

His Excellency Syed Muzem Ali, High Commissioner of Bangladesh in New Delhi calls on Chief Minister of Manipur



## NSCN-K killed

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** One NSCN-K cadre reportedly killed at Nungba Keithel after suspected rival group of NSCN-R fired upon them while they are enjoying at a vendor at Nungba Keithel. According to report the NSCN-K cadre has been identified as Alung, a resident of Nungba area. Report added that both the party were drunk at the time of the incident.

## Youth abducted

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** Three gunmen abducted a 19 years old youth from Sapermeima Keithel in Sardar Hills on the evening of November 17. According to report, the youth has been identified as Hemthanghlen Haokip, son of Paonoi Haokip of Sapermeima in Sardar Hills. The person was abducted from near his residence at around 7 pm of November 17.

## Kiren Rijju downplays P.B. Acharya's Hindustan is for Hindus remark

**ANI**  
**New Delhi, Nov. 23:** Downplaying Assam Governor P.B. Acharya's controversial 'Hindustan is for Hindus' remark, Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijju on Monday said the former did not use the word Hindu in a 'religious context'. "Hindus does not mean religion. What he has said is according to the (ancient) 'Sarvadhama Sambhav' concept," Rijju told media here. The Assam Governor had during a book launch on Saturday said that 'Hindustan is for Hindus' and that the name of a single Bangladeshi should not be in the updating of the National Register for Citizens (NRC). Acharya's comment came in reply to a question on the updating of the NRC list and on the controversy surrounding the Centre's notification of allowing religious minorities from Pakistan and Bangladesh fleeing persecution to seek shelter in India. "Hindustan is for Hindus. There is nothing wrong with that. Hindus from different countries can stay here. They cannot be outsiders. There is nothing to be feared about that. But how to accommodate them is a big question and we should think about that," he said.

## Helicopter crash kills seven near Katra

**Jammu, Nov 23:** Seven persons, including a woman pilot, were killed on Monday when a helicopter ferrying pilgrims to the Vaishno Devi temple crashed near Katra in Jammu and Kashmir, police said. The incident took place on Monday when the chopper was going to Sanjichhat from Katra. The helicopter caught fire soon after take off. The helicopter belonged to Himalayan Heli Service Company.

"Seven people—six pilgrims and the lady pilot—died in the crash. We are investigating the cause of the accident," Inspector General of Jammu Danish Rama said. Television footage showed charred wreckage strewn over a field as police kept back dozens of onlookers. The shrine devoted to Vaishnodevi, an incarnation of the three forms of Shakti, the goddess of power, is 60 kilometers (35 miles)

northeast of the region's main city of Jammu. Some pilgrims take private helicopters to and from Katra in the Trikuta mountains rather than travelling by road. In February a military helicopter crashed north of Srinagar, the main city in Jammu and Kashmir state, killing both pilots. Helicopter services start from Katra on the foothills and the flight drop the pilgrims at Sanjichhat. (Courtesy:TNN)

## AMWJU not happy with Sangai Festival Security arrangement

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 24:** Reporters who had visited the Sangai festival for news coverage had been reportedly harassed by the security personnel deployed at the festival site by not allowing them to pass the short cut route to the event sites. The matter has been seriously taken by the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union (AMWJU) and said that the

matter will be put up to the notice of the Chief Minister. During a press meet held today at Manipur Press Club, President of AMWJU Wangkhemcha Shyamjai said that if the matter is not sorted out then the AMWJU may go to the extend of boycotting the Sangai Festival. He said that when the Journalists are having identity cards issued by the Directorate of

Information of Public Relation after thorough verification by CID and other security force, why there is a need for issuing of another card for the Sangai festival. The President also expressed dissatisfaction for not consulting the AMWJU, which is the only body of the Journalists' fraternity in Imphal for media management work.

## Your Choice is now peoples' choice in Sangai Festival

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** Premium Stall No. 15 called "Your Choice" in the ongoing Sangai festival is now the peoples' choice. Reason, the stall deals with package indigenous food items. Both domestic tourists as well as the locals visiting the Manipur's biggest extravaganza did not come out of the stall without buying at least a single item from the stall. Proprietor of the stall Thoidingjam Baleshwar, said that people are happy to find the rare indigenous food item in package form. He said around 30 plus food items, all indigenous are available in his stall. Mustard Oil of Kakching is also an impressive item of this stall. The high quality oil manufactures at Kakching area are available at Rs 140 per Kg, much cheaper than the Engine oil or Dhara oil. "So far around 400 bottles



containing 1 litre of Kaching Mustard oil has been sold on the second day of the festival. Other items in demand are dry Ngamu Leirou, Ngari, Soibum, Sougri, Soidon, Bamol Leikai Bori etc. One advantage of Your Choice variety is that all the items can be stored for at least one or two months. That means people living outside the state or country can also now enjoy food habit of their motherland. Dr. RK Nimai, consultant to the government of Manipur, while inaugurating the stall on the day Sangai Festival

was kicked off stated that the effort of Thoidingjam Baleshwar will now popularize the already popular food items of the state among the tourist. Th. Baleshwar proprietor of the 'Your Choice' stall said that his mission is to help the farmers who produced the food variety of the state. Often the farmers of the state are discourage as there is complete lack of market area. "I will market all the indigenous products of the state so that all farmers get their share of profit Baleshwar added.

