

under Mizoram Cooperative Societies Act and also on Pension Scheme.

Inaugurating the seminar, Chief Guest Minister Lalsawta said that the two important themes of the seminar-

economy', the Minister envisioned. For this to happen, the government would take steps through New

works because of all the lands near towns being owned by individuals. He further said that the youth today

progress in that there would then be no need for the farmers to sell the produce outside State but have good

participants and a good number of proposals were made which to be put up to Mizoram government.

west charging water supply Scheme in collaboration with W Phaileng Consumer Union Branch.

## Col Jasjit Singh released on bail, Police seeks CBI probe into robbery case



OUR REPORTER  
AIZAWL, JUNE 1

The suspended Commandant of the Aizawl-based 39th Assam Rifles Col Jasjit Singh, one of the prime accused in the smuggled gold robbery case, was on Tuesday released on bail by a local court. Aizawl District and Sessions

Court judge Lucy Lalrinthari, who had earlier rejected the bail plea, granted Singh interim bail for 60 days. He was asked not to leave Mizoram and appear in a court and police custody whenever summoned.

Singh's counsel told the court that he had sustained injuries during a battle and required to continuously take physiotherapy which was not possible inside the prison. Although public prosecutor said the interim bail of Singh can lead to further delay in the

investigation process, the suspended commandant was released on bail on health grounds. Singh was arrested on May 5 for allegedly being one of the masterminds in the highway robbery in which eight Assam Rifles personnel had allegedly waylaid a SUV on the night of December 14 last year near the southern outskirts of Aizawl and decamped with 52 gold bars worth around Rs.14.5 crore, a mobile phone and Rs.75,000 in cash after threatening the driver of the vehicle, Lalnunfela, at gun point.

Two arrested civilians former student leader Lalnuanawma Mathipi and Aizawl-based non-tribal businessman Bulaki Chand Baid were earlier on May 13 released on bail. One civilian and

nine AR personnel are still in judicial custody at Aizawl district jail. Meanwhile, Mizoram Police has recommended handing over of the dacoity case in which 14 people including Singh were arrested, to the CBI.

IGP Zoramawia said in the event of Mizoram government agreeing to hand over the robbery case to CBI, state police would not stop from investigating the case. "We recently made a proposal to the state government to seek the help of CBI in probing the dacoity case as we wanted the case to be fully probed," Zoramawia said, adding the Mizoram police has not yet received any response from the state government. He said that the state police

personnel faced a linguistic problem in the process of investigation as there were non-tribal involved in the dacoity case. The case if handed over to CBI is expected to be probed in faster way as the central team will have no linguistic problem to question the non-Mizo allegedly involved in the robbery case, he added.

He said that handing over the case to CBI will also bring immediate fruitful result as there were armed personnel involved in it. He however, said that they seek the CBI's help not because they were desperate in the investigation process but to bring the investigation in a broader way as it may need neighbouring state police and international help.

## International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service held in Aizawl

### People urged to intensify fight against HIV/AIDS

**AIZAWL, JUNE 1** 'International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service' was held today here at ISPR Auditorium under the aegis of PWNM, UNAIDS, World Vision and Agapia Sical Centre. Health & Family Welfare Minister Lal Thanzara was the Chief Guest and Care-World Vision India Programme Manager Chandra Kanto Molsom Guest of Honour in the Memorial Service programme which was chaired by Robert Lalrempuia Kiangte, Coordinator.

Speaking on the occasion, Health Minister Lal Thanzara expressed grave concern over Mizoram being the second highest in India terms of HIV/AIDS and fervently called for intensive effort in the fight against the same.

It is high time that each and every one and the churches intensify effort in addition to the initiatives of the government and NGOs against HIV/AIDS, he emphatically said.

