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# Manipuri film star Soma Laishram barred from films & social functions for 3 years



**WAARI SINGBUL NETWORK IMPHAL, 19 SEPT**

An Imphal-based civil body has barred popular Manipuri film actor Soma Laishram from acting and social functions for three years, sending shockwaves to the film fraternity of the strife-torn state.

The group, Kangleipak Kanba Lup (KKL) alleged her of taking part as a show stopper in a beauty pageant in New Delhi on Saturday despite a general appeal it made to the people and personal advice to her to desist from partaking in such programmes when Manipur is "still

burning" for the last four months.

Film Forum Manipur (FFM), the umbrella body of all film bodies of the state, nevertheless expressed dissatisfaction over KKL's decree on Soma and said it would move on to bring a solution to it.

Soma, who has acted in over 150 Manipuri films and bagged numerous awards, clarified that certain misjudgments on her participation at the Delhi event were there.

On 16 September, Soma participated as a show stopper in a concluding programme of the North East Students' Festival held at Talkatora Stadium, New Delhi that celebrated the cultural heritage of the northeast where she passionately spoke on the unprecedented current turmoil in Manipur and used the platform to appeal for support from all for peace and normalcy in the Manipur.

"As a professional actor and a social influencer it is my responsibility to communicate and speak up about the crisis in Manipur and I chose this platform," the celebrity actor told the Waari Singbul. "The event I participated in

a northeast festival hosted by My Home India, a non-profit organisation and the program I took part is a cultural program celebrating cultural heritage of northeast," she said.

A resident of the Kongeng Hajari Leikai in Imphal West district said she got a call from the concerned organisation a day prior to the program and suggested that she should reconsider participating in the event.

"I clarified that it is not a beauty or fashion show organised for fun to party. It is a cultural event where each state of the northeast was represented by their own chosen personalities like Nagaland, Mizoram, Assam, Arunachal etc. So from Manipur it happened to be me. They invited me. I didn't want to miss the opportunity," Soma continued.

KKL, in a statement issued on Monday said that it had approached FFM and Film Actors Guild Manipur who then requested Soma not to take part in the Delhi beauty pageant.

However, Soma "in full defiance of all such requests and in total disrespect to the Meities who have died so far," and thousands of people rendered homeless as many houses were burnt, participated in the event.

The existence of Manipur as a nation state with over 2000 years of history stands at its most crucial hour and "as such the Cardinal Crime of Ms Soma Laishram participating in such festivities which compounds to exhibiting Manipur as a normal State cannot be pardoned." Contrary to KKL's statement that Soma chose to ignore the 'advice' FFM and Cine Actors' Guild Manipur (CAGM) to which she belongs, the heads of the film bodies told the Warri Singbul that when they were individually approached to discourage Soma from participat-

ing in the fashion parade considering the unprecedented human crisis confronting Manipur, it was too late to intervene as it was on the day of the show.

FFM chairman, Laimayum Surjakanta Sharma admitted that he did speak to Soma on the issue. However he asserted that he didn't ask her to abstain from the program after the actor informed how she had planned to use the prestigious platform to campaign for peace in Manipur as the show-stopper.

"Generally we've a bad impression of the veracities of such beauty and fashion shows. But Soma explained that it was a cultural programme of the northeast. Soma said she was going to use this big platform to sensitize the unprecedented human crisis in Manipur to appeal for support for peace and normalcy to return to Manipur," Surjakanta stated.

"FFM stands by Soma Laishram and will reason with KKL to withdraw its unilateral decree against the actor," Surjakanta added.

Echoing Surjakanta, the Guild President, Lokendra Takhellambam said "the ban passed against Soma Laishram is not justified. Cine Actors' Guild appeals to the concerned to withdraw the decree." Using her celebrity status and fan following, the Manipuri film star had been on the forefront in voicing the concerns of Manipur since the violence broke out. Besides using their show stopper clout and rendering an emotion impromptu on the Manipur violence and appeal for support for campaigning for peace in Manipur, she also championed the cause of justice for the rape victims of both the communities. She again delivered an emotional speech pleading for justice for the rape victim at Jantra Mantra, the next day after the festival.

## Candle lighting in remembrance of the late Babujit Hapila held

ANUP BISWAS  
HAFLONG 19 SEP

Jadikhe Naisho Hosom, All Dimasa Students Union and Dimasa Students Union frontline organisations of Dima Hasao organized Candle lighting program in remembrance of the late Babujit Hapila held near the office of the District Commissioner at Haflong on Tuesday. A good number of people from every walk of life took part in the candle lighting in remembrance of Late Babujit Hapila @ Ali Dimasa an unarmed cadre of Dimasa National Liberation Army who lost his life in police firing recently at Khasmaipur and prayed for his heavenly abode. General Secretary DSU Pramith Sengyung, President, ADSU Uitam Langhasa and President, JNH said it was really an unfortunate incident where a cadre of DNLA who are under ceasefire had lost his life at the hand of government force that too at a time when there was an ongoing talk with government after signing MoS with government.

