

Supporters of Sovakiran staging protest demanding his released



## MPP supporters protest arrest of N Sovakiran

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 5:** Supporters of N. Sovakiran, who is also the president of Manipur Peoples' Party (MPP) today staged a protest demonstration decrying the detention of Sovakiran by Thoubal district police. Sovakiran who is also an intending candidate at Heirok Assembly constituency was arrested after workers of another intending candidate lodged a complaint against him for physical assault of the later's worker as well as vandalizing of four vehicles at Ukhongsang Mamang Leikai in Heirok Assembly constituency yesterday. After Sovakiran was picked up from his residence, the Thoubal police produced him before the CJM Thoubal and remanded in police custody for four days. Complaints were also made against the MPP president for ordering his security escort to open fire at the residence of the BJP workers. Following that security escort allotted to him has also been withdrawn. Protesting the arrest of Sovakiran large number of people today staged a protest demonstration demanding release of the MPP president at Ukhongsang Mamang Leikai lampa. Placards decrying use of guns during election campaign, gundaism

## RIMS will remain open from Jan 8 to 10

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 5:** A statement of the Medical Superintendent, RIMS, Dr. M. Amuba Singh has stated that RIMS Hospital and Dental College will remain open from Jan 8 to Jan 10 which is general holiday, in the interest of the general public. The statement appealed the Authority of RIMS Hospital, Imphal, and all concerned to attend their duties on the following day to assure the hospital function normally.

were displayed during the protest. The protestors also demanded immediate release of the MPP president. The protestors said that there has been already ban on organizing grand feast relating to election campaign at Ukhongsang area and the decision should be complied by all candidates. They alleged workers of BJP's intending candidate Th. Radeshyam for violating the resolution of the people of the area.

## Professor Gangmumei Kamei passes away

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 5:**

Prof. Gangmumei Kamei passes away today at his residence at Majorkhul, here in Imphal. He is a member of the Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR) by the HRD Ministry, Govt. of India and as member of the Regional Planning Body, the North Eastern Council (NEC) under the aegis of the DoNER Ministry. He was 76 years old. He was the founder President of the Federal Party of Manipur which was formed in the year 1993. He was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in the year 1995 and again in 2001

Manipur Assembly. He was the minister for Forest, Environment and Higher Education and had held important portfolios in the then Manipur Govt. led by W. Nipamcha Singh in 1998 and 2001. Prof. Gangmumei Kamei joined the BJP in 2012 and contested the outer Manipur Lok Sabha Constituency. His joining of the National Party have boosted the presence of BJP whose presence in the hill districts have been next to nil except in the Ukhrul District which sent up its only MLA from the hills. However, he was



not successful in the said election. His vast knowledge and experience of more than 40 years in the fields of Academia, social activism and politics seems to have impressed the ruling BJP to utilize him for policy formulation.

## Eight opposition parties demand postponement of Budget presentation to March 8

**New Delhi, Jan. 5:** Eight opposition parties including Congress, JD(U), and TMC today met the Election Commission and demanded that the budget should be presented after 8th of March which is the last day of voting in states going to polls. Talking to media in New Delhi, senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad said, budget carries populist measures, therefore free and fair elections cannot be

ensured if the budget is presented on the proposed date. Mr Azad said that opposition parties told the Election Commission that Budget can be used by BJP to influence voters in poll-bound states. Earlier, opposition parties had written to President Pranab Mukherjee to postpone the presentation of budget on 1st of February claiming that it will influence the assembly polls in five states including Uttar Pradesh.

## BJP condoles the sudden demise of Prof Gangmumei Kamei

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan. 5:** It is great sadness that we the Bharatiya Janata Party community have learned of the passing of Professor Gangmumei Kamei today at his Major Khun residence, Imphal today morning. I, On behalf of BJP, Manipur Pradesh, sharing our deepest condolences to Prof. Gangmumei Kamei's family at this difficult time. The whole BJP family mourns with you and celebrates the extraordinary life of our beloved leader, academician and historian, who devoted his entire life to peaceful co-existence of the ethnic groups of Manipur. Apart from his social and academic contributions, Prof. Gangmumei was elected as a Member of the Legislative Assembly in the year 1995 and again in 2001. He was the

minister for Forest, Environment and Higher Education and has held important portfolios in the then Manipur Govt. led by Shri Nipamcha Singh in 1998 and 2001. Prof. Gangmumei Kamei joined the BJP in 2012 and contested the outer Manipur Lok Sabha Constituency. His joining of the National Party has boosted the presence of BJP in hill areas of the state. The vast knowledge and experience of more than 40 years in the fields of Academia, social activism and politics was a real asset to BJP, Manipur Pradesh and source of inspiration to many. The work of Prof. Gangmumei stands as a testament to the field of education, politics, and communal harmony. His tireless efforts in bringing communal harmony and vast knowledge in different fields

earned him two very important and prestigious assignments, namely, as member of the Indian Council for Historical Research (ICHR) by the HRD Ministry, Govt. of India and as Member of the Regional Planning Body, the North Eastern Council (NEC) under the aegis of the DoNER Ministry. His legacy will stand as an example to all of us to persist in our pursuit of progress. Passing of Prof. Gangmumei is a huge loss for the people of Manipur and would create an unrepairable lost to the society. BJP Manipur Pradesh Weavers' Shell also condole the demise of Prof. Gangmumei Kamei. In a press communique, the Weavers' Shell Convenor said that loss of Gangmumei is not only lost for the BJP but also for the people of Manipur.

