

AMSU observed 36th Realisation Day



## State Govt. beefs up security ahead of Indian President visit

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** To make sure that no untoward incident happens in the state particularly in Imphal and Thoubal area state government has directed the concern authority to beef up security across the state. President Pranab Mukherjee is visiting the state on April 23 to grace the Khongjom Day observance and also to inaugurate the Khongjom War Monument. Mr. Mukherjee will return back to the capital city on the same evening for Rastrapati Bhavan. Chief Secretary O. Nabakishore had convened a high level meeting on April 11 at 3 pm with all heads of all concern government departments including the Home department as well as



the heads of the para-military and army. A source with the Imphal Times said that DGP Manipur will be responsible for the overall security arrangement in connection to the visit of the president. The source further added that the IGAR will provide additional Jammers for the VVIP carcade. Both the IGAR South and the GOC 57 Mountain Division will also assist the DGP to sanitise all places of VVIP visit. The DGP Manipur shall also ensure that the jammers being provided for the presidential carcade do not interfere with

the Aircraft Signal System, for which a Nodal Officer shall be detailed at Air Traffic Control (ATC) of Imphal. According to an official source the President is expected to arrive at Imphal Tulihal airport at 2.20 pm. On his arrival at the Imphal airport Manipur Governor V. Samuganathan, Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh, Chief Secretary O Nabakishore, DGP LM Khoute, Deputy Commissioners of both Imphal East and Imphal West district will give a reception to the President. From the airport the president will be lifted by a helicopter for the Khongjom Day Observance Venue. At Kodompokpi Helipad, Education Minister Kh Ratan, Agriculture Minister, Additional Chief Secretary, Additional DGP and Deputy Commissioner of Thoubal district will give a warm reception and guided to the observance venue. Deputy Chief Minister Gaikhangam along with other MLAs will felicitate the President while inaugurating the Khongjom War monument.

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** Large numbers of students pay floral tribute to departed souls to mark the 36th Mekap Thokpa Nunit (Realization day) 2016 at Pishum Chinga today. After paying tribute at Pishum Chingamcha a function was held at Manipur College Multipurpose hall Singamei Chingamcha. The Realization day organized by All Manipur Students Union (AMSU) was participated by various civil society groups, community leaders and students. Floral tributes were paid to the memorial stones of Huidrom Loken and Potsangbam

Premananda - the two students who died in police firing on April 17, 1980 during the "go back foreigners" movement. A Public rally was also staged to mark day. Various slogans demanding immediate implementation of inner line permit system in the state were display in placards during the rally which began from Pishum Chinga to Manipur College. President of AMSU Sanasam Subhachandra Singh said that the AMSU had taken up the "go back foreigners" to protect the indigenous people of the region. He said the

student body had demanded implementation of Inner line permit system to protect the indigenous people of the state on April 17, 1980. In the uprising, two students namely Potsangbam Lukhloi and Kuidrom Loken were shot dead by the police personnel; many were also injured during the rally in the police action. He further added that in 1980 an agreement was signed with the then govt. however, as it was not implemented, the student body again signed a similar agreement in 1994 but for name shake only. He expressed dissatisfaction

over the non implementation of the 3 ILPS related Bills despite the fact that it was passed by the assembly as according to the desires of the people. He further appeal to various communities of the state to unite for protecting the indigenous people of the state and also appeal to state government to work sincerely in the interest of the people. Former president of AMSU L. Dilip, N Mohilal Meitei and convener of JCILPS Kh Ratan also graced the function as presidium members of the function.

## Ai Eshei Seireng released

**IT News**  
**Imphal April 17:** A book entitled "Ai Eshei Seireng" by Nongmaithem Kirankumar was released today at Manipur press club Imphal. The book released function was organized by Manipur Literary Society Imphal.

