

Scene of mayang Imphal during the confrontation between bandh supporters and opposers



Bomb scare: turns out to be army uniform

IT News
Imphal, April 11: traffic along the National Highway was seriously affected after a suspicious bomb like object was found near a pharmacy along the Highway at Singjamei near Chinga where the Assam Rifles is having a camp. Until the filling of this report no vehicles was allowed to cross the section as bomb expert are busy trying to find out. Report from the spot said that a suitcase suspicious to have contain bomb/explosives was noticed near a pharmacy at the foothill of Chinga at around 4 pm and following that police and AR were alerted. Bomb disposal escort were reportedly to have been working hard to find it out by ensuring safety of the civilians.

However, to the surprise of the people the suitcase was found to be a bunch of army uniform.

UNLF clarifies; says Yenkhom Anand is a deserter

IT News
Imphal, April 11: Proscribed group UNLF today clarified that the person who was rounded up by locals for lobbing bomb to the residence of RIMS Medical Superintendent was not a member of the outfit. In a Press statement the outfit said the person identified as Yenkhom Anandajit @ Palembangkpa, son of Y Tomba of Pallel Mamang Leikai had join the MPA of UNLF in 1997 but since 2006 he had return to his home without the consent of the party and following that the UNLF had declared him as deserter. The UNLF further said that the person is not related with the UNLF neither the attack to the residence of Dr. Amuba, MS RIMS is not related with the outfit.

SEACO Housie postponed

Bumper Housie draw organised by South East Asia Cultural Organisation (SEACO) scheduled on April 10, 2016 at Naorethong Loukrakpam Leikai has been postponed on May 1, Sunday, 2016. SEACO said the Bumper Housie is being organized for fund drive of conducting various cultural activities. The organization appealed the people of the state to support the cause of the SEACO in its effort to promote indigenous Meitei culture.

6 injured, houses set ablaze in deadly confrontation between bandh supporter and bandh opposers at Mayang Imphal

IT News
Imphal, April 11: At least six people were reported injured in deadly confrontation between group of bandh supporters and another group of people opposing the bandh. The incident happen at around 10 am today morning after the bandh supporter vandalized a passenger vehicle and later pour SK oil to another private car at Mayang Imphal Bungalow area in Imphal West district. A group of person who were confused on when the bandh started arguing the bandh supporters and later a heated confrontation took place. Following the confrontation driven by sentiments the bandh supporters allegedly played communal game and some



with license guns started firing in the air and starting vandalizing infrastructures stands on their way. As the mob turn hostile a house located a Mayang Imphal Bungalow area was set ablaze. The group opposing the vandalizing of vehicles and houses too started

attacking the agitators by raining stones and pebbles. In return some from among the bandh supporters fired their license gun towards the bandh supporters injuring at least 4 of them seriously. They are all undergoing treatment at Shija Hospital and research center Langol.



Police post at Mayang Imphal to tried to calm the situation but as the crowd was outnumbered the two group lasted for over 2 hours. It was only after additional team led by Additional SP Imphal West Th Bikramjit reached the spot that the

situation was brought under control.

During the course of confrontation at least 7 other houses were also gutted. But it was not sure on how the houses were burnt. Among those injured condition of Thongam Bijit (23) s/o Th Deven Mayang Imphal Thongkhong, Khumukcham Ashajit (34) s/o Kh. Kulabidu, Mayang Imphal Konchak and Heishnam Ranjit (31) son of Krsihnamohun are stated to be out of danger. They are presently undergoing treatment at Shija Hospital after being hit by Barrel

bullet. The bandh was called in protest against the controversial death of Md Farooque Khan (18) s/o late Md Baderuddin and Md Saddam (14) s/o Md Basiruddin of Lilong Tured Ahanbi Kaleikhong by a JAC formed in the connection from midnight yesterday till 6 pm today. Both succumbed to their injury after a mob lynch after they were found lifting a bicycle.

