itself in a white, humongous structure the very sight of which sends all into a transcendental state. Worshipped by more than 10 lakh devotees every year the temple celebrates Holi, Diwali, Janmashtami and Durga pooja in grandeur.



MUTUA MUSEUM

📍 Andro, Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 26 km.

A cultural complex, the museum houses multiple artifacts from all over the north-east such as rare coins, manuscripts, wood carvings and jewellery. Highlights include replicas of houses of different tribes and ethnic groups from all over the state.



SANAMAHI KIYONG TEMPLE

📍 Nongmaijing Hills, Imphal East

The Sanamahi Kiyong Temple is the abode of Lainingthou Sanamahi, the ancient deity of the Meitei. It is a centre of the followers of Sanamahism in the State of Manipur. The temple attracts religious tourists from other meiteis residing in the other north eastern states and also by others from communities like Kabui and Zeliangrong residing in Manipur, Myanmar, Assam, Tripura and Bangladesh.



NATURE & WILDLIFE

LOKTAK LAKE

📍 Bishnupur District |Distance from Imphal 48 km.

The largest freshwater lake in northeast India. A scenic and mystical lake which resembles a miniature inland sea. This iconic lake is famed for its unique floating swamps, known as Phumdis, and the world's only floating National park, the Keibul Lamjao. Treat yourself at the tourist home on one of the large Phumdis



KHONGHAMPAT ORCHIDARIUM

📍 Imphal East and West Districts |Distance from Imphal 10 km.

A paradise of orchids with more than 110 unique varieties across 200 acres, the Orchidarium is not to be missed in the blooming season of March-April. Vibrant flowers with sweet fragrance and wonderful views, the Khonghampat Orchidarium is a whole new world!



SHIRUI HILLS

📍 Ukhrul District |Distance from Imphal 90 km.

A scenic hill-top panorama covered with stretches of vibrant wildflowers and the rare state flower, the Shirui lily, the Shirui hills are home to some rare birds and wildlife. An enchanting beauty not to be missed. The Shirui lilies bloom in plethora during the month of May and June, adorning the hilltop of the peak. This magnificent beauty promises to make your trek purely magical.



NATURE & WILDLIFE

KHANGKHUI LIME CAVES

📍 Ukhrul District |Distance from Imphal 90 km.

An unparalleled experience not to be missed. Take a walk back in time in this prehistoric sedimentary limestone cave. Enclosed by different patterns of stalagmites and stalactites, caving in here through the depth and in darkness is an enthralling experience for tourists, archaeologists, and researchers from all around the globe.



DZUKO VALLEY

📍 Senapati District |Distance from Imphal 82.8 km.

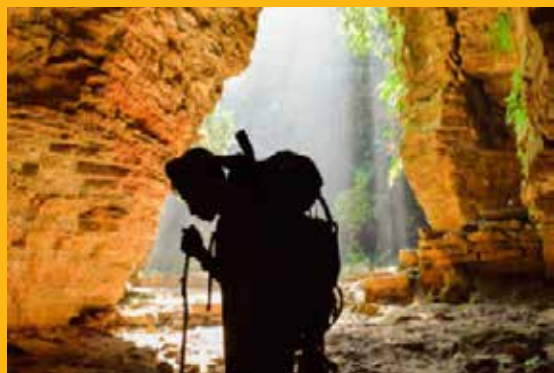
Untouched nature, an offbeat trek from Manipur to Nagaland. The Dzuko valley is a famous spot for adventure lovers and trekkers. Well known for its jaw-dropping landscapes and flora, the valley is also among the best treks in Manipur and attracts a constantly growing number of tourists. The valley is splendid from the end of June till September. Regardless, it always enchants its visitors!



THARON CAVE

📍 Tamenglong District |Distance from Imphal 190 km.

A mystical cave of great archaeological and historical significance. An ideal destination for those in search of adventure, these unexplored caves are presumed to have been shelters in the past. Excavations revealed items belonging to the Vietnamese Hobinian culture. Indeed a top offbeat destination, worthy of a visit.



NATURE & WILDLIFE

BUNNING MEADOW

📍 Tamenglong District |Distance from Imphal 180 km.

A perfect destination for nature lovers. On the west end of the beautiful Tamei town, the Bunning meadow is amazing in June, filled with various orchids and beautiful wild lilies. An ultimate feast for your eyes, create memories and soak yourself in the spirit of nature.



ZEILAD LAKE

📍 Tamenglong District |Distance from Imphal 180 km.

Unwind yourself in the serene surrounding of nature. Situated on a hill, it is a sight to behold. This is one of the lesser-known escapades in the state. Amongst the wildlife sanctuaries of Manipur lies the Zeliad lake, known for being home to a variety of fishes, birds, and pythons.



BARAK WATERFALLS

📍 Tamenglong District |Distance from Imphal 180 km.

Sit, calm yourself and spend some time at this picturesque place. Located in the forest of the Tamenglong district, the waterfall offers opportunities for some breathtaking photography. Also, enjoy splendid rafting and water sports in this chilly water from the hills. The Barak river is rich in aquatic biodiversity and a great picnic spot. All shall be enchanted by the Barak falls



NATURE & WILDLIFE

YANGKHULLEN

📍 Senapati District |Distance from Imphal 135 km.

Explore the unexplored. Yanglhullen village is home to the primitive Zeme tribe. This hamlet is built on a rocky slope where the whole village and its people live together like one big family, where customs and traditions are passed on from one generation to another. A must-visit if you wish to dig deep into Indian history. The village attracts research scholars and historians from all across.



KHOUPUM VALLEY

📍 Tamenglong District |Distance from Imphal 81 km.

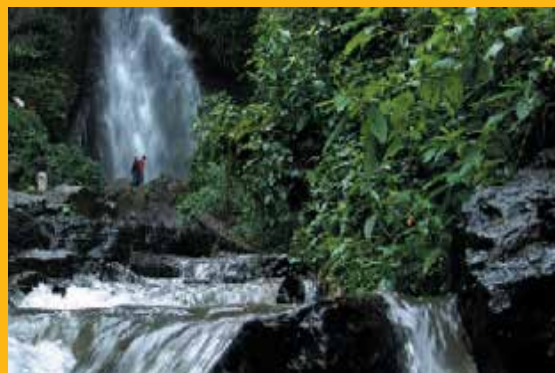
This second-largest valley in Manipur is inhabited by the Rongmei tribe. One can have a sight of giant earthen dams, rivers, the Khukdai cave, and a delightful natural waterfall which is now a famous picnic spot. This valley is truly a sight to behold.



SADU CHIRU WATERFALL

📍 Senapati District |Distance from Imphal 20-25 km.

A picturesque waterfall from a height of 300 meters (approx). The path to Sada Chiru waterfalls is across fields, streams, forests and ultimately a climb up stone steps for a spectacular view of the lush green valley. It is an enjoyable trekking experience for hikers.



NATURE & WILDLIFE

PHANGREI

📍 Ukhrul District |Distance from Imphal 103 km.

One of the best hill stations in Manipur, a day spent at Phangrei peak leaves a lasting memory because of its pristine beauty. Phangrei joins the Shirui Peak which is renowned for the Shirui Lilies. Rich flora and fruits abound the hill range. The icing on the cake can only be a breathtaking waterfall that cascades down the hill range making every nature lover's dream come true.



INTEGRATED TOURIST DESTINATION TUPUL

📍 Noney District |Distance from Imphal 64 km.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Integrated Tourist Destination in January 2018 at Tupul, Noney district. This is being developed with the objective of promoting the district of Noney as one of the niche off-beat destinations in the state. The destination is located near the ongoing highest railway bridge project.



NINGSHING KHUN

📍 Jiribam District |Distance from Imphal 201 km.

Situated at Jiribam District of Manipur the Ningshing Khun village has a biodiversity park which is a tourist spot and a memorial complex to honour the legendary heroes Bir Tikendrajit, General Thangal and Paona Brajabashi.



NATURE & WILDLIFE

KEIBUL LAMJAO NATIONAL PARK

📍 Loktak Lake, Bishnupur District
|Distance from Imphal 50-55 km.

The only floating National park in the world. Described as a birder's paradise, this floating National Park is a one of a kind visual treat not to be missed. An entire ecosystem in itself with diverse flora and fauna, this park is home to the endangered brow-antlered deer, Sangai.



RECREATIONAL PARK

MMRC PARK

📍 Khangabok,
Thoubal District
|Distance from Imphal
27.2 km

A recreational park as well as a research centre, it is a versatile destination indeed. The park represents the culture of various ethnic groups in Manipur with special focus on Meetei traditional structures like Meetei Yumjao, Pakhangba Temple, etc. The children's park offers many facilities for family outings.



RECREATIONAL PARK

PANAM ECO-PARK

📍 Andro, Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 23.7 km

Chakpa Panam Ningthou Meithoupirol Shanglen or Mei Mutaba (the fire that doesn't stop) at Andro is a unique destination. An old traditional Hindu temple with its own quirk. For more than a thousand years the fire lit inside has never been annihilated since it was started. An eco-park at this site is a tourists' hub.



MAASIC

📍 Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 17 km

Manipur Adventure and Allied Sports Institute (MAASI) was established in 1981 for promoting adventure sports and activities. The MAASI Complex is built in a sprawling 120 acres of land to facilitate training and treks for tourists with a flair for adventure. Jungle exploration, mountaineering, rock climbing are other options for the adventurous lot.



MARJING POLO COMPLEX

📍 Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 9 km

Situated near the heritage center Ibudhou Marjing at Heingang, the complex serves as an offering to the God of the Chenglei, Marjing, to whom the Kangjei (Polo-stick) along with the ball (Kangdrum) are continued to be offered during worship. Marijing befits as the centre of polo tourism.



RECREATIONAL PARK

SANTHEI NATURAL PARK

📍 Andro, Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 23.7 km

A truly innovative project, the national park is entirely a product of the effort the villagers have put in an attempt to preserve nature. The park also protects culture by keeping a long sacred ritual fire burning. The construction of the dam functions as an artificial water source, making for a glorious sight.



ECO-PARK, THANGAL SURUNG

📍 Kangpokpi District |Distance from Imphal 32.9 km

The birthplace of renowned General Thangal, the eco park is a beautiful place to visit. Just the perfect place for a multitude of activities, from photography to picnics! Visit the park to pay your respects to the General in remembrance of his days.



MANIPUR MOUNTAINEERING INSTITUTE (MMI) AT LAMDAN

📍 Churachandpur District |Distance from Imphal 63 km

In the year 1985 the foundation stone of Manipur Mountaineering Institute (MMI) had been laid down by Sir Tenzing Norgay during his maiden visit to Manipur. This institute aims at stimulating growth in the field of adventure in the region. “AIM HIGH” is the motto which aptly fuels various adventure and eco-tourism activities in natural rock over 250 hectares.



RECREATIONAL PARK

AWUNCHING PARK

📍 Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 14-15 km

Spread over 367 hectares of land, The Great Escape park is indeed great. Established in 2003, the park offers opportunities for multiple activities, such as paintball and water zorbing, as well as calmer activities including painting and photography. A park fun for all ages.



TAKMU WATER SPORTS COMPLEX

📍 Loktak Lake, Bishnupur District |Distance from Imphal 48 km

A venue for the native water sports of the state. This sports complex is best known for hosting a part of the Manipur Sangai Festival which is an annual celebration. Sports organized here include local boat race, water skiing, motorboating, wind-surfing, etc.



SHILHEIPUNG

📍 Imphal East District |Distance from Imphal 20 km

A picturesque landscape, this eco-tourism centre is surrounded by paddy fields as well as a bird's eye view of the blooming flowers from the hill. A delightful destination for the entire family to spend quality time. Activities offered include picnics as well as wood-crafting. Tourists also enjoy simply going for a stroll and taking in the breathtaking beauty of the nature around them.



