

Asha workers protest on the launching day of CMHT; Health dept. incompetency to tackle such prog. prompted the protest, says eye witness

IT News

Imphal, Jan 21: Minutes after Chief Minister N Biren Singh left Khuman Lampak Indoor Stadium here in Imphal after launching his government's dream project "Chief Minister gi Hakshelgi Tengbang (CMHT)", large number of ASHA workers protest decrying govt. over failure to recognize them in front of the Indoor stadium.

The government's pioneer schemes fail to reach the heart of Asha workers but for different reason.

"Chief Minister gi Hakshelgi Tengbang", a pioneer health scheme for providing financial assistance to the poor and needy was launched with great enthusiasm today. When the launching function was yet to conclude, some Asha workers were seen approaching the platform where the Chief Minister and other dignitaries were sitting. At the time when Health Director Rajo was delivering his vote of thanks to Asha workers went up to the dais and submitted a paper which later turned out to be a



memorandum.

The Asha workers were expecting some special announcement from the Chief Minister in recognition to their service. As no words came out, the Asha workers gathered and demonstrate the protest.

Speaking to this reporter, President of ASHA workers' body Thoibi said that on January 17, the ASHA workers along with Anganwadi workers and the Mid Day Meal cooks' body

submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister demanding equal treatment of workers in the category in par with other states. Thoibi further said that the ASHA today submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister demanding increment of pay in par with other states i.e. Rs 600 per day plus clearance of the due incentives. At present the Asha workers are paid sum of Rs. 1000 per month, said Thoibi.

As per field report, there was a protest from the Asha workers but what prompted the workers from demonstrating the protest is a different story. It was a fact that the Chief Minister and the Health Minister failed to mention anything in recognition to the service of the Asha where maximum audience was organized from among this group by the state health Directorate. The memorandum submitted to the chief minister by Asha

workers was after the chief minister delivered his speech and the Chief Minister did not have adequate time to go through the contents of the memorandum. After the Chief Minister and other dignitaries left Khuman Lampak the Asha were kept without any snacks. "They said they will serve lunch for us and we are not getting anything to eat at this late hour", said an Asha workers. She added that the snacks could have been distributed by us as our volunteers are more but they ignored our presence. We are not commodities which they can use anytime anywhere, the irate Asha worker Bina said. Hunger and frustration led the Asha workers pour out their anger which finally prompted them to burnt clothes which were meant for distribution to them.

The ugly scene could have been prevented had the State Health Directorate authority organized the launching ceremony of the Chief Minister gi hakshel tengbang in a proper and without any discrimination.

Manipur observes 47th Statehood Day

CM serious on blast near M-sector, says will constitute high level inquiry

IT News

Imphal, Jan 21: State government today celebrated 47th Statehood Day at 1st MR ground here in Imphal. 59 march past contingents from state police, CRPF, Home Guards, Schools and Higher secondary performed march past. Th. Bikram Singh MPS was period commander of the mass past.

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh speaking on the occasion said that the people have reason to celebrate such a auspicious moment. He said that even though Manipur attained statehood much years later after its mergers to the Indian Union, the government of India is working all possible ways to make the state developed.

When highlighting the developmental works being taken up by the BJP government under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that the recent blast near M-Sector near Raj Bhavan in the heart of Imphal is a serious threat to government. He said that some people are jealous of the government may be trying to malign the good

image of the government. "We will constitute a high level inquiry into the matter and will punish all those involved in such inhuman act which injured a n innocent lady", Chief Minister said. N. Biren Singh further said that the north-eastern hilly state was lagging behind other states in terms of development.

He said as a result of the state being a Union Territory and class "C" for a long time, it remained under developed. He said that his government which came to power last year on March 15 has made considerable headway in stamping out corruption. The government has suspended several officials for corrupt practices.

While urging those who protest and impose blockades to hold talks with the government before taking such steps, the Chief Minister said that any problem can be solved at the negotiating table.

He also said that his government welcomes "constructive criticism" and the state has been trying to involve the people in all developmental work.

Security measures beefed up ahead of Republic Day celebration

IT News

Imphal, Jan 21: Security measures have been beefed up in all part of the state to ensure crime free Manipur ahead of the Republic Day celebration on January 26. At Bishnupur district, the state force conducted search operation at various places since the last couple of days under the supervision of Bishnupur district SP Jogeschandra. From 5.30 am to 7 am today morning a team of Bishnupur police led by SDPO Binoy Chongtham conducted search operation at Bishnupur ward no. 7. Around 150 people were picked up for verification at Bishnupur police station.

At around 6 am another team of the Bishnupur police under the supervision of the district SP conducted house to house search operation at Nongmaikhong area. The search operation lasted till 7.30 am. No arrest was made in the operation.

In Imphal East too, state force have beefed up security measure to ensure no disturbance from any anti social elements in the Republic Day Celebration. District police under the supervision of Imphal East police conducted search operation at Mahabali area from 5.30 am to 7 am. Around 500 persons were verified among them 10 persons who failed to provide valid identity proof documents were handed over to Porompat Police Station for further verification.