Curfew clamp

IT News
Imphal, April 11: Following the deadly confrontation between two groups of people at Mayang Imphal area District administration of Imphal West has clamped curfew under Section 144 of CrPC indefinitely. As according to the prohibition people of Mayang Imphal Area particularly those at the proximity of Bungalow area advice to stay indoor until further order. The order also prohibit carrying of dead weapons.

Locals block Baruni road

IT News
Imphal, April 11: Locals of Kshetri Bungalow Awang Leikai and Top Makha Leikai has blocked the Baruni road using logs and other available materials. A local woman said that Top Makha Leikai Baruni road has remained unprepared for such a long time. Clouds of dust

particles blown by winds from the road are causing a lot of inconveniences to the people residing in the area. The local woman also said that many vehicles transporting earth from the Baruni hill ply the road throughout the day which is also the reason behind worsening the condition of the Baruni road day by day.

AMUCO, UCM and other major civil bodies stand with Napet villagers; urges government to shift URF camp

IT News
Imphal, April 11: Major civil society organizations of the state including All Manipur United Club organization (AMUCO), United Committee Manipur (UCM), Committee on Human Rights (COHR), Poirei Leimarol Apunba Meira Paibi Lup, AMKIL, Chingmee Tammi Apunba Lup amongst other today showed solidarity with the people of Napet and its surrounding villages which had recently confronted with URF (Chingkeingnanba) group. The group which had signed Suspension of operation with the

government of Manipur was allotted the building of Napet Palli LP School as their designated camp closing the school. Following the recent crisis and the clarification by the outfit's leaders which appeared at some of the local daily locals of the areas gathered once more to have another meeting at napet LP school ground. The villagers were joined by the leaders of the major civil society organization and assured all possible help for their right. A meeting was urgently conducted with the leaders of

various civil society bodies and Meira Paibi groups on the dais. President of AMUCO Y Mani Khuman, President of UCM Elangbam Johnson, President of COHR Phulindro Konsam, Director of HRD Joy Chingakhgam, President of Poirei Leimarol Apunba Lup Memchoubi, President of AMKIL Sakhi and President of Ching-Mee-Tam-Mee Apunba Lup Momon vehemently condemn the excessive act of the SoO cadres who had once took up arms and later surrendered to lead a peaceful life.

A 6 point resolution was adopted in today's meeting. The resolution demanded the state government to shift the URF Chingkeingnanba group's designated camp from the locality within 3 day besides recovering the weapon allotted to them. In compliance to yesterday's resolution, today's meeting also demanded license weapon for all the villagers if in case they fail to recover the weapons. The resolution further demand adequate security for the villagers and urged for re-opening of the Napet LP School.

RPF pays tribute to departed leaders; appeals to stop entertainment prog. on April 13

IT News
Imphal, April 11: Proscribed group Revolutionary Peoples' Front today paid its highest respect to the revolutionary cadres who had laid down their lives fighting for the freedom struggle with the coming of April 13. The day is believed of the outfit as "Athoubasinggi Ningsing Nuniti" which literally means Martyrs' Day. In a press statement the outfit also paid tribute to all the revolutionary fighters suffering from the atrocities of the rivals. "April 13 has been declared as the day of the martyrs in remembrance to the battle of 1990-the day where many cadres sacrificed for the movement", said the statement. As

an honour to all the members of the outfit killed at various battle fields the RPF has constructed a memorial site at Chieroa Ching. The statement recalled the believed of the outfit to live free for a moment rather than living a life of slaves for 100 years. It said it is the sacrifice and courage of the leaders that the RPF still continue to restore the lost freedom of the land. The statement also blamed the force merger of Manipur to the Indian Union in 1949 about all the chaos happening in the state. The outfit believed that Manipur will have a peaceful and prosperous life only after it regain its lost freedom from the hand of India. The outfit mocks India's

democracy saying that it has racial discriminations, class division, caste system and impose draconian act AFSPA. The RPF in its message urges all the like minded revolutionary group of the region to jointly fight for restoration of the lost freedom saying that joining the freedom struggle is the best quality of a person. The outfit while requesting the people to join in paying tribute at the memorial site appealed all section to stop organizing any entertainment programme. Except for the ritual function, the RPF appealed not to organize grand feast, theater, courtyard plays and any form of entertainment programme.