RECREATIONAL PARK

KAKCHING GARDEN

📍 Kakching District |Distance from Imphal
45 km

Situated at Uyok Ching, to the south of Kakching Bazar is the Kakching Garden. Developed as a tourist centre this site includes the Mahadev Temple, Ibudhou Pakhang Laiseng, a statue of Hao Sampubi, park and restaurants. The rose garden here is a feast to behold.



MANIPUR OLYMPIAN PARK

📍 Saheibung

A world-class destination combining the best of open space, conservation and showcasing sporting excellence. It is the inspiration of the Olympic Games that drives people not only to compete but to improve, and to bring lasting spiritual and moral benefits to the athlete and inspiration to those lucky enough to witness the



athletic dedication. Facilities Include: Olympian Museum (Hyperrealistic statue and biodata of each individual olympian), exhibition /event hall, Training Centre, Children's Play Area & Kids zone, Infirmary, Water ATM, Open and close restaurant, View tower, Giant Olympic Ring, Souvenir Shop, Digital Olympian Library, Large open Garden, Restroom, Ample Parking Area, Waste management unit, Gazebos, Security and Caretaker cabin, Entrance gate, DG Room etc...

RECREATIONAL PARK

NONGPOK TORBAN

📍 Imphal West District

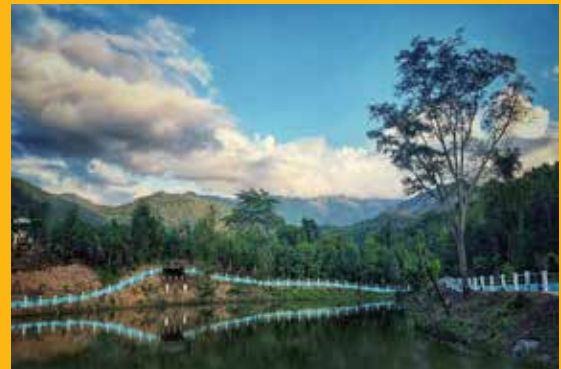
Kangla Nongpok Torban was developed under the Imphal Smart City Limited along the Imphal River. The spot is an open stretch of around 700 metres, starting from the foot of Sanjenthong Bridge to the Nongpok Thong (bridge) of Kangla Fort.



CHIVU CHANDRAKIRTI MEMORIAL PARK

📍 Behiang, Churachandpur

The inscribed stone at Chivu was erected during the reign of Maharaj Chandrakirti (1850 -1886 CE) in the year 1872 CE to commemorate the Lushai Expedition. A large stone slab with a pair of engraved footprints of Maharaj Chandrakirti and General Nathan lies in front of the inscribed stone.



MAKHEL

📍 Makhel, Senapati

A picturesque landscape, this eco-tourism centre is surrounded by paddy fields as well as a bird's eye view of the blooming flowers from the hill. A delightful destination for the entire family to spend quality time. Activities offered include picnics as well as wood-crafting. Tourists also enjoy simply going for a stroll and taking in the breathtaking beauty of the nature around them.





PROSPECTS AND POTENTIALS OF TOURISM IN MANIPUR



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Introduction:

Travel is an ancient and natural phenomenon. As civilization developed conscious travel to explore and see the world began. Today, travel and tourism have become an important global industry with more and more people traveling on vacation as a matter of routine. Tourism, as it is now recognized as an industry, generates many social and economic benefits. It

promotes national integration and international understanding, creates employment opportunities, and augments foreign exchange earnings. It also extends the rearing support to handicrafts and cultural activities. Thus, it helps in the regional development of the country also acts as the medium of social education, and has accelerated in bringing better understanding amongst the people.



Tourism is a multi-dimensional phenomenon. Many varied activities and industries make their own separate and individual contribution to a comprehensive service to tourists. The tourism industry is thus a highly complex aggregation of many groups of firms (industries) providing different products or services to tourists. Accommodation, transportation, food and beverage, travel and financial services plus attractions and traveler-oriented retail products are at the core of the industry. These products and services are complemented by many others such as car rentals, taxis, service stations telecommunications, retail stores and industry suppliers. According to an analysis by the Canadian Government, their tourism industry consists of some 60,000 businesses that derive all or a substantial portion of their revenue from tourism.

The size of the tourist market is growing day by day and it is very clear that tourism has a significant impact on the national economy, social and cultural life and international relations. This activity, today, appears to many as the single greatest opportunity for economic, cultural and political exchange. Tourism means business. It creates employment on a large scale both directly and indirectly. The employment capital ratio in this industry is amazingly high. Those who supply goods and services to those directly involved in tourism are also beneficiaries of it. Such induced employment includes, for example, those involved in the construction industry, in furnishing and equipment industries and farming and food supply. When a new wing of a star hotel opens up in a tourist centre, it will provide many jobs adding to the local economy overnight. Besides, as tourism expands, farmers will sell more crops and fishermen more fish to be served in hotels and restaurants and plumbers will unblock more hotel drains. Tourists also pay taxes such as sales tax, room tax, departure tax, amusement tax, service tax etc.

The development and revitalization of the state's economies should be facilitated by tourism. Tourism is particularly important for areas with limited alternative sources of employment, as is often the case in non-industrial areas. In many developing countries, the promotion of tourism can be a great encouragement for economic development and especially employment. From the employment generation point of view, the return on investment in the tourism sector is much higher than in any other sector. For every million rupees invested, tourism and its allied sector can generate the highest employment than any other sector.

Tourism in its broadest, generic sense can do more to develop understanding among people, provide jobs, create foreign exchange and raise living standards than any other economic force known. Hence, proper planning and management for travel and tourism are needed for their development and growth.

Tourism in Manipur.

The Charms of Manipur are many-splendoured and unique. Manipur has a rich and composite cultural heritage. The unique flora and fauna of the region have been tourist attractions for ages. The entire state is endowed with diverse tourist attractions and it is marked with several lovely tourist spots where nature unveils herself in her glory. The attractions available in Manipur in respect of motivations for travel and making Manipur a tourist destination are the scenic beauty of the land and landscapes, wildlife reserves, historical places, traditional performing arts, sports, handloom and handicrafts and fairs and festivals etc. However, the charms of the region have not been tapped yet to the fullest extent as the tourism phenomenon in this part of the country is still in its infancy. Moreover, there is great potential for hill resorts and adventure sports, rural, community, and agro-tourism in the state which is yet to be tapped fully. The diverse culture of various ethnic identities has made the region a unique place for anthropological adventures.

Manipur is located in the northeasternmost corner of India and surrounded by the hills with enchanting Imphal valley in the center. The Loktak lake situated in the southern part of the valley is the largest freshwater lake in India as well as in Asia. It is regarded as a veritable miniature island sea. One can have a feel of the enchanting view of its scenic beauty from Sendra island. Boating and other water sports are being introduced as tourist

attractions. On the lake itself, Keibul Lamjao National Park, the only floating national park in the world is there. It is the only natural habitat of the brow-antlered deer, Sangai (*Cervus eldi eldi*) found here only on earth and it has been the point of attraction for many wildlife lovers of the world.

Khwairmband Bazar situated at the heart of Imphal city is the largest shopping centre for artistic handlooms, handicrafts and other essential commodities. The distinguishing characteristic of the market is its vendors' stalls run by women folk only which is the largest women's bazaar (Nupi Keithel or Ima Market) in Manipur and India as well. This capital city is adorned with two war cemeteries maintained by Commonwealth War Graves Commission, Kangla Fort and Govindajee Temple.

Moirang is an important historical place in Manipur where the much-known "Khamba-Thoibi" dance originated. Moirang has been brought into the limelight again as it was once the headquarters of the Azad Hind Fauz during the freedom struggle of India. It was here that the flag of the Indian National Army (INA) was hoisted for the first time on Indian soil during their fight for freedom. An INA museum at Moirang is also a place of attraction for tourists.

Maibam Lokpa Hill where there is the Imphal Peace Museum and Japanese War Memorial monument receives many Japanese and other tourists commemorating the memories of those who died in the last World War. Some other remarkable tourist spots in Manipur are Waithou, Kaina, Phubala, Sendra, Khonghampat, Ukhrul and Kanchup. These tourist places offer beautiful sceneries, orchards, peaks for trekking and business centres etc.

With the enhancement of India's Act East Policy and IMT trilateral Highway, Moreh, the border town becomes a tourist attraction with a marvelous scenic panorama. Medical and cultural tourism across the border is also becoming an important area of attraction as Myanmar are coming to Imphal for medical services and visiting other Indian cities like Budha Gaya for pilgrimage tourism.

Tourism Department, Government of Manipur has also taken up various initiatives for the development of tourist destinations in the state, to mention a few, Marjing Polo, cable car/ropeways at various points like Sendra, Cheiraou Ching, Ukhrul etc, in the next few years.

Tourist Inflow:

The tourist inflow in the state has been increasing steadily both the domestic and foreign just before the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic situation. However, tourism in Manipur is still in its infancy and has not capitalized on its assets and earned its rightful share. There is great potential for hill resorts, water sports, community/rural, agri-tourism and adventure tourism which are yet to be tapped to a considerable extent. Manipur could be a terrific tourist destination for those seeking adventure as well as leisure if a relevant action plan for diversification and expansion of the industry is taken up strategically. Despite being less in number, the state is already attracting domestic and international tourists. Table 1 depicts the inflow of tourists in the state. The contribution of foreign tourists to the total tourist arrival in the state is very nominal. This may be due to the reason that the unstable law and order situations in the state and the political disturbances in the neighbouring states even though Restricted Area Permits (RAP) for foreign tourists have been removed from

Manipur from all the countries except Afghanistan, China and Pakistan.

Table 1: Tourist Arrival in Manipur

Year	No. of Tourist Spots	Domestic	Foreign	Total
2013-14	57	143059	2588	145647
2014-15	69	134584	2900	137484
2015-16	72	132013	3102	135115
2016-17	72	145685	3036	148721
2017-18	73	164483	3787	168270
2018-19	-	93331	9794	175826
2019-20	-	120572	12102	179436

Source: Economic Survey Manipur 2021-22, Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Govt. of Manipur.

The basic elements of a tourist destination are the infrastructural facilities especially the transport and accommodation. Manipur is well connected by air from important cities in India and by surface through three National Highways. There is no direct rail link to reach Imphal to date, however, construction of a broad-gauge rail line up to Imphal is on and is likely to be completed in the next couple of years. Super deluxe buses are plying daily to and fro between Imphal and Guwahati via Dimapur and Kohima. There are only 21 travel agents offering transport facilities with 250 buses in this sector according to All Manipur Tour and Travel Cooperative Societies Ltd.

Accommodation is one of the most essential ingredients of effective marketing of tourist destinations. A tourist needs comforts and services besides a place to stay and rest. There is no Five -star hotel in Imphal on the date, however, the demand for high-end luxury rooms has been increasing in recent years. There are about five tour operators in Imphal and they are doing a significant job in the promotion of tourism by organizing both outbound and inbound package tours.

Potential Areas for Tourism development:

There is a considerable increase in tourist arrival from both domestic and international in the last few years before the pandemic as the Restricted Area Permit (RAP) has been withdrawn from the state. Tourist visiting the state has certain entry formalities to have complied with. An Inner Line Permit (ILP) is one for a domestic tourist entering the state if he/she is not a permanent resident. The government of Manipur has taken up the online issue of ILP to the tourists and it is a good step in creating tourist friendly ecosystem in the state.

When Manipur is becoming the gateway of India to South East Asian countries in the light of India's Act East Policy, the state has good potential for medical and educational tourism as people from Myanmar especially from Sagaing and Mandalay region are coming to Manipur for medical treatments. By creating state-of-art infrastructural facilities for healthcare and education, Manipur can become a vibrant medical and educational hub that can enhance the tourist inflow in the state.

Further, another area of concern for Manipur could be to promote MICE tourism as the larger junk of the tourist visiting Manipur is from business travelers with about 54% of the total arrivals, as such, adequate infrastructure for conventions, exhibitions, and conferences are to be established at various locations of tourist attractions. In fact, convention centers are the magnets for business and professional travelers.

