



Launching of trial run service of JnNURM semi low floor buses to ferry visitors of Sangai festival

Historic Langthabal Palace turned as dumping site

By Reena Nongmaithem
Imphal, Nov. 15: The Historic Langthabal Palace which was listed under Manipur Ancient & Historical Monument and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1976 and Rules 1979 by the Government of Manipur on 9 September 1981 does not seem like a protected area, instead it has become a vast dumping ground.

The whole Imphal city is on full swing in preparation for Sangai Festival which is scheduled to begin from Nov. 21, with the luxurious decorations, rejuvenating of Kangla Pat (Lake), constructing Sanjen Thong (Bridge), and arranging whatever the State can do to attract as much foreign and domestic tourist as they can. Very unluckily this reporter today witnessed the Memorial site of Maharaj

Ghambir Singh at Langthabal situated at Manipur University campus seems to be completely neglected by concern department and authorities. The site which was once to be the Royal Palace during the reign of Maharaj Ghambir Singh, the then Maharaja (King) of Manipur and which was announced as Maharaj Ghambir Singh Complex some years back by the Government of Manipur is now covered with full of disposed garbage which was left over by some uncivilized picnickers inside the complex. The Memorial House (Meetei Yumjao) symbolising shrine of the king has not been well maintained as no repairing has taken place. The condition of the wooden made sustainable bridge built over the Chandranadi



River, the only entrance to the site is in danger to cross as the wooden bridge may break anytime.

of effective protection of the site remains as mere a dream.

The complex which supposed to be well maintained having high potential to draw tourists has now filled with bushes. It may be mentioned that many a times the issue of continuous negligence of the historic Langthabal Palace by State Government and concern Department had been raised by certain organizations. But still no sign

Battle royale to be fought in Imphal

Boiyama Laithangbam

Imphal Nov. 15: By any standard the two by-elections in Imphal are politically insignificant and the tail will never wag the dog. What happens in a tiny state like Manipur is of no political importance to the country. However the battle royale will be fought on November 21. The political significance gathers national importance since it will be the den fining moment on the entry of the BJP in the state politics and sounding the

death knell for the Congress which has been dominating Manipur with almost politicians being hamstrung by the powerful chief minister for the last 14 years or so. The leaders of the two national parties which will have a straight neck and neck fight are leaving no stone unturned to woo the voters. The lone candidate who is on a fishing expedition in both the constituencies is regarded as a mere stalking horse and he cannot be the tipping point. The only main issue in these by-elections is the territorial integrity of Manipur and both the parties are trying to convince the voters that while the opponent is out to disintegrate Manipur their party has been championing the cause of the territorial integrity. But then happenings which had threatened to affect Manipur's ancient territory are too recent to be forgotten by the people. The national happenings have little impact in the NE region and it

remains to be seen whether the Bihar debacle will adversely affect the by-elections. As Gaikhangam said that as the mountains are very high the Modi froth cannot make a landfill. He must accept the fact that at the same time the Bihar happenings cannot have an immediate impact now in Manipur. Though millions of rupees, liquor and other items were seized in Bihar there was no report of distributing Rs 5000 each to the voters shortly before the castings of votes. The news reports in the local media on this shame at Hiyanglam have not been contradicted. Since the stakes high this time there may be windfalls for most of the voters. But then politics has been a big business in Manipur. A candidate buys vote and when he becomes the minister he will demand something for the services to be rendered. The national political leaders will eye the two constituencies since the outcome will be the political barometer.

General Strike Called

IT News

Imphal, Nov 15: General strike of 48 hours starting from the morning 5am of November 16 till the morning 5am of November 17 has been called by Joint Action Committee against the brutal killing of Md Hasmad Ali @ Oja Babu of Keirao Makting Awang. JAC took the decision during a public meeting held at Keirao

Makting Youth Club today morning as the state government as failed to fulfilled their demands to nab the culprit responsible in killing Md Hasmad Ali @ Oja Babu despite the memorandum which they have submitted to CM, CYCM and SP Imphal East on November 3, 2015. JAC urged for support from different civil societies of the state, organizations, clubs and meira paibis.

MUSU threatens to boycott Inter-College MU Youth festival

IT News

Imphal, Nov 15: Manipur University Students' Union (MUSU) has threatened to boycott the upcoming Inter College Manipur University Youth festival scheduled to held from November 18 till November 20 if the Manipur University authority fails to amend the status of the MUSU in the Manipur University Act, 2015. During a press meet held at the office of the MUSU, Sarangthem David Singh, President, MUSU said that at present the MUSU is stated as students' Council in the Act and accordingly the VC can abolish the council any time at his will. The student's Union has been demanding amendment of the term Students' Council to Student Union as done at other University like the Delhi University, JN University, Banaras Hindu University, NEHU etc.

JnNURM semi low floor buses: Sangai Festival 2015

IT News

Imphal, Nov 15: A trial run service of JnNURM semi low floor buses to ferry visitors of Sangai festival was conducted today. The buses were launched from MSRTC, complex Moirangkhom Imphal.

Speaking to the media persons at the launching of the trial run service, Moirangthem Lakshmi Kumar, Secretary Transport said that the JnNURM semi low floor bus will be available to the passengers like every year, who are visiting the Sangai Festival. The low floor buses will run through different routes and under the basis of no lost no profit. The service is mainly for the Sangai festival visitors and commuters, he added. The bus service will cover widely at the Greater Imphal area. According to the transport department authority, Route 3 and Route 6 of Imphal East and Imphal West will be used for the purpose at the rate of Rs 10 per passenger for round trip.