# Public Interest Takes Precedence Over Individual Property Rights: Delhi HC

NEW DELHI, 19 SEPT

Public interest must take precedence over individual property rights, Delhi high court said on Friday, rejecting concerns raised by certain residents affected by route alignment of the Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transport System (RRTS).

A bench of Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sanjeev Narula dismissed a petition by Siddhartha Extension Pocket C Residents Welfare Association and Senior Citizens Welfare Forum against the proposed construction of a portion of the RRTS through the locality that involves building a viaduct.

The project is a semi-high-speed rail corridor designed to connect Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Meerut. "Public interest

stands at the forefront of this project, given its significant benefits such as reducing air pollution, alleviating traffic congestion, and offering a more efficient transportation system. Additionally, the project promises substantial environmental benefits, as indicated by the Detailed Project Report, including significant reductions in annual emission rates of particulate matter, nitrogen oxide, hydrocarbons, and carbon monoxide," HC noted.

Therefore, "in the act of balancing individual property rights and overarching public interest, the latter must take precedence. The scale tips in favour of a solution that serves the larger community, and ensures the most efficient use of public resources," HC added.

In their public interest litigation, the

residents argued that authorities arbitrarily abandoned the initial route plan for the project, which did not include Siddhartha Extension, and unilaterally altered it to include a viaduct that would pass directly through Siddhartha Extension. Seeking protection of their legal rights to properties, the residents said that National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) should be stopped from encroaching upon these rights.

Pointing out that NCRTC was not a novice in the field and the chosen alignment was not an arbitrary decision, but one taken for technical viability, cost-efficiency, and broader societal gains, the court noted "The potential alignment options for the concerned viaduct propose the following: (a) bypassing Pocket C of Siddhartha Extension, or

(b) running through Pocket C of Siddhartha Extension, impacting 24 flats, or (c) cutting through Siddhartha Extension colony and affecting 8 flats". It said as per experts' evaluation, Option 3 not only minimizes the number of flats affected, but also presents a cost-effective approach when compared to other two options.

It added that the positioning of pillars in the chosen option was carefully planned to ensure non-interference with roadways or other easement rights like parking and free spaces and minimized the impact on local residents by affecting the least number of flats. HC also said that before starting the project NCRTC plans to have proper road diversions to reduce the likelihood of congestion and accidents.

# Rajkumari Sabitri Devi awarded Irawat Memorial Award 2023



BISWADEEP GUPTA  
IMPHAL, 19 SEP

Renowned artist and Manipur State Kala Akademi Awardee Rajkumari Sabitri Devi who had contributed to the upliftment of Manipuri dance or Jagoi as called in

Manipur was felicitated and conferred the Irawat Memorial Award 2023 on Monday in Tenta, Thoubal district of Manipur by Indian Peoples Theatre association (IPTA, Manipur unit) and Irawat Celebration Committee.

Dr. M Nara, former Minister and CPI leader of Manipur who graced the function as President acknowledging the contribution of Sabitri Devi and hoped that she will continue to work and contribute to the Manipuri dance movement.

The 127th Birth Anniversary of Jana Neta Hijam Irawat was observed yesterday at Tenta Multiplex hall as a part of the ongoing observation of Jana Neta Hijam Irawat Memorial Month.

The programme held with the theme 'Lets protect the unity and integrity of Manipur' which was also attended by Langol Iboyaima, of CPI Manipur State Council, L Thoiren CPI Manipur State Council Secretary, S. Sorojini leader of All Manipur Nupi Marup, Ranjit Adhikari Mayum, IPTA Manipur unit Secretary and Dr. M. Priyobrata, Principal Imphal College along with other eminent persons from the field of politics, culture and education etc.

The theme was aptly chosen in view of

the prevailing conflict in Manipur and to bring a peaceful solution. All speakers had equivocally echoed the need to bring an early solution without further delay. While speak-

ers spoke at length about the life sacrifice of Jana Neta Irawat, they had equally remembered him saying that the state is witnessing the vacuum of such great leader

Along with Sabitri Devi, renowned theater playwright and director Akham Niladhwa Khuman was also conferred the award for his contribution in the field of theater.