For any good development of tourism to happen, the policy vision for the development of tourism in the state is very much the need of the hour. The Tourism Department should formulate pragmatic tourism policies which may give visions and directions for its

growth and development. It is appreciated that recently, the Government of Manipur has established the State Institute of Hotel Management for imparting training to the youths in hotel management. It will cater to the needs of human resource development in the tourism and hospitality sector in addition to the courses run in the university and colleges.

It is also true that the tourism department alone cannot do much for its development. Cooperation and coordination from other departments like public works, electricity, public health, forest, finance, and home, etc is needed. A strategic group may be formed for proper planning and implementation of various tourism development activities. It should be the concerted effort of all related departments to bring the name of the region to the tourism map of the globe. In the meantime, a considerable period should be given to the civil service officers who are on the top. Premature transfer of such officers should not be encouraged.

Moreover, private participation should also be encouraged by giving attractive incentives. The state, by its topographical nature, has a chronic problem with transport and communication. However, making easy access to the region and the tourist spots is of utmost importance. Of late, some initiatives to provide air connectivity between all the state capitals of northeastern states have been taken up. Imphal has had a direct air connection recently with Aizwal, Dibrugarh, Tezu besides Guwahati, Kolkata, and Delhi, and good connectivity with major cities in India. Further, the air transport facility between Imphal-Mandalay, and Imphal-Bangkok is also likely to start soon. It is an appreciative work the government has taken up to promote tourism in the state.

Moreover, for the promotion of tourism in the region, a different approach should be adopted. Besides traditional promotional activities of printing brochures etc., the government may take up initiatives to promote the state to the established tour operators and travel agents in the metros or big cities and Embassies of various countries. It's they who can finally sell the tour package of Manipur to prospective tourists. Adequate funds should be allocated for the development activities of tourism in the state, especially for the indigenous games, adventure sports, homestay, Agri and rural tourism, and eco-tourism activities.

Tourism development in a true sense may not be possible without the proper participation of people and the private sector. Local bodies should also be involved in the sustainable development of the industry. Too much dependence on the government for the development activities of tourism may be a distant dream. Most of the activities must be private sector driven and the government should play the role of a regulator for ensuring sustainable development and facilitator for inspiring private participation. Conservation of Manipur pony can also be taken up successfully provided the uses of pony are linked with tourism activities through active private participation.

It is also suggested to the tourism service organizations that they should relook at and rethink the respective businesses they are in today for long-term survival and growth and they must have well-defined missions and objectives. For achieving excellence in the quality of services they offer, employees play a pivotal role as they are involved in the production and delivery of services simultaneously. Employees should be imparted specialized training with experiential learning avenues to acquaint their attitudes

and mindset in a tourist-friendly manner.

Manipur is widely perceived as a problem state, hence the negative issues such as Aids, insurgents, social unrest, lack of proper infrastructure, bandhs and blockades are too often considered to be applicable to the entire state. Manipur suffers from a 'Brand Defect,' where the state is considered as a single brand having such negative images. However, Manipur is also having so many good positive aspects such as a rich cultural heritage, sports, scenic beauty and talented human resources etc. The need for Manipur is to escape that image and get a separate perception that is recognized. If State can carve strong brand identities, thereby differentiating itself, the state will also improve its creditworthiness which will, as a consequence, stimulate an increase in tourism, exports, investments, and international relations, etc. It is high time for the Government of Manipur to relook into the travel advisories imposed by various countries on their citizens while visiting Manipur.

Concluding Remarks:

Tourism development cannot solely be the responsibility of the governments either state or centre or both. It has to be a concerted endeavour of the agencies concerning the tourism activities such as public sector undertakings at central and state levels, private sector, municipal and local bodies (banks and educational and cultural organizations etc).

A concerted effort must be initiated striving towards achieving a comprehensive and integrated development of tourism which will give a positive and meaningful contribution to the economic growth of the region and bring a better and harmonious human understanding.

Keeping in view the topographical factors of the state, the tourism industry could be one of the most appropriate industries. It can generate



of the tourism industry would be to bring together the twin concerns of tourism and environment – tourism and development of backward areas, tourism and preservation of cultural heritage, tourism and connectivity, tourism and employment generation, and tourism and entrepreneurship development. Hence, there is a need for a strategy towards holistic development of tourism in an integrated manner wherein identification

employment for many people, provide avenues for substantial earnings of foreign exchange, and brings better understanding among the people. The major challenge for the state is to know why the region with a variety of tourism resources potential has not earned a name in the tourist maps of the country and abroad. Further, the planning for the carrying capacity of tourists with relevant facilities in the state is very much needed for a sustainable future.

of tourist destinations and resources, proper coordination in marketing activities and judicious use of financial resources are especially to be stressed. Thus, Manipur could be a beautiful tourist destination if concerted efforts from all the stakeholders with appropriate action plans for the development of the sector are taken up and from this fast-developing industry, the economic and social benefits will permeate down to all layers of the society.

The strategic planning for the development



MANIPUR SANGAI FESTIVAL 2022 THEME SONG LAUNCHED



Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh launched the Manipur Sangai Festival 2022 official theme song titled “Manipur” at the Chief Minister’s Secretariat on 8th November, 2022. The theme song is sung by the State’s renowned folk singer Mangka Mayanglambam and her team.

Addressing the media on the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh stated that the Sangai Festival is a beautiful festival, which could be brought up to international level if wide publicity is given. After a gap of two years, this time, the Sangai Festival is being planned to organize in a bigger way, with various events organized at 13 venues across the State, he added.

Stating that a large cultural exchange programme would be organized at Makhel as a part of the festival, the Chief Minister informed that the people of Ahom and Nagaland would be invited to attend the festival. Arrangements are also being made to organize events at Behiang and Khoupum and

other places apart from the main venue at the Sangai Ethnic Park, Moirang Khunou at the periphery of the habitat of Sangai, he added.

He continued that apart from the Manipur Polo International Tournament, the Sagol Kangjei game would also be held at the Manung Kangjeibung at Kangla where players will wear the traditional attire as a historic event.

Appreciating Mangka and her team for coming up with the beautiful Sangai Festival theme song, he informed that the video for the theme song would also be launched soon. He further appealed to the media persons to give wide publicity of the theme song in order to attract tourists.

The launching programme was also attended by Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba, Chairman, Tourism Corporation of Manipur Ltd. Shri Karam Shyam, Commissioner (Tourism) Shri P.K. Jha, Director (Tourism) Shri W. Ibohal and Folk Singer Mangka Mayanglambam among others.



STATUS OF TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY SECTOR IN MANIPUR

Dr.Th. Dhabali Singh MD
Chairman & Managing Director,
BABINA GROUP, Imphal

Tourism Industry is the second largest industry world-over and it generates highest employment as well as revenue globally. It also provides benefits to other allied industry. The Tourism and Hospitality industry in India is one of the largest service industries. It is one of the largest employment generating sectors in India. India is the 8th largest country in terms of contribution to travel & tourism GDP. By 2029, the Indian tourism sector is likely to grow at 6.7% per annum and achieve 9.2% of GDP with USD 488 Bn. India is currently ranked 34th out of 140 countries in TTCI (2019).

Manipur has been aptly described as a “sleeping lion in tourism” by Mr. P.K. Dong, a well-known tourism consultant from Sikkim. He pointed out that the state has enormous potential including natural beauty, hills, mountains, lakes, rich culture, indigenous games, famous dances, II world war sites, places for adventure sports etc. to mention a few. The state is also well connected by air to other parts of the country. However, these potentials are not being tapped adequately. Manipur is yet to appear in the national tourist circuits (Figure1).

War Cemetery, Imphal Peace Museum and World War II sites, Loktak lake, INA Memorial Museum, Keibul Lamjao National Park, Eco parks and gardens, Lamdan - Adventure sports and trekking sites, Border town – Moreh, Hill stations like Ukhrul, Mao, Behiang in Churachandpur.

Heritage Park at Moirang Khunou is a new addition. Many more sites are also being added such as- Kangla Nongpok Torban park, Imphal view at Cheirao ching, upcoming Water Amusement Park at Awang Potsangbam and Manipur-Olympian-Park at Sangaithel, Ibudhou Marjing at Heingang etc. With increasing healthcare infrastructure in the state, there is good prospect in medical tourism, specially targeted on neighboring country, Myanmar.

There has been slow but steady increase of domestic tourist-inflow to the state in the last 10 years. Significant increase of foreign tourists visiting Manipur is recorded during the same period (Table1). These are attributable to various factors including initiatives of the government and other stakeholders. However, Covid 19 pandemic adversely impacted tourism sector globally during 2020-2021. Manipur was not an exception.

Issues, challenges, and way forward

Manipur lacks behind its neighbouring states in terms of tourist arrivals.

Despite steady increase, unlike its sister states like Meghalaya, Sikkim and, also vis a vis other states, Manipur is yet to unlock its full Potential.

The following are major reasons:

1. There is lack of proper tourism infrastructure and, road-side amenities.

Currently, government and other stakeholders are giving lot of thrust to development appropriate tourism infrastructure in the state.

2. Except for a few, overall road connectivity to various tourist spots is poor.
3. No regular intensive promotion & marketing is visible other than during Sangai Festival.
4. Dirty environment and improperly maintained public places, public toilets, and tourist spots are deterrent to attract tourists.

Table 1

Tourist arrival figures to Manipur from 2008 to 2020

Sl.	Year (April to March)	Domestic Tourist Arrivals (DTAs)	Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs)	Total Arrivals
1	2008-2009	115300	271	115571
2	2009-2010	127526	405	127931
3	2010-2011	116652	431	117083
4	2011-2012	133225	602	133827
5	2012-2013	131803	768	132571
6	2013-2014	143059	2588	145647
7	2014-2015	134584	2900	138584
8	2015-2016	132010	3102	135112
9	2016-2017	145685	3036	148721
10	2017-2018	164483	3787	168270
11	2018-2019	166032	9794	175826
12	2019-2020	167334	12102	179436

5. There are not enough tourism activities round the year to constantly engage tourists.
6. Low or negative image related to law-and-order issues is a crucial factor both in domestic and foreign market.

Negative travel advisories by some countries like Japan, UK, USA etc. are main hindrance to attract tourists.

7. Travel restrictions (Restricted Area Permit/Protected Area Permit) to some countries like China and Inner line permit (ILP) system will have negative impact on tourist arrival.

Way forward:

1. Development of infrastructure and tourist facilities and subsequent maintenance and management should be top priority. Infrastructure development should blend with local heritage and natural environment.
2. To develop product and destinations after identifying a few key circuits to begin with and make them model. Emulate gradually in other circuits.
3. Community involvement in tourism destination development supported by government and Public Private Partnership are important. All product development must be aimed at diversifying rural economy, encouraging local entrepreneur, creating institutional capacity and motivated by sustainable concerns.
4. Promotion, Publicity and Marketing should be comprehensive, and target oriented:
 - a. Electronic & Print Media
 - b. Road shows
 - c. Intensive image building exercises
 - d. Participation in tour and travel marts
 - e. Branding – engaging a brand ambassador
 - f. Targeted approach: domestic & international market
 - g. Tie-ups with Tour & Travel Operators
 - h. Organizing familiarization trips for the tour operators and travel writers

Promotion and marketing efforts should be



CLASSIC GRANDE IS ONE OF THE NEWLY ACQUIRED AND RECENTLY BUILT PROPERTIES OF CLASSIC GROUP OF HOTELS, OFFERING A WORLD CLASS SERVICE OVERLOOKING THE MAJESTIC BARUNI TWIN HILLS AND RIDGES. THE HOTEL EMBODIES THE WARM HOSPITALITY AND RICH HERITAGE OF MANIPUR. WE OFFER A LUXURIOUS 171 ACCOMMODATION AND A DELIGHTFUL CONNOISSEUR DINING EXPERIENCE.



synchronised with connectivity development and creating a brand image of the state and region. As part of marketing, IT should be extensively used. Tourism website should be made dynamic with linkages to Incredible India as well as private operators with e-commerce facilities.