Health Minister said that the 40 MLAs in the State has formed 'Mizoram Legislative Forum for AIDS' and contributed from MLA fund 1 lakh each using which 'CD4 Count Machine' has been purchased. Installation of the same at Aizawl Civil Hospital will be finalized from 6 June 2016, he mentioned.

Health Minister also announced

that free checkup will be allowed to those who would do HIV/AIDS investigation at Aizawl Civil Hospital ART Centre.

The Minister acknowledged the continued effort of MSACS and its good cooperation with the churches in the fight against HIV/AIDS in educating the people on prevention and treatment, and also on the occasion gave financial assistance to Positive Women Network of Mizoram (PWNM).

Guest of Honour Chandra Kanto Molsom also spoke on the occasion and said that he found from his visit of 80 villages of Mizoram that there are yet many people who are ignorant of HIV/AIDS while there are HIV/AIDS patients even in villages where there is no power supply.

Also calling for intensive effort, he said that this is the time not only the government and one NGO fight take steps but the high time when all the churches and the people take steps to eradicate HIV/AIDS.

PWNM President Vanlalruati also spoke on the occasion and explained how 'International AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service' is held every year on last Sunday of May since 1983 in USA.

MSACS Director Dr.Lalmalsawmi Sailo and Medical Superintendent, Aizawl Civil Hospital Dr. K.L.Remsanga also attended today's programme in which workshop was also held.

## HRD Minister to inaugurate Language Lab of Govt. Zirtiri Residential Science College

**AIZAWL, JUNE 1**

Union Minister of Human Resource Development Smriti Zubin Irani will on Friday inaugurate completed 10 Projects in different States under National Higher Education Mission, 'Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).

The 10 projects to be inaugurated through Video Conferencing will include 'Language Laboratory' of Govt. Zirtiri Residential Science College (Govt. ZRCC), official source here today said.

Under RUSA Equity Initiatives, step is being taken to construct Language lab in 24 Mizoram State Govt. Colleges, the official source mentioned.

The Project launching programme will be attended by Finance Minister Lalsawta, Higher & Technical Education Officials, Aizawl D.C, NIC Officials, College Principals, and teachers and students Govt. ZRCC.

NIC, ICT and Taxation Dept. are now working with BSNL for the project launching programme which can be viewed at [webcast.gov.in/mhrd](http://webcast.gov.in/mhrd) or [mhrd.gov.in](http://mhrd.gov.in).

## PRRS toll: Opposition demands compensation for family who lost pigs

OUR REPORTER  
AIZAWL, JUNE 1

Claiming the lives of more than 3000 pigs in Mizoram, a new disease called Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) has created havoc in the state. While the exact number is yet to be confirmed, State Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Secretary, K.Lalnginglova said that the official figure is below 3000. Opposition MNF meanwhile demand compensation for those families who lost pigs due to the outbreak of PRRS in Mizoram and asked the state government to make more efforts for the prevention of further breakout of PRRS. Slamming the

government for the outbreak of PRRS, MNF in a statementsaid the natural factor which was claimed by the state government as the cause for the outbreak of PRRS was baseless and added that the outbreak of PRRS was due to the import of pigs in the name of NLUP assistance from Myanmar despite the knowledge that the country has been currently ravaged by the disease.

Accusing the government of responsible for the outbreak of PRRS, MNF said about Rs 6056 lakh has been spent under NLUP for import of pigs and about Rs 547.75 lakh has been expended by the state government under RKVY for import of pigs from Myanmar. It further said that

the inability to become self-reliance in pigs despite spending of about Rs6603.75 lakh for import of pigs is not only an indication of NLUP as failure, but also the import of pigs from other country is not safe. State Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Secretary Lalnginglova said that 221 and 50 pigs have died in south Mizoram's Lunglei and Lawngtlai district where no fresh deaths have been reported over the last one week. Siamawia, Assistant Secretary of the Champhai District Vawkuh Association (CDVA) or Champhai district pig rearers' association also said that at least 2,734 pigs have died in the district till date.