In the function a novel titled 'Adungeige Thabalei' was also released by the dignitaries. The observation commenced with a floral tribute to the life size portrait of Jana Neta Hijam Irawat. The gathering also paid tribute to the martyrs of the ongoing conflict in Manipur

**WHO SAID WHAT**

**Started my WhatsApp Channel today. Looking forward to remaining connected through this medium!**

**~ Narendra Modi, PM**

## KRC TIMES

STAY-ENRICHED

VOLUME:1, ISSUE 71

## NAGA NO TO UCC

**N**agaland says a big no to Uniform Civil Code. On Tuesday last, the Assembly, which includes 12 BJP MLAs of whom five are Cabinet ministers, unanimously adopted a resolution urging the State be completely exempted from the proposed Code's purview. The resolution moved by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio says the apparent objective of a UCC "is to have a single law on personal matters such as marriage and divorce, custody and guardianship, adoption and maintenance, succession and inheritance", which would pose a threat to 'Naga customary laws' and social and religious practices "that will be in danger of encroachment in the event of imposition of UCC".

In July, the government through a Cabinet decision had also conveyed its opposition to the Commission in the backdrop of the State's 'unique history' since pre-Independent British era, the assurance of non-interference policy starting since pre-Independence times and continued by the Centre in the social and religious practices and customary laws of the people and the constitutional guarantees given under Article 371A. Given that the State has over 86% of the population from Scheduled Tribes, expectedly both tribal and civil society organisations have spelt out their strong objections. While Mizoram and Meghalaya have too objected to the Code, all eyes will be on how vocal Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura will be. Clearly, few takers...

## AP HIGH DRAMA

**T**he high-pitched political drama unfolding in Andhra Pradesh promises to be a suspense-filled blockbuster, with former Chief Minister and TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu in Rajahmundry Jail. His arrest has got actor-turned politician Pawan Kalyan to announce on Thursday last the much-awaited tie-up between his Jan Sena and TDP "for future of AP".

For him the villain of the piece is Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy and the State 'can't afford YSRCP' in the Assembly polls next year as the arrest is 'purely political vendetta'. On Sunday, Naidu was sent to judicial custody for two weeks in a ₹371 crore scam case related to a ₹3,300 crore project of clusters of centres of excellence (CoE); on Tuesday an anti-corruption court rejected a house custody plea by his wife given 'security concerns'; on Wednesday, the CID insisted Naidu is primary accused as he 'orchestrated the scheme' though initially he was listed as Accused Number 37; TDP leaders have appealed to Governor Abdul Nazeer saying 'Naidu was being framed', the CID had 'no evidence or testimonies', and 'it has been acting as a private army to take revenge on Opposition parties.'

Will the tie-up turn out to be a game changer, the climax?

## Quote of the day

"MOST PEOPLE DO NOT REALLY WANT FREEDOM, BECAUSE FREEDOM INVOLVES RESPONSIBILITY, AND MOST PEOPLE ARE FRIGHTENED OF RESPONSIBILITY."

~ SIGMUND FREUD, AUSTRIAN NEUROLOGIST AND THE FOUNDER OF PSYCHOANALYSIS

Sanatan Dharma Row  
RELIGIOUS VALUES MISREAD

DHURJATI MUKHERJEE

Amidst the ongoing controversy over Sanatan Dharma, the Madras High Court has made some noteworthy observations, which need serious attention by those debating to score political brownie points. It said, Sanatana Dharma is a set of "eternal duties" which can be gathered from multiple sources relating to Hinduism or those practising the Hindu way of life, and includes "the duty to the nation, duty to the King, King's duty to his people, duty to one's parents and Gurus, care for the poor, and whole lot of other duties".

Its observations came while hearing a petition, wherein the court said it is conscious of the "very vociferous, and at time noisy debates on pro and anti Sanatana Dharma" and it couldn't help pondering over with genuine concern for what is going around. Sanatan Dharma, noted the judge, was "intended to be a way of life but somewhere down the line the idea that it was only about promoting casteism and untouchability had spread."

Untouchability in a country of equal citizens 'can't be tolerated', he added and said even if it's seen as permitted somewhere within the principles of Sanatana Dharma, "it still can't have a space to stay, since Article 17 of the Constitution has declared that untouchability has been abolished. It's part of the fundamental right... Therefore, untouchability, either within or outside Sanatana Dharma can no longer be Constitutional, though sadly it still exist."

Perhaps DMK leader Udhayanidhi Stalin should take a cue and consider weighing the words he chooses, to avoid a backlash and an unsavoury row. He had said: "Few things cannot be opposed; they should only be abolished. We can't oppose dengue, mosquitoes, malaria, or corona, we have to eradicate them. In the same way, we have to eradicate Sanatana (Sanatan Dharma). Rather than merely opposing Sanatana, it should be eradicated."