Assembly polls: Voting begins in second and final phase in Assam

ANI
Guwahati, April 11: In Assam, voting for the second and the final phase of the assembly elections is underway, as 61 seats will go to polls in this phase today. Voters were seen queuing up in long lines from the wee hours of 4:30 am, showing their eagerness to cast their votes. According to reports, both Congress and AIUDF are eyeing the Muslim majority votes in many districts, especially areas like Lahorigahat, Hojai, Dhubri which are dominated by the Muslim community, as it could be a decisive factor.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called on the voters from both Assam and West Bengal to cast their votes in large numbers. "Requesting all those voting in Assam & West Bengal today to cast their vote in large numbers," the Prime Minister tweeted today. 1617 booths have been identified as hyper sensitive in this phase and a total of 1.4 crore eligible voters can exercise their franchise. Most of seats are likely to witness triangular fight between BJP - Assam Gana Parishad - BPF alliance, AIUDF and Congress-UPP

combination. While BJP has put candidates in 35 assemblies, its ally Asom Gana Parishad will contest in 19 seats and BPF will vie in 10 seats. Congress and its ally UPP are contesting all 61 seats and AIUDF candidates are in the race for 47 seats. Among the prominent candidates, Asom Gana Parishad leader Pafula Kumar Mahanta from Bahrampur, Congress leader Rockybul Hussein at Samaguri, BJP leader Himanta Biswa Sarma from Jalukbari and AIUDF Chief Badruddin Ajmal will contest from North Salmara seat.

Imphal smart city proposal leaves more questions than answers

Civil society organisations and concerned individuals in Imphal examined a consultation document for the "Imphal Smart City Proposal" and raised serious concerns regarding the vision and thrust of the plans afoot. The consultation document reviews strengths and weaknesses of Imphal and also identified opportunities and threats (SWOT) in the context of its conversion into a smart city. It identifies a limited core city area for a special Area Development Plan along with a so-called "pan city mobility proposal". Imphal was identified in 2015 to be developed as a "smart city" under the national SMART CITIES MISSION scheme introduced by the government of India. The State government has already engaged an external consultancy firm, Arki Techno Consultants Pvt. Ltd., which is associated with IRS Systems South Asia Pvt. Ltd., in a future manner that is neither participatory nor consultative. The private consultants are to prepare a "Smart City Proposal" for Imphal, and a proposal document under development has been encapsulated into a short presentation

for the purpose of wider consultations and feedback from various identified stakeholders. Civil society including NGOs constitutes a major stakeholder in this scheme of development. At the very outset, the Smart Cities Mission Statement and Guidelines are flawed because the core "infrastructure elements" is a menu that muddies structural infrastructural development with aspirational social and organic goals such as governance, citizens' participation, sustainable environment, and safety and security of citizens. The concept of an "area based development" strategy may seem to be rational at a cursory examination; but this is also deeply embedded with a truncated view of what Imphal City is today and what a future "smart" Imphal could look like. The area based development aims at developing this area as, 1. A well-connected and accessible area with defined hierarchy of streets and public spaces. 2. A model of environment friendly development that can be replicated in other parts of the city.

3. A model for achieving sustainable balance between built and natural environment since there is a river, a heritage precinct and parcels of urban built form. 4. A tourist destination with supported infrastructure to enhance social and economic well-being. How are we implementing this grand vision? How does this plan see Imphal as a city as a complete tourist destination? The overall proposal idea is most inadequate. The core area of the area based development plan has been arbitrarily identified without wide consultations with every local stakeholder. This core area also neither envisions nor includes the two major rivers, the Imphal and Nambul Rivers, and their important tributaries that flow through Imphal city within its environmental frame. Alien notions like that of the construction of a new "Mall Road" in the centre of Imphal; along with three flyovers, six foot bridges, subways, multi-tier car parking buildings are automobile centric infrastructures in an already structurally congested area that seems to constitute the backbone of this plan. (Contd on page 2)