## Liquors seized; drive intensified

**IT news**  
**Imphal, Jan 5:** A day after Chief Electoral Officer, Manipur has enforced model code of conduct to ensure free and fair poll to the upcoming 11<sup>th</sup> Manipur Legislative Assembly scheduled to hold on March 4 and March 8, police department had intensified its drive against selling and transportation of both Indian made foreign liquor and local brews. A specific drive carried out under the supervision of OC Ingocha of Singjamei police station around local brew being transported for sales had been siege from various persons. Sugnu police and other police forced had also conducted rive against liquor at various places. Meanwhile Yangangpokpi Lamjing Nup Lup, a civil body , also seized large quantity of



local brew and foreign liquors today morning.

All the seized liquors were destroyed in public.

## Three held with unaccounted cash of Rs 43 lakh

**PTI**  
**Jaipur, Jan 5:** Three persons were arrested with unaccounted cash of Rs 43.10 lakh in new and old notes, police said today. The accused have been identified as Dauram Jat, Peeraram Jat and Bhagchand Jat. The unaccounted cash was found in their vehicle yesterday, SHO Panchaudi

police station, Kesar Singh told PTI. "Out of the total cash, Rs 31 lakh is in new Rs 2000 denomination and Rs 2 lakh in new Rs 500 denomination," Singh said. "Rest of the amount is in 100 and 50 rupee notes. "We have seized the currency as the trio could not give satisfactory answer during

questioning, he said. The accused were arrested and produced in a local court where they were granted bail, he said. The matter has been handed over to the Income Tax department for further investigation, Singh said.

## MGP withdraws support to BJP-led Goa govt

**Panaji, Jan. 5:** The Maharashtrawadi Gomantak Party (MGP) today withdrew its support to the BJP-led state government, after two of its ministers were sacked from the Goa cabinet recently owing to serious differences between the alliance partners. MGP President Dipak Dhavalikar, in a letter to Goa Governor Mridula Sinha, informed that all his three MLAs have withdrawn support to the Laxmikant Parsekar government.

With this the number of MLAs supporting the BJP-led dispensation has come down to 23 which comprises 21 legislators from BJP and two independents. "I beg to place before you the fact that our party had signed a pre-poll alliance with BJP for Goa Assembly 2012 elections and the party accordingly had adopted a resolution to that effect," Dhavalikar said in the letter. "As per election results, the BJP-MGP government took

over the charge of administration and we continued our co-operation in spite of differences on various issues, which recently led to the ouster of MGP MLAs from the cabinet," he said. Now that upon declaration of 2017 assembly elections by the Election Commission of India, the central committee of MGP—which had decided not to continue with BJP—now confirms its decision to break the alliance with BJP from immediate effect, he said.

## BJP welcomes poll schedule, optimistic to form government

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 5:** Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Manipur Pradesh has welcomed the announcement of schedule for the General Elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Manipur today by Election Commission of India. Speaking to Imphal Times, Vice-president of BJP, Manipur Pradesh, Moirangthem Asnikumar Singh said that Manipur is now passing through a very critical state-economically, socially and politically. "The state is now experiencing a deepening divide along

ethnic lines. This is both non-historical and against the shared ethos of the heterogeneous population. Politically the disconnection between the government and the people of the state has been a bane for the society, polity and economy of Manipur", said the VP of Pradesh BJP. The continuous decade and a half rule of the Indian National Congress in the state has been the unmixed bane of the people of Manipur. The blatant corruption in governing the state as exemplified by misdeeds under NREGA,

NFSA, irrigation projects, police recruitment, uncontrolled fake encounters, creating a chasm between government and uninformed forces on one hand and the public on the other. He also said that the BJP, with its landmark pro-development works and rendering a transparent as well as responsible Government in the Center, and exemplary work in other BJP-ruled states of the country, the party is ready to start a new chapter of politics in Manipur by bringing a responsible BJP-government after the election.

**New Delhi, Jan. 5:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi had strong words of praise for Bihar chief minister Nitish Kumar for the latter's 'courageous' move to impose prohibition on alcohol in the state. "I want to appreciate Nitish Kumar for the effort he has undertaken to save future generations from alcoholism," said PM Modi as he shared stage with the Bihar CM at Prakash Parv, the 350th birth anniversary celebrations of Guru Gobind Singh, the 10th Sikh guru. He was speaking at the Gandhi Maidan in Patna. Punjab Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal, Union Ministers Ravi Shankar Prasad and Ram Vilas Paswan were also present

at the event. The prime minister said Kumar took the bold step of prohibition despite its huge ramifications for the state's economy. "This is not just the duty of Nitish Kumar ji or a political party. Every person should join in and make it a success for the development of the state," said PM Modi. The Bihar CM had brought in the prohibition law in April, 2016 as was promised during his election campaign in October, 2015. The law stipulates severe penalties if a person is found in possession of alcohol in the state. Kumar called the policy 'transformational' and vowed

that it would not be symbolic or partial like other states. The PM's remarks come at a time when the Bihar CM lauded the Centre's demonetisation move even as his party, JD-U, criticised it in Parliament. His alliance partner Lalu Prasad-led RJD also did not toe a similar line. Nitish said the move to withdraw high-value currencies would help in cutting down corruption and flush out black money. He also demanded a strong legislation to track benami property transactions. Ever since the JDU-RJD-Congress government came to power after their resounding win in October, 2015 elections, fractures have developed in the relationship of the alliance.

The PM, during his address at Gandhi Maidan, also paid rich tributes to Guru Gobind Singh and called him an 'epitome of sacrifice.' "Guru Gobind Singh Ji is an epitome of sacrifice, he did so for humanity. The world must know he has inspired so many people," said the PM as he talked about how the Sikh guru fought "against social evils to tie the society with thread of unity." The prime minister also expressed the desire to implement the same principles in country. "The government has made a committee to celebrate Prakash Parv across the country and beyond," he said.

## PM Modi returns demonetisation compliment, praises Nitish for prohibition