The concept of Sanatan Dharma, he believes has resulted in caste discrimination, oppression of women, and implicitly carries connotations of social hierarchy, social distancing and a lack of equality of opportunities. Thus, the call for its elimination. While the assertion of the young leader no doubt has been harsh, he could be given the benefit of doubt that the intention may have been different. Expectedly political parties, such as the Congress, have either dis-

tanced themselves from Stalin's remarks or upped the ante like the BJP to reach out to their vote bank. Prime Minister Modi instantly used the opportunity provided to hit out at the Opposition bloc and portray the BJP as the sole saviour of the country's majority Hindus. "In the days to come, they (the Opposition) will step up their attack on us. Every Sanatani, every person who loves this country and its people, has to stay vigilant", he said at a rally. Adding they want to "finish the Sanatan tradition and push the country back into a thousand years of slavery". He attempted to harness icons such as Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda, Tilak and Rani Laxmibai to the Sanatan bandwagon, insisting that they all had been inspired by the Hindu faith.

Earlier, Union Home Minister Amit Shah accused INDIA bloc of 'insulting' Sanatan Dharma for vote bank and appeasement politics, saying it's clear that "a complete eradication" of Hindu dharma is the "primary agenda" of the alliance. Besides, 260 eminent citizens, including former judges and bureaucrats, have written to Chief Justice Chandrachud urging him to take cognisance of DMK leader's "eradicate Sanatan Dharma" comment calling it "hate speech" against a large population of India. Action, they said, needs to be taken in order to preserve the secular character of the country.

Be that as it may, over the years there's been much debate on religion, its values and efficacy in modern life and daily living. And what appears is the fact that core religious values are steadily disappearing from society as a section deals with the theoretical aspect, which are seldom practised. This, despite the fact the role of spiritual values that shape the lives of human beings and the scriptures that talk of sincerity, discipline and ethical values that are intrinsic to the development of society. It is pertinent to refer to eminent philosopher and former President of India Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who believed that Sanatan Dharma was capable of embracing humanity. The narrow sectarian walls in society along with superstitions that have been created in the name of religion do not really reflect the spiritual and moral aspect of faith that Hinduism stands for. At a UNESCO conference in 1948 he had said: "A good world cannot be built on pride or selfishness, hatred or injustice... A spiritual renewal is necessary if the world is to be

saved".

If religion is to serve as the basis of the new world order, it must become more inward and more universal. Moreover, the hostility among and within religions needs to go and spiritualism should only be the guiding spirit. Recall, Dr Radhakrishnan visualised bringing different religions of the world under one umbrella, weaving them into a thread of unity in carrying forward Swami Vivekananda's message at the famous Chicago conference.

Tragically, today we find religion being misinterpreted and used for political and/or personal gains. There is need to spread religious education to develop understanding and its role in social transformation, as Gen Next views it being misinterpreted and biased by half-educated pundits. Moreover, superstitions that have no relevance and value in modern-day society cannot be part of the new religion that is being aimed at that would transform the social order.

Like modernity in society, there is an imperative need to inculcate core values of religion and spiritualism, which forms the basis of what is being called Sanatan dharma, to the young generation and doing away with all forms of superstition. While prayers to the Supreme is no doubt necessary, a senior monk of the Ramakrishna Mission of Bhubaneswar told this writer that service to the community, in whatever form, is also a way to reach God. And this was the core of Swami Vivekananda's teachings with the addition that everyone should sacrifice something for fellow brothers and sisters. Understanding of religion cannot be derived from what political leaders and local pundits preach but by reading books of philosophers and interpretations thereof. Today there are few who can give a correct interpretation of Hindu religion, as Swami Vivekananda visualised, which stands for human unity and self-sacrifice. Perhaps the present controversy could have been avoided from both sides had young Stalin not decried religion per se but those who misinterpret and misguide people about Hindu faith and the opponents not hammer it as a political agenda. India's message of vasudhaiva kutumbakam, (the whole mankind is one family) as reverberated at the recent Delhi G20 summit ironically gets tarnished.---INFA

G20 REACHES CONSENSUS ON MORE POWER TO WOMEN  
NEW DELHI DECLARATION CHALLENGES  
COUNTRIES TO WALK THE TALKINDEVAR PANDEY  
SECRETARY MINISTRY OF WOMEN  
AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT

In the landscape of global politics and diplomacy, there are moments that stand as beacons of hope and progress. The G20 New Delhi Leaders Declaration of 2023 is one such landmark, with the historic commitment towards gender equality and empowerment of women and girls worldwide. Under India's Presidency, leaders of the G20 agreed to the creation of a Working Group on the empowerment of women to support the G20 Women's Ministerial. This achievement resonates deeply with the recognition of the importance of gender equality and the pressing need to close gender disparities globally.