Time and route scheduled for the service will be announced through electronic and print media on regular basis. 11 buses service will be provided and if possible more buses would be used based on the response of the number of passengers, he added. Moirangthem Lakshmi Kumar also said that apart from using the low floor bus only at the Sangai Festival, they have run the service for some sort period as the buses were provided to the Transport Department through the JnNURM Program which is under the Urban Ministry but the service has been stop

due to some inconvenience, lack of support and financial matter. He further said the State Government has taken a decision through Cabinet that after the end of Sangai Festival the concern Government have plan provide the service of JnNURM semi low floor buses to Schools and Government Department according to their needs where for public may not be available as they have already faced some inconvenience in the past but they are planning to provide to the public in the near future.

SEACO appeals to safeguard Meitei civilization's archival materials

IT News

Imphal, Nov. 15: South East Asia Cultural Organisation (SEACO) has appealed the people of the state particularly those in the concern government department to strictly safe guard the archival materials of ancient Meitei civilizations. In a press statement the organization said that it would extend all possible assistant to all

those individuals who are opening private museums for preserving the archival materials of the Meitei civilization found before the advent of alien religion in the nation. SEACO further said that those implementing earth works at the Southern side of Kangla fort under the state PWD should be careful as historical related materials could have been found as it

happened while doing the earth work at Western side. It said the concern department should carefully preserved the 20,000 years old pot found from the Kangla fort some few years back. Every fossils or ancient materials found during the ongoing works for beautification of Kangla fort should be strictly preserved, the SEACO statement warned.

KCP Porei Lup calls general strike on Nov. 21

IT News

Imphal, Nov 15: A day after an armed group of the region has lifted ban on Sangai Festival scheduled to begin from November 21, another armed group KCP Porei Meitei Lup has called general strike from the midnight of November 20 to November 21 midnight against the Tourism Department failure to display the list of works being implemented for Sangai Tourism festival. A press statement issued by one

Malemnganba Meitei Publicity Secretary of the outfit stated that curfew is also imposed in and around State Tourism department and demanded immediate clarification from the top officials of the department regarding the misappropriation of fund by them in name of implementing developmental works. The armed group alleged the authority of the tourism department of trying the maligned the image of the

state to the people of the world. The party also warned the employees of the department who violated the curfew. The statement further stated that during the general strike media, electricity, water supply and religious related activities will be relaxed. The party also warned stern action against organizing any festival or ceremony during the Sangai festival saying that those performing should be responsible for organizing such festival.

Pfürhitsu remark 'I am a Man' put C Rajagopalachari speechless

(Speech delivered by Niketu Iralu on Nov. 7 in the inauguration of Naga Archives & Research Centre, Dimapur, Nagaland)

C Rajagopalachari was the first Indian to be Governor General of India. He was the last Governor General of India as after him the title was discontinued. Rajaji, as he was usually called, visited Shillong in I think 1948 soon after India's independence. Representatives of various tribes and communities from all over Assam came to meet him. Before he met the people lined up outside the Raj Bhavan, an official announced that each delegation was allowed only a few minutes to say a few words. Pfürhitsu Terhija and AZ Phizo had come to represent the Nagas. Pfürhitsu stood erect and looked straight, displaying the striking colour of his tribe. His right hand held a shining spear thrust into the ground at an angle. His words to Rajaji, the respected "warrior from the South," clarifying the Naga political position, were strong and clear. After listening to his first authoritative sentences Rajaji turned to Phizo who was translating him, and asked, "Who is he?" Before

Phizo could reply, Pfürhitsu looked at the VVIP and declared with deliberate firmness, "I am a man!" His English came from his years as a DB of the British DC in Kohima. Well trained in handling such situations the Naga spokesman continued with increased vigour. His allotted time was over and the official on duty said so and tried to stop him. Rajaji turned to the official and said "Why are you disturbing? I want to hear what this man has to say". Pfürhitsu was able to say what he had come to say taking the time he required. About two years ago I gave a talk in Guwahati at the Vivekananda Institute of Culture of the Ramakrishna Mission. I was asked to speak on the Nagas, their history and their culture. The audience was made up of Assamese, Bengalis, Marwaris, Punjabis, and others. They were men and women who were doctors, lawyers, engineers, businessmen, professors, writers, journalists, government servants, and so on. I narrated what Pfürhitsu had

said to Rajaji in Shillong over 50 years earlier and said the heroic struggle of the Nagas represented our people's attempt to tell India and the world that we understood ourselves to be a people and a nation as justified by the facts of our history and the sacrifice we had made to defend our identity. And our defense of what we believe to be important for ourselves does not mean we are against India or any other nations in any way because we regard ourselves as an honourable neighbour with a history that deserves to be respected, though we may be very small in size and number. At the end of the talk the distinguished Assamese physician who had chaired the function said to me, "That story of the Naga leader saying 'I am a Man' to Rajaji has touched me". He said it made clear the reason for the Naga struggle and the human crisis it has produced. The understanding and goodwill he showed touched me and gave me hope. The memory of that occasion has never left me.

What we are doing here today is very important for us. In establishing Archives to preserve collected documents on what has happened in our recent history, we are affirming to ourselves that our aspirations and beliefs and our struggle for them are important to us. Aspirations and dreams felt and understood in human hearts, minds and souls set human beings apart from all living beings and define our unique common identity we call humanity. But mankind today is threatened by the chaos and destruction produced by the clash of aspirations of different peoples, nations, cultures and civilizations. It is natural and important for our proper growth in all dimensions of life that we too, like others, aspire and dream and struggle to consolidate our identity as we have done. We regard this inaugural function today as a humble but serious attempt to pass on "a legacy of hope" from the meager progress made thus far to the coming generations.

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