

Members of the All Manipur ANM/GNM Written Test Faced Candidates' Association thronging to the office of the Director of Health at Lamphel today morning



Assembly session adjourned for 3 hours due to sound system failure

ITNews

Imphal, Dec 21: The second sitting of the ongoing winter session of the 10th Manipur Legislative Assembly which began on December 18 was compelled to adjourn for 3 hours due to failure of the sound system fixed in the Assembly House. As scheduled, Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly Th. Lokeshwar tried to announce the business of the day today, but had to stop for 15 minutes as the microphone

he was supposed to deliver experienced some technical error. Later, as the sound mechanic could not fix the problem the Speaker announced the adjournment of the house for 30 minutes starting from 11.15 am. "The House will begin from 2 pm due to technical defect", said Speaker, Th. Lokeshwar as he was left with no other option. The technical problem could not be fixed even after 11.45 am so the Speaker of the House again adjourned the

House till 2 pm today. The sitting begins at 2.00 pm. Staffs and officials of the Manipur State legislative Assembly were seen engaging in hectic work trying to fix the sound system. When enquired about whom to fix the responsibility, Liaison Officer for Media, RK Bhagat said that the staffs had already checked the sound system before the commencement of the Assembly and was Okay. But then exactly at the time when the session was to

begin some electric problem occurred and suddenly affected the sound system, RK Bhagat added. He further said that Assembly staffs has nothing to do in any of the infrastructures, electrifications or office building as the Assembly building and other construction works has not been handed over to the State Legislative Assembly by the Simplex Company which is undertaking the construction work.

Health Director assures to declare result of nurse recruitment test

ITNews

Imphal, Dec.21: Around 50 members of the All Manipur ANM/GNM Written Test Faced Candidates' Association finally get relief after the Health Director Dr O Ibomcha assured to declare the result of the written test examination for the recruitment of 200 ANMs and 21 GNMs conducted on 18 August 2013 at his office chamber during a forced meet. Sanasam Malemnganbi, a

result awaiting candidate informed reporters after the meet inside the office complex that the Director informed them that the files are under process and gave his word to declare the result within January 2016. She further said, the Director also told them that the department will soon arrange a meeting between representatives of their association and Health Minister who is out of station right now. The Director also

stated the members that the Directorate is consulting with the Law department regarding the declaration of the written test. Earlier before meeting the director, a large number of the candidates thronged to the Directorate office by knocking down the main gate of Health directorate and locked up the entry gate to the main building. The volunteers confronted the securities who intervened them.

SUK decries released of 3 non-locals who were handed over to them for assaulting 2 student

ITNews

Imphal, Dec 21: Student Union of Kangleipak (SUK) today sought clarification from the state police

regarding the released of 3 non-Manipuri who were handed over to them for assaulting 2 volunteers of the students' body on December 16. It also questioned the reason for taking remand of three other locals who were handed over to them for the same crime. The 2 SUK volunteers Chingkhams Ajoy Kumar (21) son of Ch. Kumar and Ch. Okendro (21) of Andro who were presently staying at a rented room at Palace Compound for their studies were reportedly assaulted by the six persons when returning to their room near the gate of Maharaj Budhachandra College at around 7.30 pm of December 16.

Speaking to media persons at its office, Jantakumar Khuman, President of SUK said that the 6 persons including the 3 non-Manipuri, all drunk, identified as Dipak Chakrabati son of Ram Chakrabati, Sanjoy Das son of Debendra Das, Deep Das, Rahul Kamei son of Ashu Kamai, Bahadur Palmei, and Wangkhem Orendro son of W. Shamu singh of Wathou Khongang Kokin, who hailed from Mahaballi Kabui Khul assaulted the 2 volunteers of SUK without giving any reason. He said some local people of the area took the two SUK members to JN hospital and later referred to Shija hospital as their condition

deteriorated. The six culprits were rounded up by the locals and handed over to Police, he added. All the 6 accused were produced to court on December 19. Jantakumar Khuman said that among the six persons the 3 non-Manipuri - Dipak Chakrabati, Sanjoy Das and Deep Das were released on bail and the three other locals were remanded till December 28. The president of SUK said that if no amicable solution is brought between the culprits and SUK within December 23 besides asking clarification from the police, the students' body will launch serious formed of agitation.

JAC appeals accused to surrender

ITNews

Imphal, Dec 21: JAC against the brutal murder of Md Hashmad Ali @ Babu today appealed the culprits behind the killing of the school teacher to surrender for bringing an amicable solution with the JAC.

Speaking to media persons at the Press Club, Haji Arafat Ali, spokesperson for the JAC, said that on 18 of this month, the prime accused to the murder case Md Abdul Helim and Md Barik came to Keirao area at around 1 pm and threaten the children of the area. "Threatening the Children is an insult to the people of the area and the two accused should surrender before December 26" he said.

MEEU threatens stirs for demanding pay hike for muster role and work charge employees

ITNews

Imphal, Dec 21: Manipur Electricity Employees' Union (MEEU) has threatened to launch serious form of agitation if the state government fails to increase the pay and allowances of the Muster Role and Work Charge Employees of the department by December 31. Speaking to media persons at Keishampat, Y. Ranapratap, working president of the

MEEU, said that the present pay and benefits provided to the muster role and work charge employees of the department is not suited with the present day. "They are not getting any allowance, medical or promotion benefit", he said. And added the salary skilled employees is Rs 3078, for semi skill the pay is Rs 3899 and for those unskilled the pay is Rs 3663 which is

against the directives of the State Labour Department. According to the directives of the State Labour department the salary should be not less than Rs. 8190, 7440 and 6780 for skilled, semi-skilled and non skilled labourers respectively. He said the union had submitted many memorandums to the state government, the last on December 7.