The G20, under India's Presidency, has been inspired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Amritkaal' vision where 'Nari Shakti' (the power of women) is celebrated in all spheres of the economy and society. Building on this vision, India's G20 Presidency has shifted the focus for the first time from women's development to 'Women-led Development'.

For decades, advocates of gender equality have strived to push this critical issue to the forefront of the global agenda. The journey has been long and challenging, with numerous setbacks along the way. The G20's unanimous decision to include Gender Equality as a cen-

tral theme in its 2023 declaration is a testament to the tireless efforts and unwavering commitment of leaders, governments, civil society and stakeholders worldwide.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development brought together women trailblazers, entrepreneurs, innovators, scientists, grassroots women leaders and frontline workers, the private sector, civil society, academia, research institutions, defence establishments and also State governments besides delegates and speakers from G20 and guest countries and International Organizations to deliberate on the most pertinent issues facing women worldwide.

The spotlight fell on four priority areas decided by the Ministry, namely Education: A game changing pathway to women's empowerment, Women's Entrepreneurship: A win-win for equity and economy, Creating Partnerships for Promoting Women's Leadership at all Levels Including at the Grassroots and Women and Girls as Changemakers in Climate Resilience Action. Digital skilling for women's empowerment was a cross cutting theme across all these priority areas.

These areas were discussed and deliberated by the G20 EMPOWER initiative and the W20 engagement group. The key takeaways from these meetings reverberated the firm commitments towards gender equality that was

adopted in the Chair's Statement of the Ministerial Conference on Women Empowerment and ultimately found a firm place in the G20 Leaders' Declaration.

This was no small feat! Consensus building and negotiations with international delegates and other stakeholders was an uphill task. Issues of significance for developing countries often did not resonate equally with developed nations.

It was agreed by delegates that outcomes of health, nutrition, education and entrepreneurship cannot be fulfilled without the inclusion of women grassroots community leaders in the G20 discourse. This was further endorsed by adding a new focus area called 'Supporting women entrepreneurs and leaders at the local level' to the legacy of the 'Best Practices Playbook'.

Digital skilling for women's empowerment was a cross-cutting theme across all these priority areas. Prime Minister Modi's commitment to bridging the digital gender divide contributed to the launch of a ground-breaking 'Tech equity' platform with a focus on digital skilling for women during the MCWE held from the 2nd - 4th August, 2023. Further, partnerships with G20 countries were forged at the MCWE to expand the reach of the digital skilling platform to ensure its sustainability.

# 48-HOUR BANDH paralyzed normal life in Manipur

KRC TIMES MANIPUR BUREAU  
IMPHAL, 19 SEP

Burning of tyres in the middle of the roads, and road blockade by various people were seen at different places of the state on Tuesday.

Normal life was badly affected on Tuesday, the 1st day of the 48-hour state wide bandh call given by various civil society organizations demanding the unconditional release of five 'village protection volunteers' who are now in judicial custody.

Manipur Police arrested 5 persons on Saturday with sophisticated weapons in camouflage uniforms.

Protesting this arrest, people in large numbers came out in the streets in various districts demanding the release of the arrested persons without any condition.

On the first day of the bandh,



all types of vehicles, including those of security forces were off the roads, inter-district, inter-state buses, and trucks did not operate. Markets,

shops, business establishments, banks, government offices, and educational institutions remained closed. At some places, Meira Paibis were seen blocking the roads and burning the tyres in the middle of the roads. Attendances in government offices were very thin. There are also reports that police and security forces opened tear gas to disperse protesters at a different location. At least 3 protesters got injured in the police actions. Manipur has been cut off from the rest of the country by road. Yumnam Hitler, president of the All Langthabal Kendra Clubs Coordinating Committee as a spokesperson of the bandh callers said that if the arrested persons are not released by Wednesday, the bandh would be followed by different modes of intense protests. Essential services and media have been exempted from the purview of the total bandh.

## Awareness programme on 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' held at Haflong



ANUP BISWAS  
HAFLONG 19 SEP

An awareness programme on 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' was held at District library auditorium hall, Haflong organized by District Administration, Dima Hasao.

The programme was organized to make aware to the public on the 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' a unique initiative supported by the Central Government.

Assam Minister for Power, Sports & Youth Affairs etc Nandita Gorlosa attended the programme as Chief Guest along with District Commissioner, Dima Hasao Simanta Kr. Das, ACS, SP Mayank Kumar, IPS, SDO(C) Meganjoy Thaosan, and Deputy Secretary, DHAC Rabeca Changsan.

Chief Guest of the programme Minister Nandita Gorlosa expressed her views on the importance and awareness of the programme.