## JCILPS organises leaders' meet to give awareness about ILPS

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** JCILPS organised Thoubal district leaders' meet at Kakching Keithel public hall. Convener of JCILPS Kh Ratan. Co governor Bk Moirangcha, Ksh Somoendro attended as dignitaries of the meeting. Bk Moirangcha while speaking on the occasion highlighted

the non functioning of labour dept and home dept. "Migrant labours must possess labour card which has to be provided by labour dept.", Moirangcha said. He added that those handed over to police by volunteers of JCILPS were taken by contractors after negotiating with police. While stating that non

registered building construction company are not liable to do construction work in the state he said people of the state need to be aware about the law of the land to save the indigenous people of the state. Non cooperation to non-Manipuri activities can be useful to protect indigenous people, he added.

## Grenade found

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** A Chinese hand grenade was found today at the residential complex of one H. Kalachand 57yrs s/o (late) H. Kriti Singh at Wangkheij Hijam Leikai in Imphal East under Porompat Police station at around 7.30 am today. A police team safely retrieved the grenade and safely detonated at around 9.30 am.

## Aged man found unconscious



**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** An aged man was found in unconscious state at the foothill of Wabaching in between the adjoining area of Chandel and Thoubal district today morning. Local people of the area said that he was found with insufficient clothes and could not talk.

## One died of drug over dose

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 17:** Dead body of a man suspected to be drug over dose victim was found near Kekru Pat Gate at North AOC opposite to Kekru Villa here today. A syringe that was used to inject drugs was also lying nearby the dead body. The place where the dead body was found was field by various disposable syringes

probably thrown out by drug users. Identity of the dead body could not be established at the moment. The person looks within the age of 30 to 35 years. The body was found lying by localities and by passers today morning. City police has collected the body and deposited at JNIMS morgue later in the evening.

It may be mentioned that the North (AOC) area in Imphal West is a well known as dens of flesh trade and drug peddlers. While there were reports that in Manipur about 72 per cent of HIV infection is through sharing of needles and syringes by drug addicts authorities still seems to be neglecting the rise of IDUs.

## Scribe imposter nabbed

**IT News**  
**Imphal April 17:** An imposter who identified himself as a journalist was caught today by Lilong police along with SP tablets from Lilong Keithel area. On receiving the news about a scribe being arrested with drugs a media persons went to the police station for verification however it was found that the person does not

belong to any press or media firms. An FIR has been registered at Lilong Police. Mention may be made that many were caught for impersonating as media persons escape from the police or to take advantage on their self interest. During any agitation because of these imposters media persons faces many problems.

## Heavy rains and hail storms

**IT News**  
**Imphal April 17:** Heavy rains and hailstorm is likely to hit the North Eastern states of India including Meghalaya, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura in the next 24 hours reports news agency quoting the source from meteorological department forecast.

## 7.8 magnitude strong earthquake hits Ecuador, 41 dead

**AP**  
**Quito, April 17:** The strongest earthquake to hit Ecuador in decades flattened buildings and buckled highways along the country's coast, killing at least 41 people and causing damage hundreds of miles (kilometers) away from the epicenter in the capital and other major cities. The death toll was expected to rise on Sunday as rescuers reached the sparsely populated area of fishing ports and tourist beaches where the magnitude-7.8 quake was centered. "We're trying to do the most we can but there's almost nothing we can do," said Gabriel Alcivar, mayor of Pedernales, a town of 40,000 near the epicenter. He pleaded for authorities to send earth-moving machines and rescuers

as dozens of buildings in the town were flattened, trapping residents among the rubble. He said looting broke out amid the chaos but that authorities were too busy trying to save lives to assert order. "This wasn't just a house that collapsed, it was an entire town," he said. Vice President Jorge Glas said in a televised address late Saturday that there were initial reports of 41 dead in the cities of Manta, Portoviejo and Guayaquil — all several hundred kilometers (miles) from where the quake struck shortly after nightfall. The quake was the strongest to hit Ecuador since 1979, Glas said. On social media photos circulated of homes reduced to rubble, the roof of a shopping

center torn apart and supermarket shelves shaking violently. In Manta, the airport was closed after the control tower collapsed, injuring an air traffic control worker and a security guard. "In the capital Quito, hundreds of kilometers away, people fled to the streets in fear as the quake shook their buildings. The quake knocked out electricity in several neighborhoods and six homes collapsed but after a few hours the situation appeared under control and power was being restored, Quito's Mayor Mauricio Rodas said. "I'm in a state of panic," said Zoila Villena, one of many Quito residents who congregated in the streets. (Contd. on page 2)