5. Encourage start-ups and private sector investment in tourism infrastructure Development.

6. Safety guidelines for the state should be enacted into actionable laws.

Hospitality sector in Manipur

Hospitality Sector is an integral part of Tourism. The industry is broken down into three basic sections: accommodations, food and beverages, and travel and tourism where each section is customer focused as they provide different forms of services. The concept of hotel has transformed itself as hospitality Industry on account of its utility in tourism and life away from home. A hotel has been focused on the relationship between the tourists as customers and the destination as service provider. Tourism is to a great extent depend on the range and type of hotels available at the destination. Hotel is a core area of the tourism industry and pays a distinctive role in the development of this ever-expanding industry. Main goal of hospitality unit is helping the customer to have an enjoyable and comfortable experience and provide any essential services that they require. It differs from the travel industry in that it does not cater only to people who are away from their home. Locals are also able to take advantage of the hospitality units such

	Hotels in Imphal	Address
1.	Hotel Imphal by Classic	North A.O.C, Imphal
2.	The Classic Hotel	North A.O.C, Imphal
3.	Classic Grande	Chingmeirong East
4.	Hotel Nirmala	M.G Avenue, Imphal
5.	Hotel Yaiphaba	M.G Avenue, Imphal
6.	Hotel New Airlines	M.G Avenue, Imphal
7.	Hotel Phouoibee	North AOC, Imphal
8.	Hotel Bheigo	Waheng Leikai
9.	Hotel Tampha	North AOC., Imphal
10.	Hotel Sangai Continental	M.G Avenue, Imphal
11.	Sangai Hotel	NagaMapal
12.	Hotel Anand Continental	Thangal Bazar, Imphal
13.	Hotel Imolesh	Old Lambulane
14.	Hotel Kristina	Pologround Road
15.	Mass Hotel	Assembly Road, Imphal
16.	Castle Hotel	Palace Compound

as dining, meetings, conferences and other events. Perhaps often overlooked, hotels are vital part of countries' industry.

At present, 16 leading hotels of different categories are in Imphal (Table 2). There are 2 three-star and 1 four-star category hotels in the city. The rests are blend of budget and semi-luxury hotels. Approximately 700 rooms of different categories are available in the capital.

Classic group provides a total of 291 rooms constituting a little over 40% of available room inventory. The current demand for rooms ranges from 500 to 600 per night. In another 10 years, the requirement is projected at 1000-1500. Business travelers are maximum and constitutes 57%. Leisure tourists are around 21%. With increasing arrival of visitors to the state and rising demand for luxury rooms, there will be need to promote a five-star hotel in the city in near future.

Resorts, Home stay and Bread & Breakfast units:

These facilitate and encourage stakeholders to create accommodations in sub-urban areas, villages and rural areas offering authentic local experience. Home stay must promote local food and culture. There are proposal to the government to regulate the units and provide free training for basic skill on hygiene and hospitality. No entertainment or other commercial tax be imposed in connection with food, lodging or cultural activities. Rural



homestays should be considered eligible projects under Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) service of the Central and State Governments so that they can avail of benefits under various schemes. Increasing number of resorts and homestay facilities are seen in the state.

To conclude, with improving law and order situation, better connectivity, continuing development of tourism infrastructure, proper marketing and promotion and so much potentials, Manipur is expected to be one of the tourism hotspots in the region in near future.





MEDICAL AND WELLNESS TOURISM IN MANIPUR

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Medical Tourism (Medical Value Tourism) is the practice of travelling from one city to another or one state to another or abroad to obtain better medical treatment. Domestic medical tourism is travelling inside the same country for the same purpose. If the tourists cross the border, it is called international medical tourism. It is being practised since many centuries with increasing trends.

Wellness Tourism, on the other hand, is seeking activities that maintain or enhance

their health, wellbeing and prevention of the diseases with their lifestyle change

“Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

About four to five decades back, there were exodus of Manipuri patients to Dibrugarh, Assam for various healthcare reasons. Dibrugarh was the Mecca of Healthcare for the entire North Eastern India. Kangpokpi Mission Hospital, CMC Vellore and Alipore Mission Hospital were also very popular those days in Manipur for medical treatment.

Myanmar Statistics (8th Aug 2018 - 2020)																							
Year	2018					2019												2020				Total	Avg
Month	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr-Dec		
OPD	18	53	87	69	33	26	12	68	56	62	46	41	71	30	54	63	68	45	23	15		940	47
IPD	5	26	20	15	18	11	7	13	20	25	25	24	20	20	17	30	21	21	9	3		350	18
SURGERY	3	22	17	11	16	7	4	12	17	22	19	16	15	17	15	23	24	16	6	2		284	14
Health Check	16	30	46	21	30	28	11	51	41	26	24	20	41	22	31	44	46	17	27	22		594	30
TOTAL	42	131	170	116	97	72	34	144	134	135	114	101	147	89	117	160	159	99	65	42		2168	108

In the 1980s, the healthcare landscape changed, Guwahati becoming the centre of healthcare for the entire region due to the geographical advantages, connectivity and human capital resources. CMC Vellore, Delhi, Mumbai, Chandigarh, Chennai, Kolkata still popular in Manipur. The treatment in a distant place causes huge economic drainage apart from the man hour loss and human inconveniences.

Indian patients used to travel abroad for complicated treatment for heart, brain, organ transplant, joint replacement etc as the facilities were not available in the country before Apollo, Escort, CMC Vellore etc.

Healthcare is investment intensive for technological advancement and nothing. In May 2008, McKinsey and Company reported that primary considerations in medical tourism are:

- 40% seek advanced technology,
- 32% seek better healthcare,
- 15% seek faster medical services
- while only 9% of travellers seek lower costs.

Asia Advantages

Last decade has seen Asia as an emerging leader of the medical tourism industry. This growth is fuelled by the availability of a

variety of high quality and cost-effective medical procedures in Asia, improved connectivity and infrastructure and along with the presence of attractive locations to explore. The research reports that Thailand, Singapore and India account for maximum proportion of international medical tourists in this region, followed by South Korea and Malaysia. Philippines and Taiwan are amongst other fast emerging markets in this sector. Thailand has 64 JCI hospitals.

India Advantages:

India is emerging as a medical tourism hub globally and has become a threat to Thailand. Affordable treatment costs, the availability of the latest medical technologies, highly-skilled doctors, English speaking and a lesser waiting period for treatment are some leading factors that make India preferable for medical tourism. Medical Tourism is fast growing at 19% in India, 7th position in the global top 20. It also ranks at number 3 in wellness-focused countries in the Asia Pacific region. India has hundreds of NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) and 36 JCI (Joint Commission International) hospitals for quality assurance.

Manipur Advantages for Medical Tourism

Manipur is not an exception in the global

growth of the medical tourism. If we have thousand disadvantages, we must also be having thousand advantages. We can solve most of our problems by addressing the advantages rather than the disadvantages.

MISSION NAGALAND

32nd Phase
Free treatment for Cleft Lip & Cleft Palate
on **15, 16 & 17 November, 2017**
at Oking Hospital, Kohima.



We have abundance of opportunities because of our history, human capitals, location bordering with Myanmar, hospitality nature of our region, comfortable weather, land, lake, hills, Trans Asia Highways passing through Manipur, India's "Act East" policy etc.

In the last three decades, Manipur has witnessed an uninterrupted trajectory growth in healthcare infrastructure and facilities in both public and private sectors. Manipur, now, has the facilities of organ transplants, cancer treatment, neurosurgery, infertility treatment, cardiac care, joint replacement, spine surgery, key hole surgery, eye care, cosmetic surgery, dental care, critical care, pain management, palliative care etc for which our patients used to travel outside the state. Manipur has been

able to attract thousands of international and domestic medical tourists. "But the war is not over until the war is over." We need more infrastructure and connectivity and structured policy for growth with the increasing demands. Healthcare is one of the fastest growing industries in Manipur generating the highest number of employments.

Manipur has 4 medical colleges with highly qualified doctors in different disciplines and Manipuri nurses are amongst the best in the country. Thousands have been treated in various hospitals in Manipur. Healthcare is a major service Manipur can sell to neighbouring states and countries. Myanmar patients are going to Bangkok and Singapore for their advanced medical treatment which is costlier than India.

Shija Experience

A patient from Mandalay reached Shija, Imphal via Yangon and Kolkata for Bilateral Knee Replacement recently. Direct flight between Imphal and Mandalay will help remove the inconveniences faced by the patients. Hope the Indo -Myanmar border will be opened very soon. The procedure is also more affordable in Manipur (One fourth of Bangkok, one tenth of Singapore). The budget was 60 lacs for kidney transplant in one of the hospitals in Bangkok for another patient from Mandalay. Shija has done with 7 lacs only.

Following Shija Mission Myanmar, they have started coming to Manipur for kidney transplant, joint replacement, spine, heart, brain, total stone solutions etc. More than 2000 Myanmar patients with Health VISA have been treated for various health reasons at Shija after the border crossing was allowed on the 8th August 2018.

Good connectivity of Manipur with rest of India has helped attracting domestic medical

tourists especially cosmetic surgery.

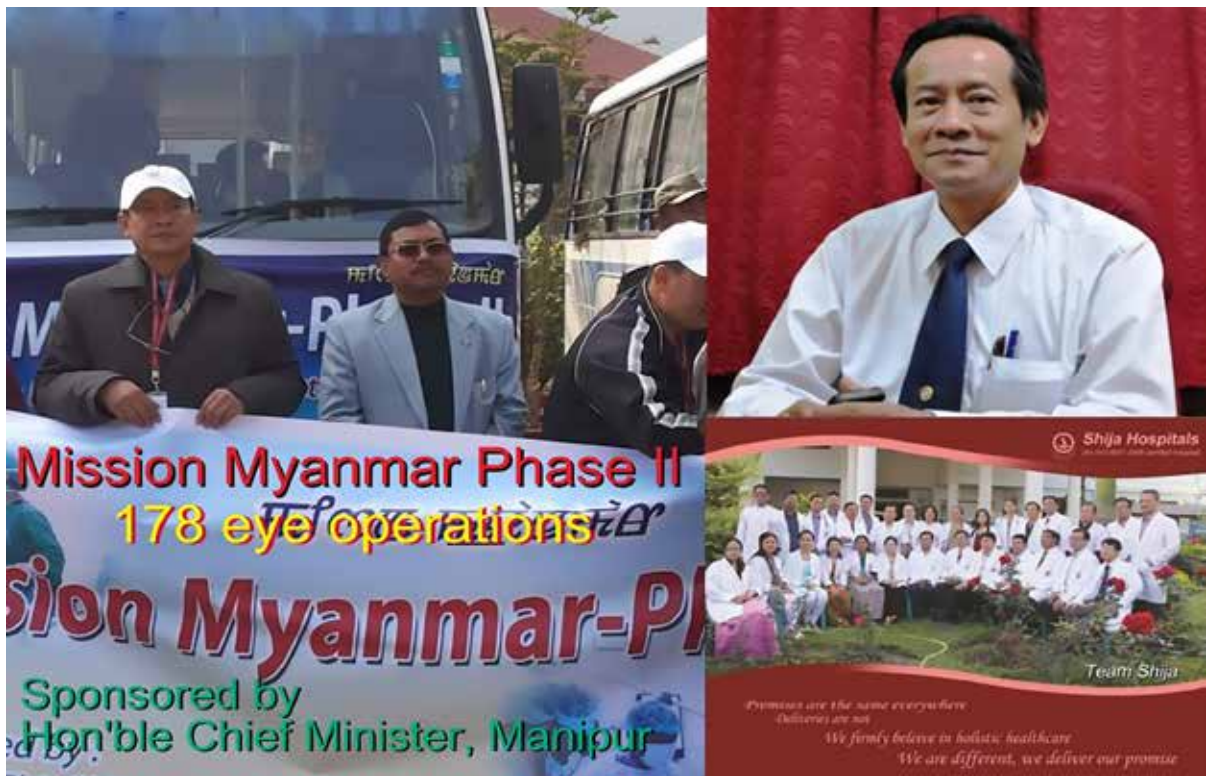
Need for Wellness Tourism

Medical tourism will be more comprehensive if we can promote health and prevent diseases. Infectious diseases, caused by invading microorganisms, were the leading causes of death a century ago. But today, leading causes of death overall are heart disease, cancer, stroke, chronic lower respiratory diseases, diabetes, accident and emergency etc.