As a part of the campaign, soil will be procured from every household in the village of the district from 20th to 30th Sept. 2023. This soil will then be transported to the block and the collected soil will be transported to Guwahati and it will be sent to Delhi. Welcome speech which was delivered by ADC Deepmala Goala, and also gave a power point presentation regarding 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' and 'Amrit Kalash Yatra'. A video message of Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma and the theme 'Meri Maati Mera Desh' was played.

## Ramakrishna Mission, Imphal extends relief support



IMPHAL: On Saturday, 16.09.23, the Ramakrishna Mission, Babupara, Imphal, in Manipur, extended its support to the displaced children, being sheltered at the Relief Camp at Meijrao Model English School, Irom Meijrao, Imphal West.

Ngari, Soyabean, Milk Powder, Biscuits, Maggi, Stationary Items, steel glasses, Toiletries, Sports Items, story books and value education books were provided for \*103 students staying in the camp.\* Efforts will be made to provide nutrition & educational support to these needy students in future also, stated a release from Ramakrishna Mission.

## D G C students' union adopts new by laws of election

SUSHANTA ROY  
DIPHU 19 SEP

The Diphu Government College Students Union Society, the general body of the students of this government college has adopted its new by laws for the election procedure of the union society in its general meeting held at the Rangina auditorium hall today.

The new guideline and the amended by laws drafted as per the recommendation of the Lyngdoh Committee was introduced in the general meeting organized by the college management on the occasion of the Fresher's Social Meet cum Students Meet 2023. Principal of the college Nirab Kumar Sarmah in his speech mentioned some cardinal points of modification of the Lyngdoh Committee recommendation. He informed that henceforth the post of the President of this college will be an elected representative, which was so long held by the post of Principal Diphu Government College. He also mentioned that from now the election process will be regulated by a statutory body like the Election Commission. He also declared that in case of any arbitration, the mechanism within the College Students Union Society will resolve the issue and in an intense state of affairs the principal of the college will be the final arbitrator.

### QUEST!

**The loudest noise ever recorded was the eruption of the volcano Krakatoa in 1883. The sound traveled around the world multiple times.**

## 1st Northeastern States Chamber Of Commerce And Industry Business Conclave inaugurated in Nagaland

KOHIMA, 19 SEP

The Confederation of Nagaland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CNCCI) hosted the inaugural Northeastern States Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business Conclave at Naithu Resort in Chumoukedima on September 18, 2023. The event witnessed the presence of Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio, who also serves as the president of the conclave.

In his address to the gathering, Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio highlighted the Northeastern states as a powerhouse of untapped potential, offering unique opportunities for growth. He emphasized the region's distinctive geographical and cultural interconnectedness with Southeast Asia.

Rio stressed the significance of India's Act East policy, describing it as a golden opportunity to harness the vast potential for trade and invest-

ment. He urged all stakeholders to come together and explore innovative ways to leverage this policy for the benefit of the Northeastern region.

The Chief Minister called for the responsible utilization of the Northeast's natural resources and the promotion of tourism while ensuring that local communities also reap the benefits. He encouraged participants at the conclave to identify areas where they can complement each other's strengths and work collaboratively to create a roadmap for further cooperation.

Rio also mentioned the establishment of the Nagaland Special Development Zone (NSDZ) in 2014 by the Nagaland Legislative Assembly (NLA). He outlined plans to relax land laws, establish land banks, and introduce mechanisms to boost investor confidence, particularly in the foothill areas of the state.

In his concluding remarks, Chief

Minister Rio pledged full support to the North East SCC&I (Chamber of Commerce and Industry) for the economic growth of the region. He emphasized the importance of interdependence, teamwork, and collaborative partnerships in achieving the shared goals of the Northeastern states.

Special guests Sunil Jeevrajji Singh, Chairman of the National Traders Welfare Board, and Rupam Goswami, Convenor of CoNESCCI (Confederation of Northeastern States Chamber of Commerce and Industry) and Chairman of the Assam Chamber of Commerce & Industry, delivered short speeches and the keynote address, respectively.

Dr. Khokugha Muru, Chairman of the Confederation of Nagaland Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CNCCI), delivered the welcome speech. The conclave also featured special performances by the Nagagenous and HarmoniX teams.

## Lady wife of Chief Minister of Nagaland Kaisa Rio inaugurated the screening of the Documentary Film 'Where Cotton Flowers Grow'

# 'Where Cotton Flowers Grow' screened at Kohima

KOHIMA, 19 SEP

Lady wife of Chief Minister of Nagaland Kaisa Rio inaugurated the screening of the Documentary Film 'Where Cotton Flowers Grow' and Mini Exhibition-cum-Sale at the Directorate of Art & Culture, Kohima today.

Kaisa Rio while delivering her speech said that cotton is an ancient utility material that has served the timeline of human history till present day. She expressed her gratitude to the Department for supporting, encouraging and promoting Naga textiles entrepreneurs and providing a platform for those special voices that must be heard.