## Re-poll peaceful at Thongju AC; over 80% turn out



**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** Over 80% voters exercised their franchise at the re-poll held today at the 5/25 polling station at Singjamei Kshetraleikai Primary School. The re-poll is held after the EVM machine experienced technical error

on November 21 by-election voting day. The polling station has a total voter 967 voters. The re-poll begins from 8 am today morning and at around 3 pm around 800 voters had exercised their franchise. Both the candidates Bijoij Koijam of Congress and Th.

Bishwajit of BJP visited the polling station and stayed at their polling camp till the filing this news report. No unwanted incident happen. Eyewitness said that some of the Congress MLAs also visited the polling station. Counting of the vote will be held tomorrow.

## 'We will continue arm struggle to restore sovereignty'

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** United National Liberation Front, (UNLF) had stated that the

organization will continue arm struggle to restore sovereignty of Manipur. In a lengthy 8 page press statement release by the Central Committee of the organization in connection with its 51 foundation day to be observed tomorrow, UNLF said it will continue to work together with the likeminded armed organizations of Manipur and Western South-East Asia (WESIA). The organization also reiterated its stand to make clear about the principle of the revolutionary movement of the region. The lengthy press statement also elaborated in depth

about the present trend of revolutionary movement in the state. Talking about the ideology of the UNLF, the central committee statement said that UNLF believe in human freedom where there is no suppression of any ethnic community and where a nation respect the freedom of another nation. It also elaborated on how the erstwhile kingdom has been occupy by India. It said that the India government is carrying out the racial assimilation to the people of the state. Details of the press statement will be produced in Imphal Times tomorrow issue.

## Problem settle after representatives of YAS meet the TSA and MBC students

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 23:** Representatives of the Thadou Students' Association (TSA), MBC and the 4 students who were allegedly harassed by group of sportsperson at Khuman Lampak main stadium area some days back today meet the Deputy Director of YAS, representatives of Coaches Association and the 8 aggressors who were arrested by the police at MBC Church, Chingmeirong and shorted out the misunderstanding. Following the talk both side had agreed to withdraw the complaint lodge to the police regarding the incident.

## 'Nehru, children and science' to be held in Imphal tomorrow

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov. 23:** With the initiative of *The Nehruvian*, an event called 'Nehru, children and science' will be held in S.V. Gatewell School, Haotal, Pangei in Imphal, Manipur. The event, organised by S. V. Gatewell School, Haotal, Pangei, will be held in the school on 24th November, 2015, Tuesday at 2 pm. The event will highlight the relationship of the first Prime Minister of India Jawaharlal Nehru with

children and science. It will be followed by an interactive session with the Founder, Ningombam Bupenda Meitei, of *The Nehruvian*. The event is said to be graced by Dr. Th. Meinya, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha and Professor N. Rajmohan Singh of Department of Chemistry, Manipur University. N. Dinamani Singh, the principal of the school will also be a dignitary in the event.

## A Manipuri farmer's passionate desire to preserve traditional rice varieties

**ANI**  
**Imphal, Nov.23:** When farmers across India are struggling with weather woes and poor yields, there is one of their ilk in Manipur who has succeeded in adopting smart and eco-friendly methods of farming to ensure a satisfactory harvest every year. Sixty-year-old Devakanta Potshangbam, a progressive farmer residing in Uyumpok Mamang Leikai in Manipur's Imphal East District, is passionate about conserving a wide variety of rice at his organic farm, including the cancer-curing black rice, called 'Chakhgao Poiraiton' and some drought-resistant varieties. He has so far succeeded in persevering 100 traditional varieties of paddy and is cultivating 25 varieties of rice in his lush green farm. He has travelled across Manipur to collect different types of rice - from drought-resistant white rice (which needs less

water), brown rice and black rice. Manipur is famous for black rice, which has several medical properties as well. He said, "I would like to motivate some of the farmers to conserve and preserve the traditional varieties. When there is draught like situation we have got varieties of rice. I appeal the state government of Manipur, as well as the federal, to help the state because we have got rich natural resources, especially in the field of medicinal plants. If the government will help the forest department and other departments, I think our state will be richest state in the world. We are growing medicinal plants. We are trying to promote herbal garden. We need a help from the government to conserve traditional varieties for the future of human race." Devakanta won the prestigious 'Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Reward' in 2012. He is currently working with about 200 farmers to increase the cultivation of black rice in their

farms. Many farmers know that he has an organic farm and they come to him to buy different varieties of rice. However, if he gets the organic certification, he can package the rice better and sell it for a higher price. His wife, Nonthombam Renubala Devi, said, "My husband always think to do something good for the people even my in-laws they did the same. In fact we sacrifice ourselves and doing this work. We didn't ask any financial help from other but we sold our own property and doing this work for the sake of our people." Devakanta also cultivates one of the hottest varieties of chilly called 'U-Morok. Although it is cultivated in Assam and Nagaland, the Manipuri chilly is considered to be better. He runs an NGO called 'All Manipur Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Growers' Consortium' to promote organic farming and medicinal plants in the state.