0.25% only. Ultimately the central government promotes wellness with Co- Location of modern medicine and AYUSH and AYUSH VISA.

Way Forward.

We need to rethink medical and wellness tourism by forming a Manipur Medical Tourism Board for inclusive growth of the state like in Thailand. Making medical and wellness tourism a thrust area and industrial status will enhance the health and economy of



WHO has given an alarming statement that non communicable diseases account for 63% of deaths in India. Massachusetts General Hospital and the Benson Henry institute demonstrated that yoga and meditation alone can reduce 43% in the healthcare cost. Modern Medicine alone cannot provide the solutions. More holistic lifestyle approach promotes wellbeing and prevent diseases. Global contribution of India in wellness market is

the state. International medical tourism market assistance can be explored. More connectivity for more accessibility. We need more NABH and JCI hospitals. Public Private Partnership (PPP) is now the new 'Mantra' to provide affordable quality healthcare to the masses. Categorisation of healthcare institutes and quality control may be undertaken.

Grow or die.



CM LAUNCHES VENTURE FUND FOR MANIPUR STARTUP SCHEME 2.0

Venture Fund for Manipur Startup Scheme 2.0 in collaboration with North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd (NEDFi) was launched by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh during a Manipur Startup Workshop held at the Sangai Conference Hall of Hotel Imphal on 12th November, 2022. The Workshop was organized jointly by the Department of Planning, Government of Manipur and the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Government of India.

During the inaugural session of the workshop, Shri N. Biren Singh maintained that his government's aim is to provide source of earning to every household of the State and as such the Government had taken up various

schemes and initiatives to give direct or indirect employment to at least a member of each family.

The Chief Minister continued that since the formation of his government in 2017, priority had been given to give employment to as many youths as possible by taking up the Manipur Startup Scheme. Around 6000 Startups had been given financial assistance under the Scheme so far. Investment made by NEDFi had also made it possible for many Startups to expand its operation, he added.

He mentioned that the Startup Scheme has been giving avenues to entrepreneurs to expand their undertakings and to turn the youths from job seekers to job creators. Expressing that youths are the future of the



State, he informed that Rs. 10 crore each for Imphal West, Imphal East and Churachandpur had already been sanctioned for setting up Youth Skill Centre. Rs. 5 crore each had also been sanctioned for Senapati, Ukhrul and Chandel districts.

Stating that various initiatives like Go to Village and Go to Hills had been taken up to bring inclusive development in the State, Shri N. Biren added that the State is marching ahead towards development, with bandh and blockades becoming a thing of the past. He continued that a senior officer of the Government had been given in-charge of each Sub-Divisions of Manipur to ensure that infrastructure development reaches every nook and corner of the state.

The Chief Minister further stated that various meetings are being held to streamline the development works taken and to ensure its progress. Mentioning the development works including constructions of 7 storey Government quarters at New Checkon, Sangai Ethnic Park, Amusement Park at ThenguChingjin and Heritage site at Makhel, he maintained that the State could be taken to a higher level of development if we could go in the same pace.

He raised concern that only few people with innovative ideas had approached to get benefit of the Startup Scheme. He also stressed the need for the State's youths to get expertise in

the IT sector as the world is advancing rapidly with the coming of 5G service adding that the State is lagging in this sector.

He mentioned that youths of Manipur have lots of talents and possess discipline compared to other states. Informing that the corpus fund set aside for the Manipur Startup Scheme had been increased from Rs. 30 crores to Rs. 100 crores, he appealed to the youths of Manipur to take benefit of the Scheme and expressed his hopefulness that the State would achieve the goal of becoming the first state to have an income earner in every family.

Chairman and Managing Director, NEDFi Shri PVSLN Murty stated that the launching of first ever Venture Capital for Startup, to encourage the youths to come up with viable propositions, would be memorable in the history of Manipur. It is through the initiative of the Chief Minister that the State had come up with the launch of venture capital before other states had done, he added. He mentioned that the grant provided by the Government of Manipur in the Startup loan had created the ignite in many startups.

During the programme, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Government of Manipur and NEDFi. The Chief Minister also distributed prizes to the winners of TechstarStartup Weekend organized by MIT. Eco Youth from CIPET was given the first prize with a cash award of Rs. 25,000, Alleviate from MIT with Rs. 15,000 for the second prize and Tanja from MTU was awarded with Rs. 10,000 for the third prize. Consolation prizes were also awarded to other startups.

Stalls were also set up by some startups at the campus of the Hotel Imphal. The inaugural session was followed by technical sessions on different topics.

Chief secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Additional Chief Secretaries Shri M.H. Khan and Shri V. Vumlunmang, Director, Planning N. Kulkarani Devi, Officials of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, NEDFi, Academicians and Entrepreneurs also attended the programme among others.



STARTUP MANIPUR

Our Vision:

To make Manipur, one of the top start-up destinations in the North East by providing the most enabling ecosystems to support and nurture start-up entrepreneurship in the State.

Our Mission:

1. To strengthen the start-up culture in the State by fostering greater social acceptance and recognition of promising start-ups, through strategic investment, policy interventions and such other programmes.
2. Encourage and inspire the youth of Manipur to actively consider entrepreneurship as a career choice by including appropriate learning modules, developing relevant entrepreneurship development programs in vocational institutions, and supporting outreach programs, interactions with entrepreneurs, e-cells and entrepreneurship development centres across educational institutions in the State.
3. To support and strengthen existing business

incubators & accelerators in the State.

4. To encourage setting up new business incubators in the State in collaboration with private sector.
5. To continuously provide enabling mechanisms to start-ups, through training and skill development, capacity building, networking, access to knowledge & support services, etc.
6. To implement a supportive regulatory framework that enables hassle-free and time bound statutory clearances for all start-ups.
7. To provide appropriate infrastructural support required to enable start-ups to set up and grow rapidly.
8. To create a platform for accessing multiple avenues that provide financial support to start-ups in Manipur, like grants, bank loans, fiscal incentives, etc.
9. To create enabling environment and supporting eco-system that facilitates 1000 start-ups in next five years.
10. Growth of start-ups would be largely sector-agnostic, it would be appropriate to give added focus to areas particularly suitable for Manipur
 - Entrepreneurship initiatives that enable sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development across the whole State.
 - Entrepreneurship development activities that leverage the natural resources, human skills and other strength areas of the State.
 - Innovative ideas, new business domains and sectors that have high future growth potential would be encouraged.
 - Particular encouragement to sectors and capabilities that can catalyze growth across multiple industries, or can have a multiplier effect

STATE'S YOUTHS NEED TO GAIN EXPERTISE IN I.T. SECTOR



There is need for the State's youths to gain expertise in the field of IT sector so that they could cope up with the drastic advancement in the sector, stressed Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh, addressing the gathering at the inaugural session of the Capacity Building Conference on 5G held at Hotel Classic Grande, Imphal on 10th November, 2022.

Youths of the State seemed to be reluctant towards the IT sector as no local student could be found getting admitted at the Indian Institute of Information Technology opened at the State, Chief Minister said. He appealed to the parents and guardians to consider the importance of their wards getting knowledge

of Information Technology, mentioning that the time is for the IT sector.

The state had been making great strides in all spheres of development. Leveraging Telecom infrastructure for better governance has been an integral part of the State Government's inclusive development strategy. The State Government had been extending full support and co-operation for creation of Digital Infrastructures in Manipur. Initiatives, like Bharat Net, are being implemented in the State to transform the rural masses by providing affordable and equitable access to the internet.

360 villages of Manipur had been included under 4G Saturation project to provide 4G mobile services to uncovered villages in

remote and difficult areas. Proposal is under preparation for inclusion of additional 833 uncovered villages. The IT Department of the State Government in association with CSC-Special Purpose Vehicle had been monitoring the performance of 1000+ active CSCs in the State. Based on their performance, an incentive programme had been implemented to encourage CSCs to provide services in remote areas.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had launched 5G Services in India last month to power the future of connectivity in the Country. Manipur is also taking up various initiatives for successful Roll Out of 5G services in the State. A Working Committee on 5G had been formed and an Amendment to Manipur Right of Way Policy 2019 to incorporate 5G policies had also been processed.

Building a robust and resilient connectivity infrastructure in the State is critical, given the State's strategic location which connects India to one of the most economically dynamic and politically significant geographies of the world.

The Chief Minister was also hopeful that deliberations and discussion of today's conference would help gear the State towards a smooth and quick roll out of 5G in the State.

Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar stated that the capacity building conference had been organized to make officials aware on how to facilitate seamless roll out of 5G in Manipur. He mentioned that the Chief Minister had given direction to ensure full cooperation for saturation of 4G, which is very important. He recalled the statement of the Prime Minister who stated that no pockets in India should be left without 4G services in 500 days. He sought cooperation of everyone to make



Manipur the first State to have 100 percent 4G services in the Country.

The Government of Manipur under the supervision of the Chief Minister is making efforts to make Imphal one of the fastest 5G roll-out cities. The intent is to use 5G service for high end activities like tele-medicine and tele-education among others. It is time to ensure that all blocks and sub-divisions have 5G services by December 2023.



STATE LEVEL CHAGA NGENE FESTIVAL CELEBRATED

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh maintained that the current Government aimed to empower minority sections of the society and to take them along in the path of development. The Chief Minister was attending the 9th State Level Chaga Ngee Festival organised at Makuilongdi-II, Liang-Nam, Senapati District on 30 November, 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh stated that the State Cabinet had earlier recognised the Chaga Ngee Festival and announced the day as a restricted holiday, considering the significance of the festival. Mentioning that we should know what we are, the Chief Minister stressed the need to remember the aged-old relationship amongst different communities and live together

having respect for one another. Stating on the need to revive the facts of our history, he expressed his desire to include the history shared by different communities in the syllabus of school students.

The Chief Minister informed that the Heritage Park which is being constructed at Makhel with the cost of Rs. 6 crores would be completed before this year's Sangai Festival. Continuing that the Liangmai community of the State had been deprived of access to certain benefits of Government's welfare programme earlier, he informed that the State Government had decided to open a Sub-Deputy Collector's Office at Makui Village. The office will be later upgraded to the Sub-Divisional Office, he added.

Stating that development is needed to maintain a peaceful and sound environment, Shri N. Biren appreciated the Zeliangrong people for electing the right representatives, who always take initiatives for development of their regions. Considering the historical importance of Makuilongdi village, he further announced to install a statue of Haipou Jadonang and the approval of the same would be sanctioned within 15 days. He also assured to construct a permanent hall, instead of the current bamboo structure, at the ground where the festival was observed today.

The Chief Minister further lauded the people of Makuilongdi village for carrying out plantation of organic crops instead of poppy plantations practices and assured to send officials of the Horticulture Department to look for suitable crops which could be provided to the village for plantation. He further assured to construct a cold storage at the village to prevent wastage of the crop produced and added that the Government would provide a market platform for selling their produce.

Delivering his presidential speech, Water Resources Minister Shri Awangbow Newmai expressed satisfaction that the Chaga Ngee festival is celebrated in a big way. He continued that the festival, which is also known as the festival of sanctification, had been celebrated since the olden days. He appreciated the governance of Shri N. Biren Singh, adding that the aged-old relationships among different communities had been revived under his leadership. He added that various development works had also been taken up across the State, bridging the developmental gap between hill and valley.