## Ibotombi Sharma aka Bir Singh : Immortal Cast and Character of Shumang Lila

By Aheibam Koireng

'Shumang Lila' literally meaning 'Courtyard Play' is a popular native performing art form and potent media for connecting with the masses. It has sustained and flourished for generations since it became institutionalized during the reign of Maharaja Chandrakirti (1850-1886). It is staged at Courtyard, lawns, open air theatres, market or any other public place. In our childhood days, it was played in the ground soil. But, since the last two decades or so, with the increase of thronging spectators, it is played at an arena which is elevated above the ground level for greater visibility. The materials in the performing floor consist usually of a table and only a couple of chair. Microphones and light system are hanged above the head. Spectators surround the stage from all directions, with only an access pathway for going into and out of the stage connecting it to the artist enclosure. Since the artists are all male, male play the roles of female character. It is in fact a kind of proscenium theatre as no curtain is used at the entire length of the performance. Some of the Shumang Lila and the artists performed in it left an indelible impression to the hearts and minds of those who witnessed it and remained nostalgic

throughout their life. Among the Shumang Lilas mention can be made of 'Chengba Fagi', 'Yotsabi Fagi', 'Satya Charit', 'Harischandra', etc. And among the character and the cast which still remain fresh in the minds of the present generation includes Chaoba, Babu, Tombi - tripod of humour and comedy plays; Daku Jagat Singh (Binod); Cheitei (Yogeshwar); Abir Khan (Shamu); Devdas (Inakhunba); Tondon in the role of Paru; Luwangbi Ibotombi, etc. Laimayum Ibotombi Sharma, is one such artist who occupied a prime place among the galaxies of artists in the people's choicest gallery. People of my earlier generations remember him by his stage character either as 'Pocket Mar' or 'Sekhor Goonda'. After he discontinues stage performance, he remains associated with the Shumang Lila as Director for many of the



Shumang Lila troupes. In addition, he keeps himself busy by attending social functions, and performing priestly roles reciting Hindu religious texts. He was born as a second child of Laimayum Madhumangol Sharma and Bidhu Devi on Wednesday, May 1, in the year 1937 at from Meizrao in Hiyangthang of Imphal West District. In his lifetime, he acted in different 113 plays and gave more than 7,500 performances at different venues. His qualification is only Class VIII, as he was born in a village which traditionally practices agriculture and allied activities as the main livelihood option and also had experienced the ravages of the World War II. He also learns 'Sanskrit Byakaran' from the teacher residing at Ulou Heibi Makhong. He had his debut in the theatre as a performing artist at the later part of 1952 playing

the character of 'Tomal' in a Drama titled, 'Nungsi Laman' (Love's Obligation) staged at Nambol Thiyam. That Drama was scripted by a well known playwright, Late Chongtham Mayurdhaja (popularly known as Ningthamjao). Since then, he started associating with Mayurdhaja as his devout disciple and from him learn the art of 'Natyashastra' under his mentorship and guidance. In addition, other notable exponents of 'Shumang Lila' from whom he received training includes Meitram Bira, Ayeppam Syamsundar, Eigy Nongmijing, etc. Ibotombi Sharma started his career as a Shumang Lila Performing Artist in the play, 'Magah Pandit' (Magah Priest). After that, he began to perform in a substantive role in a play 'Leima Yengleingda Khnu Tuba', and 'Gun Parikhya' of the famed comedian Takhellambam Chaoba and Mayang Imphal Tombi, and 'Ningthou Semba', the play which he himself scripted. Subsequently, people started noticing him for his acting prowess in a play, 'Pocket Mar' directed and produced by Late Laishram Yaima of Konjeng Leikai in the year 1969. The play was scripted by a well known playwright, A. Tomchou. (Contd. on page 2)