1 minor killed, 4 others injured in grenade blasts

IT News

Imphal Jan 21: One minor boy was killed while 4 of his friend sustained serious injury after a grenade which they presume as toy blasted. The incident happened at Sabunglong leisok Village under Khoupum Police Station in Noney district at around 9.30 am. The deceased minor boy is identified as Shahatngam Kamei (9 years old) son of (L) Ringlungpou of Subunglong Part-1. The four other minors who were injured in the blast are identified as Gaillianshui Gonmei (5 years old) son of Kakinthai, Zaojiantuliu Kamei (2 years old), daughter of Gaijaini Kamei, Silas Kamei

(5 years), son of Khuaithoalung Kamei and Guillianie Kamei (4 years old), daughter of Gairihpou Kamei of Subunglong Part-1 village in Noney district. All the injured have been evacuated to RIMS hospital. However, the injured minor boy were still yet to admit at RIMS at the time pf filing this story (3.30 pm).

Report said that the five minor children who were playing accidentally picked up an object thinking it as a toy and started playing. As the toy which was found from the ground turned out to be a grenade blasted killing the 9 years old minor at the spot.

NPP inaugurates new office

IT News

Imphal Jan 21: National People Party (NPP) Manipur, a partner of the BJP led government in the state today inaugurated its new office building at Sangaiprou here in Imphal West.

Dy. Chief Minister of Manipur Y Joykumar, President of the NPP Manipur Thangminlen Kipgen, health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jyentakumar, Minister for tribal Affairs and Hills N Kaisii, Sports Minister Letpao Haokip and other leaders of the NPP Manipur attended the inaugural function of the new party office.

Speaking on the occasion, President of NPP Manipur Thangminlen Kipgen said that NPP is raising day after another particularly in the North Eastern states of India.

He said that more number of NPP legislators will be seen in Nagaland and Meghalaya after the upcoming legislative assembly election of each state. He assured that the NPP will form government in Meghalaya in the upcoming Meghalaya Legislative Assembly. The party leaders from Manipur will start campaigning for the party at both the states from February 2, Thangminlen said. Organisation Secretary of NPP Manipur Chungkham Bijay said that NPP was founded by late politician of the state popularly known as Tera Laimu at Patsoi Assembly constituency. He said that with the blessing of the people the party now could form government in the state and will form government at other states of North Eastern India.

CMHT, 10 Ambulance launched today

IT News

Imphal Jan 21: Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today launched the dream scheme of his government "Chief Minister Gi Hakshel Tengbang" at Indoor Stadium Khuman Lampak.

Health Minister L. Jayentakumar, MAH UD Minister Th Shyamkumar, CAF & PD Minister Karam Shyam, Tribal Affairs Minister Kaisii, Chief Secretary RR Rashmi and other top officials of the state Health department attended the launching programme of the state

government pioneer project for providing financial assistance to the poor and needy for treatment. The scheme aims to cover all people living below the poverty line.

Earlier, before the launching of the CMHT scheme, the Chief Minister along with Deputy Chief Minister Y Joykumar, Health Minister L. Jayentakumar launched 10 ambulance which is fitted with life saving materials.

The ambulance were handed over to the CMOs of 10 districts by the Chief Minister.

Minister Karam Shyam flags off cycle rally on Cycle Day under Saksham 2018 Cycle for a better economy, environment and health: K Shyam

DIPR

Imphal, Jan. 21: Just as Saksham 2018 one-month Campaign kicked off at Imphal by Hon'ble Governor Dr. Najma A Heptulla on the 16th of this month under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Cycle Day was held today at PCTC, Khoyathong, Imphal in the same manner the event is celebrated at different cities across the country.

The event was organised with the main focus to conserve petroleum products, save fuel and its sustainable use in future.

A joint initiative of the Public

Sector Oil and Gas Companies of the State with the Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA), a cycle rally was flagged today as part of the Cycle Day by CAF, PD & Revenue Minister, Karam Shyam.

Speaking at the occasion, the Minister said that the underlying idea behind organising the Cycle Day is to spread awareness amongst the masses about the benefits of cycling and the urgent need to conserve oil and other petroleum products and make them last longer as they are exhaustible natural resources.

He strongly supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to the citizens of India to ride cycle at least once a week to fulfil the set objective of Saksham 2018. "Cyclotron was recently launched at Manipur on the 26th November, 2017 under the same initiative", he said.

"During our college days, we used to ride even 13 kms by cycle irrespective of variations in the economic status of our families, whether rich or poor. Nowadays, the youths who are commuting by car even without having their own resources or income and financially dependent on their

parents should feel ashamed off", he retorted.

"It is indeed humiliating to hear some educated circle of Manipur interpreting my cycle ride to office once a week in a negative sense for gaining popularity apart from causing traffic jam and other illogical reasons. I want to clarify that I am supporting PM Modi's vision for a pollution-free environment and better economy & health that Cycling will bring", he rubbished false comments.

Focusing on the role of the youths towards building a better society and bringing the expected changes, he said

that cycling is a win-win situation that will promote economy apart from a cleaner environment & better health. He drew the attention of the youths to not give in to drug habits as Manipur shares international trade borders with other countries.

Minister Karam Shyam also handed over a cash prize of Rs. 6000 to Paracyclist Rakesh from Assam for his remarkable courage and noble endeavour of riding cycle from Bangkok to Imphal despite his right legs being amputated due to an accident. He started his venture on the 24th December of last year with the theme

"Save Rhinos".

The Green Revolution Cyclist team, Manipur saw him off to Sekmai after giving him a warm welcome yesterday.

The Minister along with the Green Revolution Cyclist team and other concerned personnels participated in the cycle rally from PCTC, Khoyathong to CRPF 69 Main Gate, Mantripukhri via Khongnang Ani Karak and back to the starting point.

During the event, Sanrakshan Kshamta Mahotsav pledge was administered along with a signature wall campaign by the dignitaries and the cyclists.