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Leishemba Sanajaoba, speaking on the



occasion, the aged-old tradition of celebrating the Chaga Ngee festival had been known since the olden days. However, as time changes, the significance of the festival had lost its primacy for some time. With the current trend of bringing up our own identity, the festival began to be celebrated in a more refined way from 2004, he added, lauding the



Liangmai community for such an initiative. He continued that the festival was also known as the festival of purification. Stating that different communities of the State had been living together since time immemorial, he assured to take up all possible efforts for the progress of the State.

The Chief Minister also handed over the reward of Rs. 5 Lakhs to Tapon Village, which was announced earlier for voluntarily destroying the poppy plantation.



MANITEX

Manipur International Textile Expo

MANITEX

Manipur International Textile Expo
5th-14th November 2022
Urban Haat Nilakhuthi



Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh inaugurated MANITEX, Manipur International Textile Expo at the Urban Haat, Nilakuthi on 5th November, 2022. The Expo which continued till November 14, 2022 was organized by the Directorate of Handlooms & Textiles.

The Chief Minister also launched Mega handloom Cluster of Imphal East, laid foundation of Craft Handloom Village, Moirang and distributed financial assistance to weavers with Aadhar Linked bank Account Numbers through DBT under the National Handloom Development Programme.

Speaking as the Chief Guest of the inaugural function, the Chief Minister said the financial

assistance through DBT will be distributed to around 15,450 handloom weavers and boatmen with a total outlay of around Rs. 23.4815 crore.

Today, beneficiaries of different schemes received funds directly transferred to their accounts, the Chief Minister said, highlighting that funds are transferred directly to farmers, weavers, old age pensioners, scheme beneficiaries, etc. under different schemes.

Shri N. Biren Singh also acknowledged womenfolk's contribution in the State's economy. Our people have the potential, talents and especially womenfolk are courageous and brave, he said, further highlighting the respect and popularity the

State's Ima keithels have garnered in national and international platforms.

Considering that some businessmen are trying to monopolize the yarn business, the government has decided to establish a wholesaler of yarn at Ima Keithel so that weavers can get them at cheaper price, he highlighted.

The Chief Minister stated that considering instances of mass production of traditional cloths like the Khudei, Phanek, enaphi, etc, by using machines outside the State which are made available at a cheaper price to control the market, shops and business houses have been instructed that such traditional items which are handmade should not be replaced by machine made copies.

Shri N. Biren Singh also highlighted the developmental changes witnessed in the State and said we have left behind the days of unrest, disturbances. There is peace and a feeling of oneness and sharing among the people of the State, today, the Chief Minister stated.

There are no differences, gaps between the hills and the valley anymore, Shri N. Biren Singh said. He also asserted the need for politicians to be transparent and sincere.

Highlighting the multiple venues for the upcoming Sangai Festival, Shri N. Biren Singh also encouraged the people to witness the extravaganza, and said people can visit the venues freely after November 15.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the government's target to provide 100 percent drinking water pipelines to all households in the State.

Power, Forest, Environment & Agriculture Minister Shri Th. Biswajit Singh said MANITEX was upgraded to International Textile Expo from being a national and regional level expo from 2018 onwards with



the main objective of promoting the weavers and their products on the international platform.

The State's weavers have the huge potential, the Minister said, adding that, according to the 2019-20 National Handloom Census Report the State had 2.12 lakh handloom weavers, 2.11 lakh looms and 2 lakh handicraft artisans.

Textiles, Commerce & Industry Minister Smt. NemchaKipgen said MANITEX has the main objective of showcasing the State's handlooms, handicrafts, dyeing & printing, powerloom, garment, embroidery and costume to the outside world.

The Expo will also have a Fashion Parade, she said.

This year, the Expo has 274 stalls including local weavers, artisans, entrepreneurs, local private companies, national level organizations, international stalls from Thailand, Bangladesh and Myanmar, food court, State government departments, etc.

CM LAUNCHES STATE-WIDE PROFESSIONAL TAX ENROLLMENT DRIVE



A month-long State-wide Professional Tax enrollment drive was launched by Chief Minister, Shri N. Biren Singh at the Chief Minister's Secretariat on 9th November, 2022. The enrollment drive will continue till 9th December, 2022.

Chief Secretary Dr. Rajesh Kumar, Commissioner of Taxes Smt. Mercina R. Panmei and officials of the Taxation Department attended the programme among others. The launching programme was also attended by officials of District Administration of different districts, Autonomous District Councils, Urban Local Bodies and other

concerned officials among others through video conferencing.

Shri N. Biren Singh appreciated the officials for their coordination and hard work towards smooth running of the Government. It was through the joint efforts of the officials that the State had been able to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic.

The State had been marching ahead towards development and diplomats from different foreign countries had shown their interest to visit the State.

It is a sign of development. There is need for mobilization funds and resources for the

State's further development. Manipur, being a State with less resources and less revenue generation, had been facing lots of difficulties in carrying out certain development works.

The State takes assistance from the Central Government for infrastructure development works. However, the State has not been able to provide its share for funding the same due to less revenue generation. As such, the state needs to enhance its revenue generations.

Informing that the amount of revenue generated from professional tax is around Rs. 30 crores annually, the Chief Minister appealed to the Deputy Commissioners to constitute dedicated teams to assist and facilitate the enrollment drive. Such efforts could increase the revenue generation from the professional tax to double the amount generated earlier. He also appealed to the officials to put joint efforts to make the enrollment drive a success and achieve the target.

The enrollment drive will cover all kinds of professions, established trades and employment of all individuals who earn a living through any medium.

The Professional Tax is derived from Article 276 of the Constitution of India which empowers the State Government to levy professional tax on professions, trades, callings and employment with a maximum cap of Rs. 2500 annually.

A new application developed by National Informatics Centre (NIC) to facilitate on-line enrollment has also been rolled out. The application can be accessed at <https://professionaltax.mn.gov.in>. The initiative is taken up to improve the ease of doing business and improving tax administration and compliance.



PROFESSIONAL TAX APPLICABILITY

Professional Tax is applicable for the below-mentioned individuals and entities:

- **Companies**
- **Firms**
- **LLPs**
- **Corporation**
- **Societies**
- **HUF**
- **Associations**
- **Clubs**
- **Legal practitioners such as solicitors**
- **Contractors**
- **Architects**
- **Engineers**
- **Insurance agents**
- **Chartered Accountants**
- **CS**
- **Surveyors**
- **Tax consultants**
- **Management consultants**
- **Medical representatives such as doctors, medical consultants, and dentists**

MINISTER DR. S. RANJAN SINGH INAUGURATES 13TH KHUI PHANIT



Health & IPR Minister Dr. S. Ranjan Singh inaugurated 13th Khui Phanit (Bee Festival) at Shingkap in Kamjong District. Minister also inaugurated Shingkap Primary Health Sub Center (PHSC) and a cultural hall. Minister Dr. S. Ranjan said that the state government has been trying to improve health infrastructures at remote and far flung areas. Primary health care system is being given due importance since it is at the base and a platform for the tertiary health care system, he added. He maintained that

the local people should be having the sense of belongingness. The newly constructed Shingkap Primary Health Sub Center (PHSC) is constructed under the fund from Directorate of Minority affairs. Speaking as Chief host, MLA, Phungyar Assembly constituency Shri Leisiyo Keishing said that from next year apple festival will be organised. Apple farmers of the area will be encouraged if apple festival is organized at the area. It will also help to generate income of the apple grower, he added.

THE MANIPUR ELECTRIC MOBILITY POLICY, 2022



The Manipur Electric Mobility Policy, 2022 was released by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh during the inaugural function of the “Two-day Awareness-cum-workshop on Electric Vehicles (EVs), Charging Infrastructure and Renewable Hybrid Energy in North-East India” at City Convention Centre, Imphal on 9th November, 2022.

Chief Minister said “To embrace and accelerate the pace of adoption of electric vehicles, 'The Manipur Electric Mobility Policy, 2022' was notified in August this year” and that the policy targets to facilitate adoption of at least 20 percent EVs in the State by 2026.

Incentives are also provided under the policy in the form of waiver of upto 30 percent in Motor Vehicle Tax at the time of registration of newly purchased EVs, the Chief Minister said adding that the government is considering giving priority to EVs while purchasing vehicles for government departments.

Shri N. Biren Singh highlighted the rapid growth and urbanization over the years and also stressed that with increase in population, coupled with better standard of living, vehicle ownership has increased significantly.

Traffic congestion leading to increased vehicle emission affects ambient air quality and vehicle emission from petrol and diesel vehicles is a main cause of concern for urban



Transport Minister Shri Kashim Vashum elaborated on the Centre's efforts under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Union Minister Shri Nitin Gadkari to develop as a global leader in the EV sector.

The State government under the leadership of Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh has

population and their health, the Chief Minister said.

Carbon emissions from vehicles also contribute to Climate Change, the Chief Minister also said explaining the importance of Electric Vehicles and added the Electronic Vehicle is a prominent solution being adopted globally to address the problems of vehicular pollution.

India is also taking numerous steps to promote electric vehicle in the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

The Prime Minister had also recently set India in a path to achieve Net-Zero Carbon by 2070. Government of India's scheme such as "Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles" (FAME) aims to reduce dependency on fossil fuel and to address issues of vehicular emissions.

Awareness through such workshop and collaboration with CSIR would help in the process of adoption of electric vehicles in the State and setting up required infrastructure.

Several schemes and initiatives have been launched to boost the demand for EV,

also taken up initiatives to boost EV vehicles and also EV vehicles will not be charge Parking Tickets.

The transport department is signing a MoU with SCIR, Dehradun to engage the institute as advisor to the Government of Manipur, Transport Department in EV related matters.

The Manipur Electric Mobility Policy, 2022 will help in achieving a Green and Clean Manipur in the days to come.

Additional Chief Secretary Planning Shri Vumlunmang Vualnam said E Vehicle is a new concept, its time has come and the Government of Manipur is also aware of it.



EDUCATION (S) SIGNS MoU WITH TECH GIANT INFOSYS LTD.



Education Department, Government of Manipur signed a Memorandum of Understanding today with Infosys Ltd. on implementation of Infosys Springboard in the presence of Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh at the Cabinet Hall of the Chief Minister's Secretariat on 9th November, 2022. Education Minister Shri Th. Basanta Singh and MLA Shri Sapam Kunjakeswor Singh were also present at the event.

The MoU was signed between Education (S) Commissioner Shri Gyan Prakash, Education (S) Director Shri L. Nandakumar and Head-Corporate Affairs Shri Santhosh Ananthapura, Sr. Vice President Infosys Ltd Shri Thirumala Arohi.

The MoU is for enhancement of teaching-learning activities and teaching effectiveness through technology aids under the Corporate Social Responsibility Scheme. The scheme has both student and teacher-oriented components and is fully aligned with the National Education Policy 2020.

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh lauded the Infosys Ltd. for the new venture. Further highlighting the National Education Policy to be a remarkable policy, the Chief Minister said the policy has already been adopted in the State and that for its full implementation, the State needs support.

Shri N. Biren Singh also said that the government has launched some schemes and

projects to improve education system in the State. He explained schemes like the School Fagathansi Mission and Star Education.

Explaining School Fagathansi, the Chief Minister said it was initially taken up in 60 schools, one school from each of the 60 Assembly Constituencies.

It may be mentioned that through the scheme, Infosys Springboard will provide a curriculum-rich virtual platform that delivers corporate-grade learning experiences, on any device, with closer educator-learner collaboration for students from Class 6 to lifelong learners.

Under the scheme, the faculty development program will consist of series of sessions on the “Facilitate to Engage” course towards effective teaching techniques: instructional design and content creation; introduction and awareness to emerging and digital technologies, how to leverage online platform for effective learner engagement; authoring courses and assessments on online platforms.

The program will be delivered online virtually by Infosys experts and in addition, teachers can up-skill themselves.

Infosys Springboard also empowers students through the present scheme of : Student to learn by doing and develop holistically in preparation for emerging jobs and career opportunities; teaches to better collaborate with learners on their skilling journey using the platform’s engagement features; motivating to learn; leveraging the Teacher-Student relationship; Just-in-time Learning, etc.