Commissioner & Secretary, Art & Culture, Athel O. Lotha, said that the art and crafts are one of the earliest creative experiences of the Nagas. She lamented that the traditional process of making textiles right from growing and sourcing the raw materials, spinning the raw materials to make yarn, to the final stages of weaving and dyeing the finished product, is on the verge of extinction. Only a few elders in isolated pockets still practice the traditional and indigenous way of creating textiles, she added.

The mini exhibition cum sale constituted an exceptional display of authentic indigenous textiles and crafts, the talent, richness and diversity of the local crafts persons. She believed that the screening of the Documentary Film and holding the mini exhibition cum sale will create



Lady wife of Chief Minister of Nagaland Kaisa Rio inaugurated the screening of the documentary film 'Where Cotton Flowers Grow' and Mini Exhibition-cum-Sale at Directorate of Art & Culture, Kohima on 19th September 2023. (DIPR)

awareness for preserving and promoting great heritage.

Sesino Yhoshu from TakeOne Production House said that the documentary film 'Where Cot-

ton Flowers Grow' focuses on four Khamniungan women of Sanglao Village under Noklak District who are still keeping the craft alive.

The Documentary Film is an initiative of Ex

# MPs gather in Central Hall to bid adieu to the historic Parliament Building



**NEW DELHI, 19 SEP**  
A function was organised in the Central Hall today to commemorate the

rich legacy of the Parliament of India as the Members came together to bid adieu to the historical build-

ing before stepping into the New Building of Parliament.

In his address to MPs in the Central Hall, the Vice-President described this transition as a journey from 'Tryst with Destiny' to 'Tryst with Modernity' and called upon all Members to join the historic journey towards Bharat @2047.

The Vice-President noted that the hallowed precincts of the Parliament building have witnessed many milestones in its seven decade long journey which continue to resonate with the aspirations of over a billion hearts.

Underscoring that the new building of Parliament is not just an "architectural marvel" but also "a testament to the dawn of Aatmanirbhar Bharat," Dhankhar noted that it not only serves as a reflection of India's cultural diversity but also stands as a glowing symbol

of "national pride, unity, and diversity."

Recalling the decorum and healthy debates witnessed during the functioning of the Constituent Assembly, Dhankhar stressed the need to "emulate the exemplary conduct of our founding fathers."

Terming disturbances and disruptions in the Parliament as antithetical to the democratic values, the Rajya Sabha Chairman emphasised the need to promote the spirit of co-operation and consensus in the new Parliament building. Urging everyone to resolve to "keep national interest uppermost", he called upon everyone to work together to make New Chambers of the Parliament the sanctum sanctorum of our Temple of Democracy. The Vice-President also commended the recent infrastructural marvels in India—the New Parliament Building, Bharat

Mandapam, and Yashobhoomi—as world-class accomplishments. "These iconic venues are set to play a pivotal role in shaping India's tomorrow", he added.

Acknowledging India's emergence as a global "agenda-setter" for peace, climate action, and economic development on par with leading nations, Dhankhar praised the leadership for the astute approach, people-centric vision, unwavering dedication, and exemplary execution which was demonstrated in recently organised impactful G-20 summit under India's presidency. He also lauded the contributions of people from diverse backgrounds and the bureaucracy responsible for policy implementation.

The Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, Speaker Lok Sabha, Om Birla, Union Ministers, MPs from various political parties were present.

## Myanmar-origin liquor worth Rs 80, 000 seized by Indian Army along the border



**KRC TIMES MANIPUR BUREAU IMPHAL, 19SEP**

Myanmar liquor smuggling into Manipur worth around Rs 80, 000 in the regional markets has been recovered after 2 tribal smugglers were apprehended in Manipur's Churachandpur district bordering Myanmar on the south, official sources said.

The Army & Assam Rifles seized illegal liquor of estimated cost Rs 80,000/- in Bethel, Churachandpur, on 18th September 2023, a defense wing statement said here on Tuesday.

During a routine vehicle check, the Indian Army team intercepted a Mahindra Bolero with the license plate

MN 04 A 5125, driven by one Tonggin Haokip, son of Sonam Haokip, a resident of Jangnom village, District Churachandpur (Manipur), and a Ford Figo with the license plate AS 11 N 9744, driven by one Ngamminlen Baithe, a resident of B Salvaphai village, District Churachandpur (Manipur).

They were found transporting illegal liquor of Myanmar origin. The seized items include 46 bottles of Whisky Imperial Blue (700 ml each), 461 bottles of Star Honey Lemon Mix Liquor (Alcohol 20%, 640 ml each), 47 bottles of Honey Lemon Premium Quality liquor (30% Alcohol, 640 ml each), and 24 bottles of Super Honey Lemon Premium Quality (30% Alcohol, 640 ml each). The total value of the seized liquor is approximately Rs 80,000/-.