Albert Einstein and his theory of General Relativity brainstormed

ITNews

Imphal, Dec.21: A two day national seminar on Great physicist Albert Einstein's 100 years of General Relativity kick off at Department of Physics, Manipur University. Speaking to this reporter on the sideline of the program, Prof N Nimai, convener of the seminar informed that academicians

and scientists from various colleges and universities North East states and other states will be presenting papers. Prizes of painting and quiz competition for school and college students which was organised on last 19 December in commemoration with 100 years of the invention of theory of General Relativity

by great physicist Albert Einstein were distributed during the inauguration of the seminar. Prof HNK Sarma, VC, MU, Prof Sudhakar Panda, Director, IOP, Bhubaneswar, Prof Th J e k e n d r a, H O D (i / c) Department of Physics, MU graded as presidium members in the inaugural session.

DSSS tones campaign against toy guns ahead of Christmas in Ukhrul

R Lester Makang

Ukhrul, Dec 21: Taking aim at the growing toy gun market in Ukhrul district during this Christmas season, Diocesan Social Service Society (DSSS) Ukhrul has called for concerted efforts to dissuade parents from buying toy guns for their children through its sustained 'Anti-War Toy Campaign', saying the use of such toys help breed a culture of violence among the children. Talking to media persons during a press conference held at UDWJA Office today, TS Elvis peace activist of DSSS Ukhrul who leads the campaign, said that: "The campaign was launched in

Ukhrul district in 2014 by DSSS as a part of its peace education program to curb the menace of toy guns that promote violence and create negative impact on the child behaviour. "Ukhrul is one place where parents are indiscriminate in buying toy guns, pistols for their children, while they miserably fail to realize the danger that such toys pose to the psychological and behavioural disposition of their kids," he said. "Taking serious cognizance of the dangerous trend, DSSS has been campaigning at various levels of the community including the Churches, schools, colleges, SHGs among others," Elvis maintained adding that

through its intervention, the number of children buying or using toy guns in Ukhrul has been brought down by 30 percent from 50/60 percent since last year. "But of late, with the coming of Christmas this time, the toy gun market in the district has received a boost again," he lamented saying that creating adequate awareness among the public is vital in reversing the evil trend. Alternatively, a ban could be imposed by the local authorities to discourage buying or using of toy guns, Elvis felt, while urging all the frontal organisations of the district to extend cooperation to DSSS in its fight against the popularity of the destructive toy guns among the children.

Role of oral history in building communal harmony in Manipur

Oral history helps in building the history of a community or group of people. Oral history may comprise myths, legends and actual historical events. James H. Morrison, in the essay called 'Global Perspective of Oral History in Southeast Asia', wrote "all societies have a history and all history begins as oral." There are still today many groups of people who do not yet have a written history. However, these societies have their own oral histories. Oral history encompasses the accounts of the origin and historical materials related to their culture, community, lifestyle, etc., although it is difficult to ascertain the dates of the events. Even when there are written histories or chronicles, many accounts of history are found in the oral histories even though they are not mentioned in the chronicles. In many of the royal chronicles, like the ones in Manipur, only those of events are written down which have the assents of the kings and rulers, and thus lots of events are omitted. The wishes, sufferings, aspirations of the general population and other events that take place at the social levels are

mostly not included. Thus, some folklorists have coined the term "Palace Paradigm" for those kinds of histories that are written with the sanction of the rulers which are 'palace-centric.' Therefore, in order to get a fuller picture of the history of a land, one should study both the written chronicles along with the oral history available. Sometimes similarities are found between oral history and written history of a society; however, there could be conflict between the two also. The written history in the form of chronicles written with state sanction, tend to exclude or modify those accounts that could be damaging to the prestige of the king or the ruler. On the other hand, oral history is the first hand account of the events as they take place and they survive through the generations by word of mouth. Accounts of such events persist in the oral form in secret or in the open and later there could be conflict between the two versions of history. For example, there is one event connected to King Pamheiba which we know from oral history, but is not mentioned in the *Cheitharol*

Kumbaba or Ningthourol Lambuba. These two chronicles are written by sanction of the palace. It is said that King Pamheiba forcefully took a woman as his wife by killing her husband. This account represents Pamheiba as a dictatorial king who would do anything to get what he wants. However, *Cheitharol Kumbaba and Ningthourol Lambuba* do not make any mention of this event anywhere. This does not necessarily mean that oral accounts are not true. In fact there are lots of instances of the presence of accepted evidence and events that goes along with oral history that certainly makes it profoundly important to study it in order to get a bigger picture of the history of a society. With this fact in mind, the oral history of the different communities of Manipur is being studied to find out the similarities and trace commonness in the origin of these communities. If the population of Manipur is divided on the basis of the topography of the land, we can see that there are two types of populations - those living in the hills (*Chingme*) and those living in the plain (*Tamme*) in

Dr Chiron Rajkentan Singh
Asst. Prof., Manipuri Dept.,
Kha-Manipur College, Kakching

the middle of the state, also called the Imphal valley. There are evidences that the plain area was filled with water in the ancient times and the people lived only in the hills surrounding the valley as they were higher and dry. As the central area filled with water began to dry, some people from the surrounding hill region came down to stay in the dry valley. Although it is not known which group of people settled first in the valley, it is evident from the oral literature and the written chronicles and manuscripts that the general Meetei community, which is an amalgamation of seven clans, has stayed the longest in the valley. That the present Meetei community once lived in the hills around the Imphal valley can be known from the fact that many of the important places of sacred worships are located in the hills surrounding the valley and the story of legends related to these places of worship.

(Contd. on page 2)