ABOUT Infosys Springboard

It aims to enable students and associated communities from early education to employment by enabling them on digital and supporting life skills.



CATCH THEM YOUNG

Learners can explore possibility of application of Technologies in real life Java, Python, C#, JavaScript and more.



DAILY CODING CLASSES

Learn to compete in global space, Learn spoken English and written English from the industry standard content.



SPOKEN ENGLISH

College students and faculty can learn application of horizon 2 technologies from subject matter experts and Architects.



TECHNOLOGY TRAINING



STATE CELEBRATES KUT FESTIVAL

Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh graced the State Level Kut Celebration 2022 as Chief Guest which was held at Tuibong, Churachandpur. The celebration began with the Chief Minister pounding the traditional gong.

The programme was also attended by Commerce and Industry Minister Smt. Nemcha Kipgen, Consumer Affairs Food and Public Distribution Minister Shri L. Susindro Meitei, Social Welfare Minister Shri H. Dingo Singh, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba, MLAs of different Assembly Constituencies, Director General of Police, Officials of District Administration, Churachandpur and leaders of Civil Society Organisations among others.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri N. Biren Singh greeted the people on the auspicious occasion of Kut. He continued that considering the difficulties faced by people from districts like Chandel, Kangpokpi and Churachandpur in attending the State Level Kut Celebration organised at Imphal, the Government had decided to take the celebration to other districts too.

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, it was held in Kangpokpi, he said, adding that this year it is being celebrated in Churachandpur.

The Chief Minister further lauded the different cultural troupes showcasing their dance forms in their beautiful traditional customs. This is the beauty of India, the beauty of Manipur, the Chief Minister said, emphasizing on the beauty of India's Unity in Diversity.



mutual respect in a brotherly manner and bring equal and inclusive development.

Highlighting the recent initiative to develop the Henglep road with a budget for about Rs. 130 crores, the Chief Minister reiterated that the present Government will take development to all corners of the State. He spoke on the plan of developing Behiang as a commercial hub like Moreh.



Shri N. Biren Singh said that the people can bring any issue of discontentment before the Government through their representatives or to him directly. He further announced to provide the required fund of Rs. 1.5 crore for completion of the stadium at the Peace Ground, Churachandpur adding that sports is necessary for a healthy society.

Mentioning that Manipur comprises more than 30 smaller communities, the Chief Minister urged the people of Churachandpur to get ready for the State's extravaganza Sangai Festival which will be celebrated this month.

This year, various events will be held as part of Sangai Festival at places like Khoupum and Behiang in Churachandpur, where the Chivu Chandrakirti Memorial Park was inaugurated, the Chief Minister stated. Sangai Festival will not be confined to only Imphal, he asserted, further appealing to all to join in celebrating the festival.

Stating that festivals like Kut bring the people together, the Chief Minister lauded all the participants from different communities and the organizers of the festival. He further appealed to all to continue living together in peace, with

The Chief Minister concluded his speech with a call for peaceful co-existence as citizens of Manipur and India.

Delivering her presidential speech, Commerce and Industry Minister Smt. Nemcha Kipgen stated that Kut is the biggest and the most popular festival of the chin-kuki-mizo tribes. She added that the festival is a post-harvest thanksgiving festival to the almighty god for the abundant blessings of good harvest.

She continued that over the years, celebrations of the Kut had become even more important, relevant, and meaningful as it promotes the essence of brotherhood among different communities. She expressed hopefulness that the Kut festival will be a harbinger of good tidings for all of us.

Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha Maharaja Leishemba Sanajaoba, while addressing the gathering, stated that Kut is a beautiful festival where we offer thanksgiving to the Almighty for a good harvest.

He lauded the theme of the Kut 2022 which is “Unity through culture” and added that Manipur is a State where people from different communities with their own ways of life, culture, religion, tradition live together. He further appealed to all to continue living together in peace and with unity and to bring development to Manipur.

During the programme, cultural dances by cultural troupes of different tribes were also showcased. Miss Kut Contest 2022 was also the main highlight of the programme.

Later, Shri N. Biren Singh visited INA Complex at Moirang and the site at Moirang Khunou where the Sangai Ethnic Park is being constructed and took stock of the ongoing construction work. He further visited the Loktak Lake and inspected the area.





PESTICIDES, EQUIPMENTS DISTRIBUTED TO COUNTER PEST IN ORANGE FARMS

Ibomacha Oinam

The Department of Horticulture and Soil Conservation distributed pesticides and plant protection equipment to orange farmers in Nungba during a field visit of orange farms recently.

The field visit by a combined team of experts from the department, Plant Health Clinic, Tamenglong and Noney districts officials was made following complaints from farmers regarding the occurrence of pest and citrus diseases.

During the visit to the villages of Padan, Noney, Chumla, Nungba and Mukti Khullen

in Nungba sub-division, the combined team confirmed the presence of pest like Citrus Stem Borer, Leaf Miner, Fruit Sucking Moth and Stink Bugs and citrus diseases like Pink Disease of Citrus, Sooty Mould, Citrus Canker, Lichens.

Pesticides and items distributed include rocker sprayer, plantomycin, fipronil, imidacloprid, chloropyrifos, Adjuvant/Sticker, Copper Oxy-Chloride, Sulphur Fungicide, etc.

Tamenglong District Officer, Horticulture and Soil Conservation, Shri Chungong Pamei said an expert team visited Mukti Khullen

in Nungba Sub-division, Noney district following a report from farmers on the presence of pest and citrus diseases in their farms.

After proper diagnosis, the expert team found the presence of pest and citrus diseases and conducted demonstrations for the farmers and their workers on use of pesticides to control the pests and diseases. We also educated the farmers of precautionary measures and the Integrated Nutrient Management and provided toolkits, farm equipment, insecticides, etc., he added.

He stated that the team will continue to closely monitor for another week after spraying the pesticides and insecticides to check for results.

Further adding that the Tamenglong Orange has already been GI Tagged, he said that orange farmers facing any issues regarding pest or diseases can contact the department and that the department is ever ready to provide rapid response.

During the inspection, the team visited three villages where there are about 3000 orange trees, he said, adding that production this year would not be less than 30 metric tons.

He also said that orange plantation will help in improving the economy and livelihood of the farmers and that the department will provide all possible assistance to the farmers.

Horticulture and Soil Conservation department is promoting the Tamenglong Orange which has already been granted Geographical Indication, he said, adding that under the Chief Minister and the Minister Horticulture, the department is also implementing Citrus Rejuvenation and Area Expansion and that anyone interested may come to the department.



An orange farmer guiding the expert team, Joyson Kamei said that we had taken up orange plantation in the village falling under Nungba in Noney District since 2015-16.

Since the beginning of this year, we witnessed certain issues including pest attacks and citrus diseases and so we submitted a report from the farmers to the Director of Horticulture and Soil Testing through the Plant Health Clinic and sought expert assistance and remedial action.

Expressing concern that without timely control the pest and disease could spread to other areas and that it would be an unproductive season, the farmer also thanked the State government, Director, officials and teams of the Plant Health Clinic and district officials for their fast and timely intervention.

The team has provided rapid action, pesticides, pumps, technical know-how to the farmers and helpers, he said further thanking the Chief Minister under whose watch swift action has been taken up by the expert team to allay fears of an unproductive season and spread of pest and disease to other plantations.

Plant Health Clinic, Officer in-charge, Dr. Roshan Dangmei was also among the experts who conducted the field visit.

ANNUAL FISH FAIR CUM FISH CROP COMPETITION-2022 HELD



Annual Fish Fair cum Fish Crop Competition held at Hapta Kangjeibung, Palace Compound, Imphal West organized by Department of Fishery in connection with Ningol Chakouba, which falls on October 27, 2022.

Speaking on the occasion, Fisheries Minister Shri Heikham Dingo Singh said that Fishery Department has been playing a big role to provide the staple diet sufficiently in the state. The government has been focusing on production of fishes in consultation with experts from other parts of the country.

Minister stated that the pilot project under the initiative of Chief Minister to produce Meitei Sareng has been a success. The department has enabled to produce Sareng weighing 3.5 kg which has been reared from previous year. Stating that the fish fair is organized only at the time of Ningol Chakouba festival, Minister added that the department will make arrangements to organize fish fair during

Emoinu Eratpa also. Minister Dingo appealed to all stakeholders to extend support and cooperate with fishery department to increase fish yield in the state. He also appealed to fishermen to refrain from malpractices while catching fish.

Shri H. Balkrisna Singh, Director of Fisheries said that the fair is organized by the department for the 44th time comprising of 115 stalls with 200 fish farmers participating. He said 28 cash rewards will be handed to the winners of the Fish Crop Competition. He added that the department targeted to produce 1,00,000 kgs of indigenous fishes for the fair. For the first time, more than 3000 kg of locally produced fresh Sareng has been put up for sale in the fair this year, he added.

MLA Shri Kongkham Robindro Singh, Chairman MANIDCO; MLA Shri Sanasam Premchandra Singh, officials of Fishery Department from all the districts and fish farmers attended the programme among others.

ALLIANCE AIR CONNECTS IMPHAL-AIZAWL-IMPHAL



The Alliance Air Flight of Imphal-Aizawl-Imphal was launched by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh through video conferencing at the Conference Hall of the Bir Tikendrajit International Airport, Imphal.

Union Civil Aviation Minister Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia; Minister of State (MoCA) Gen. V. K. Singh (Retd.); Minister of Law & Justice Shri Kiren Rijiju; Chief Ministers of Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh; Minister of State (Tourism for Mizoram) Shri Robert Romawia Royte were present at the video conference of the launching programme.

Vineet Sood, CEO, Alliance Air handed over the boarding pass to Civil Aviation Minister Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia and Minister of State (MoCA) Gen. V. K. Singh (Retd.). Appreciating the initiative taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh said that the promise made by the Prime Minister to the people of the North East has come to realization not only in connectivity but also in various sectors. He added that North East, the new engine of Indian growth, has now become a growth engine today. Asserting the speech of the Chief Minister of Mizoram on the isolated position of his state due to non-availability of

aerial connectivity, Shri N. Biren Singh said that the long-awaited dream of the people of Manipur and Mizoram has been achieved today.

He added that joining Imphal-Aizawl-Imphal 5 (five) times a week will tremendously improve not only connectivity on business line but also increased the attachment between the communities of the two states.

Chief Minister further added that the launching of Airlines from Assam(Lilabari) to Arunachal Pradesh (Ziro) i.e., Lilabari-Ziro-Lilabari under the Civil Aviation Ministry will make the North East smaller. Apprising the problems faced by the people of the state due to the sudden drop of direct flight of Indigo on Saturday and Sunday from Imphal-Delhi-Imphal,

Chief Minister requested the Civil Aviation Minister to take up necessary steps with the concerned airlines to resume the aerial connectivity. Later, Civil Aviation Minister and MoCA led the parallel flag-off ceremony from Assam (Lilabari-Ziro-Lilabari & Shillong-Lilabari-Shillong), Meghalaya (Shillong-Lilabari-Shillong), Manipur (Imphal-Aizawl-Imphal), Mizoram (Imphal-Aizawl-Imphal) and Arunachal Pradesh (Lilabari-Ziro-Lilabari).



LOKTAK LAKE

THE MIRROR OF MANIPUR

Laishram Roshan, Public Relations Officer
Oinam Shyamo, Translator

Loktak Lake, the largest fresh water lake in Northeast India, is the jewel in the crown of Manipur's tourism sector. The lake is located in Bishnupur District. The vast body of freshwater fringed by the phumdis and islands is not only a scenic paradise but it serves as a major support in the state's economy and livelihood of around 55 rural and urban localities. The surface area of the lake is approximately 287 sq.km (111 sq.mi.) and its average depth 2.7 m. The lake was designated as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention on 23rd March 1990.

The rich biodiversity of the lake comprises

of around 233 species aquatic flora and 425 species of fauna. Besides, the lake is also the visiting place for around 28 species of migratory birds from different parts of the northern hemisphere.