These items, apprehended and the vehicles were handed over to the Churachandpur Police Station for further action, the statement added.

## Revolutionizing Indian Agriculture: MoA&FW Unveils Game-Changing Initiatives for Farmers



**NEW DELHI, 19 SEP**

In a landmark event today here, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman & Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar unveiled initiatives focused on agri-credit (KCC & MISS) and crop insurance (PMFBY/RWBCIS). The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare launched three initiatives, namely the Kisan Rin Portal (KRP), KCC Ghar Ghar Abhiyaan, an ambitious campaign aiming to extend the benefits of the

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme to every farmer across the nation and a manual on Weather Information Network Data Systems (WINDS). These initiatives aim to revolutionize agriculture, enhance financial inclusion, optimize data utilization, and improve the lives of farmers across the nation.

Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman assured full cooperation of banks for the success of Ghar Ghar KCC Abhiyan. She said that the gov-

ernment under Prime minister Narendra Modi has allocated enough money under the KCC scheme to ensure easy short-term loans to farmers and their onboarding for the scheme. The finance minister commended the Ministry of Agriculture for its initiatives and successful implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). She said that over 1,40,000 crores of insurance amount has been disbursed to farmers so far against a premium amount of Rs. 29,000 crore.

She also appreciated real time estimation for rice and wheat crop output and called for the estimation to be extended to Dalhan and Tilhan crops so that better planning can be done for their imports, if needed. The finance minister said that real time estimation of crops will help the economy and ensure right prices for farmers at the end of crop season. Sitharaman also called for full automation of regional rural banks and cooperative banks and directed the Department of Financial services to study the gap between loan sanction and loan disbursement for these banks.



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Players being introduced to Col. Rahul Gurung, Commandant 12th Assam Rifle

# Imchaba Master Memorial Nagaland Open Volleyball Trophy Underway at Mokokchung



Players being introduced to Col. Rahul Gurung, Commandant 12th Assam Rifle, Mokokchung during the inaugural match of 16th Imchaba Master Memorial Nagaland Open Volleyball Trophy 2023 at Multi-Purpose Sports Complex, Mokokchung on 19th September 2023. (DPRO Mokokchung)

**KOHIMA:** The 16th edition of Imchaba Master Memorial Nagaland Open Volleyball Trophy 2023, organized by Mokokchung District Volleyball Association (MDVA), got underway at Multi-Purpose Sports Complex, Mokokchung on 19th September 2023.

The inaugural programme was graced by Col. Rahul Gurung, Kirti Chakra, Commandant 12th Assam Rifle, Mokokchung as the inaugural patron. Delivering a short speech on the occasion, he congratulated MDVA for providing a platform where the budding players can exhibit their talents. He went on to add that, all the players can come to this level not only by their sheer hard work and talent but also through the constant support of family. He also encouraged the players to work hard and emulate the legacy of Dr. T. Ao in the field of sports.

Earlier, in the programme, the welcome address was shared by Lakhi Longkumer, Convenor Organizing Committee. Altogether, 19 teams from the district and outside are participating in this year's edition.

## Aditya L1 spacecraft begins new trajectory to Sun-Earth L1 point

Aditya-L1 is expected to arrive at the intended orbit at the L1 point after about 127 days, ISRO had said soon after the launch.

ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle on September 2 successfully launched the Aditya-L1 spacecraft, from the Second Launch Pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.


After a flight duration of 63 minutes and 20 seconds that day, Aditya-L1 spacecraft was successfully injected into an elliptical orbit of 235x19500 km around the earth. According to ISRO, a spacecraft placed in the halo orbit around the L1 point has the major advantage of continuously viewing the Sun without any occultation / eclipses. This will provide a greater advantage of observing the solar activities and its effect on space weather in real time. Aditya-L1 carries seven scientific payloads indigenously developed by ISRO and national research labo-

ratories including Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru, and Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics, Pune.

The payloads are to observe the photosphere, chromosphere and the outermost layers of the Sun (the corona) using electromagnetic and particle and magnetic field detectors.

Using the special vantage point L1, four payloads directly view the Sun and the remaining three payloads carry out in-situ studies of particles and fields at the Lagrange point L1, thus providing important scientific studies of the propagatory effect of solar dynamics in the interplanetary medium.

The suits of Aditya L1 payloads are expected to provide the most crucial information to understand the problem of coronal heating, coronal mass ejection, pre-flare and flare activities and their characteristics, dynamics of space weather, propagation of particles and fields.



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