Because of its rich fish harvest and vegetation, the Lake plays an important part in the economy of the state. Fishing villages are scattered along the shore and on the phumdis and this creates an important attraction to the visitors. There are several islands in the lake, of which the important ones are Thanga, Karang, Ithing, Sendra, Chingthi, Mukap and many others.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE LAKE:

The lake has been associated with the rich heritage and chronicles of the Meiteis since time immemorial. Almost all the legends of Moirang Kangleirol, other folklores, oral literatures and culture, folk dances and songs revolved in and around the lake. Indeed the lake was often termed as the Mirror of Kangleipak by our forefathers.



Loktak Lake can be divided in to 9 (nine) important sections called the Loktak Eesha Mapal each having its own historical significance; religious and scientific value. They are

- Loktak Maru (Thamangkhong)
- Khunsem Mamang Chingjeng Kachin
- Mukap Chinglak
- Eerantabi
- Thanga Karang Eerak
- Kwakap Leichjn
- Shairong Pat
- Lainingthou Kom and
- San-na Eepak.

THANGA

Thanga is collection of different hillocks and has one of the largest eco-tourism potentials in the state. The structure of the hillock is described to resemble a resting ox in the folk songs and literature. Chaoba Ching, a less explored part of Thanga, provides a very beautiful and mesmerising view of Loktak Lake. Beautiful conventional and indigenous homestays are provided in Thanga where one can feel the real taste of the lifestyles of the

people residing in and around the lake.

MOIRANG

Moirang is a town about 48 Km from Imphal and has got a rich heritage and historical importance of the state. The place has also got an important place in the Indian freedom struggle as the Headquarters of the Indian National Army was situated here and the Indian Tricolour flag was hoisted for the first time on April 14, 1944. Another tourist attraction of this place is the Thanjing Temple which is closely associated with the legends of Moirang Kangleirol and the origin of the famous Khamba Thoibi Dance.

KEIBUL LAMJAO

The world's only floating National Park, which is the abode of the famous and endangered Sangai Deer (*Rucervus eldii eldii*), lies in the south eastern part of the lake covering an area of 40 Sq.Km. Sangai, also referred to as the Dancing deer, lives in the phumdis which comprise of heterogeneous green biomass and found only in this lake. Phumdis are very critical to the ecosystem of the Loktak

Lake as they play a vital role in cleansing, nutrient absorption, flood control and carbon sequestration. They change in shape and size during different seasons as well as move around surface of the lake making the ecosystem a very unique one. As per 2016 population estimation, the population of Sangai has increased to 260 which includes 75 stags, 127 hinds and 58 fawns. Recognising the significance to save this endangered species, the state government organises the Sangai Festival every year which attracts large number of foreign and domestic tourists to the state.

SENDRA

Sendra, an island in the lake, is situated around 50 km from Imphal. The expanse of the lake in different directions and the



phumdi can be seen vividly from this hillock. The major attraction of Sendra is the Sendra Park and Resort, where one can stay at the cottages and experience the scenic beauty of Loktak. One can also get boating facilities at the foothill of Sendra. There are also plans to connect the hillock with other tourist spots of Thanga through cable-car.

KARANG ISLAND

Karang Island lies almost in the middle of Loktak Lake and was declared as the first cashless island in the country on 13th January



2017. The island, surrounded by water bodies in all the sides, is an important tourist attraction of the lake. One can experience a panoramic view of the lake and its surrounding villages from the island. Boating facilities both in the traditional canoe (Hi) and motor boat from Haoreng Pandon to the island cannot be missed by a tourist visiting the lake.

CONCLUSION

The lake also plays an important role in balancing the climatic conditions of the state. Recognising the huge tourism potential of the lake, various initiatives have been taken up by the government. However, a long term and a sustainable approach is a must to preserve the natural structure in a holistic manner so as to make the only lake of its kind the largest tourism hotspot in the entire country.





PROSPECTS OF BATTLEFIELD TOURISM IN MANIPUR

Manipur, located at the meeting point of India and South East Asia, was a key battlefield during the 2nd World War.

The decisive battles fought at various battlefields in Manipur also collectively known as the Battle of Imphal and some parts of Kohima was voted as Britain's Greatest Battle by the National Army Museum, UK on 20 April, 2013. This is a prime example for the significance of the Battle of Imphal in the turn of events in global history.

Battlefield Sites in Manipur

Most of us may wonder how could

battlefield sites be reached out, researched and excavated. It is surprised to know that



2nd World War Imphal Campaign Foundation has been taking up a series of excavations of the battlefields in and around Imphal. The foundation's endeavour has brought history of Battle of Imphal alive.

**Excerpt from the Book:
DEFEAT INTO VICTORY
by Viscount Slim, Field
Marshal : The Tide Turn,
Chapter XIII First Para**

The great encounter that loomed over the Central Assam front in early 1944, and which was fought out with relentless fury around Imphal and Kohima from March to July in that year, was the first of the two decisive battles of the Southeast Asia campaign. Tarauchi, the Japanese Supreme, Commander, and Kawabe, their commander in chief in Burma, both meant to be decisive - and so did we.



Commemoration of Battle of Imphal

The Battle of Imphal was commemorated for the first time in Manipur in 2014 by 2nd World War Imphal Campaign Foundation & Manipur Tourism Forum in association with the Government of Manipur. The commemoration has made an epoch making event for acknowledging the importance of battlefield tourism in Manipur.

**SOME OF THE MAJOR
BATTLEFIELDS OF 2ND WORLD WAR**



Halfway to Laimaton Hill



Top of Laimaton Hill

The Laimaton Hill or the point 5846 witnessed a fierce battle took place from April to June 1944.

More than 700 Japanese got killed near around this mountain. Another 500 British Casualty with two Victoria Cross. Point 5846 is one of the fiercest battlefields which saw a see-saw action between the British army and Imperial Japanese Army in the battle for Silchar track.



Slim Cottage inside Kangla where Field Marshall Viscount Slim resided and prepared strategies for successful prevention of Imphal from Japanese occupation. His masterpiece "Defeat into Victory" depicted vividly about the Battle of Imphal.



Dag Bungalow, Kangpokpi, a prospective place for the Battlefield Tourists, particularly the tourists from the descendants of the Allied Forces .



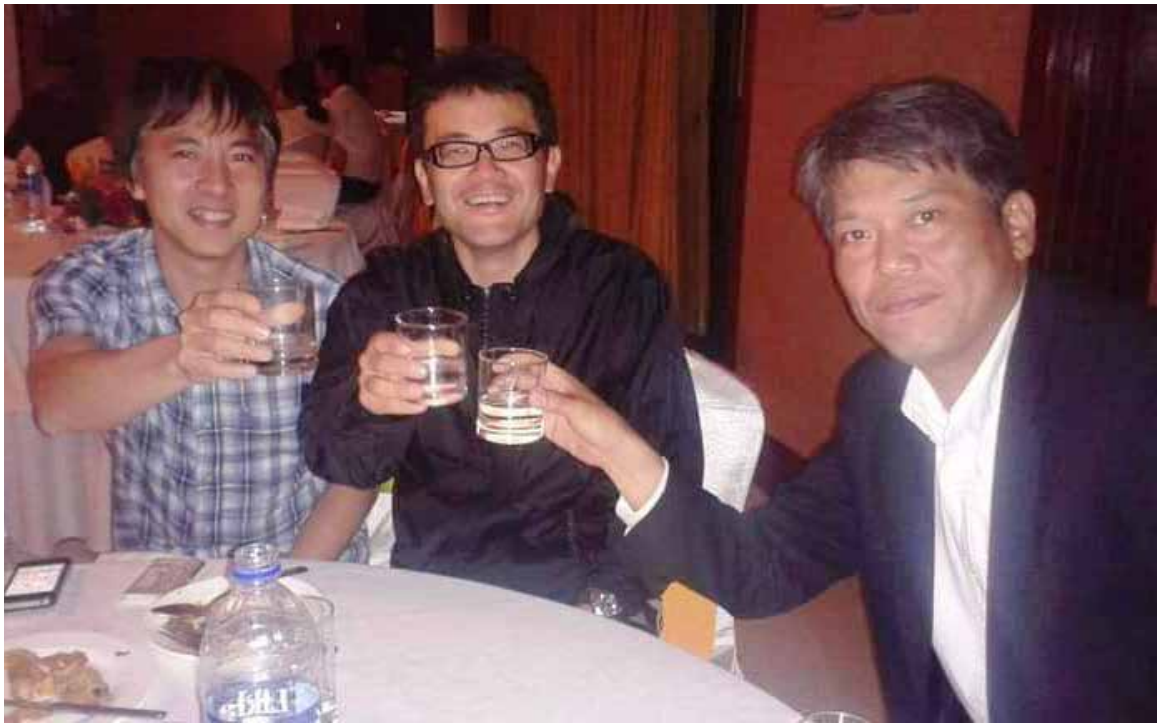
Visit of British at the Imphal War Cemetery maintained by Commonwealth War Graves Commission, United Kingdom.



ISSAC Battlefield then and now: Eastern Range of Motbung : One of the foremost Battlefields of WW-II, Kangpokpi, Manipur



One of the Headquarter of Allied Forces (British) at Bishnupur, Silchar Track during the 2nd World War. It serves as a strategical place for the British to make the Japaneses forces retreat from Manipur.



Many have heard about Sekmai in different ways. One of our popular singers also sang about Sekmai and Japanese connection. During the celebration of Battle of Imphal, Japanese Mediaperson from Yomiuri Shimbun and NHK asked about local wine, we provided out local wine, we provided the fine Sekmai. They happily tasted it and commented that they felt that Sekmai is similar to their Sake. In another occasion, Japanese team of Kyodo news examined and studied about preparation of Sekmai wine and they have easily recommended it the best way of preparation of the Sekmai..

IMPHAL WAR MUSEUM



Imphal War Museum at Tera Amudon, Imphal was Inaugurated on 4th April, 2014 displaying collections of Artifacts and relics of 2nd World War

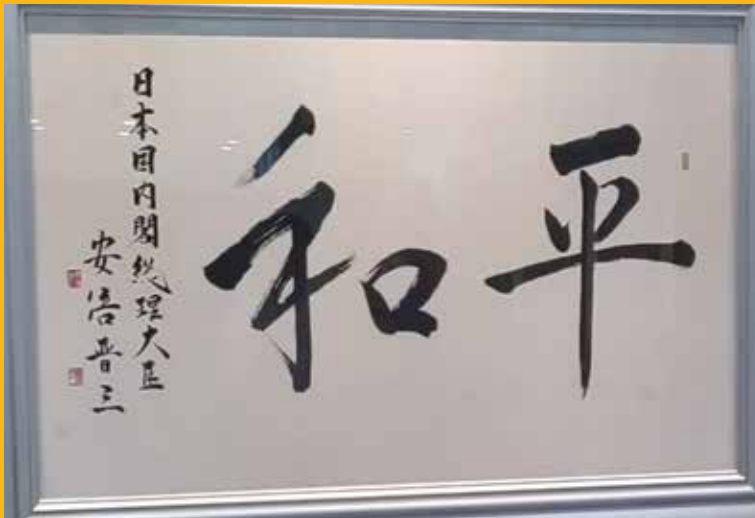


Japanese delegates visiting the Imphal War Museum, recollecting the history of the 2nd World War



Remembering and Reconciliation is the key to peaceful existence.....!

PEACE AND RECONCILIATION



HeiWa (Peace) displayed @ Imphal Peace Museum, Maibam Lokpa Ching caligraphed by Shinzo Abe, former Prime Minister of Japan inaugurated on May 22, 2019.



Imphal became a place of reconciliation for the two warring sides of Allied and Axis Forces of WW-II



Imphal Peace Museum at Red Hill, locally known as Maibam Lotpa Ching beside Imphal Peace Memorial, showcasing the relics and artifacts of WW-II, the then art & culture of Manipur and present Manipur.

Cherry Blossom at Mao,
Manipur

