

Modi's classmate in Gujarat University reveals their days He always scores better marks than me - Singhajit

IT exclusive
Imphal, August 1: Amidst controversies surrounding the educational qualification of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, one of his classmates in Gujarat University revealed on how he shared the topics taught in class room with the Prime Minister.

Okram Singhajit Singh of Thoubal Okram in Thoubal District Manipur, who completed his Masters Degree in Political Science from Gujarat University in 1983 spelled out his days with Narendra during University days. In an exclusive meeting with Imphal Times, he said most of the times he shared his knowledge on what had been taught in the classroom with Narendra, now the Prime



Okram Singhajit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Ningshoujam Kenedy: Photo taken on May 6, 2015

Minister of India, whenever, he missed his class due to organizational works relating to RSS.

He said Narendra was very quick at learning and bore a

very gentle personality. "I attended class regularly and shared on what he missed out but he always scored better mark than me", Singhajit said. On being questioned on why

he did not reveal it during those days when the country is having heated debate over the educational qualification of Narendra Modi, he simply said it is no less than taking

risk of myself as I am from Thoubal Assembly Constituency and everyone knows what is the situation here in Manipur. Singhajit came to know about the status of his one time friend only in 2014, after seeing a booklet which published the story of Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India. He didn't know when he was the Chief Minister of Gujarat as he knew him by the name Narendra only and never expected that his friend could become the Chief Minister.

As soon as he got the information he immediately rushed to Delhi and with the help of some state BJP workers he met his old friend, Narendra, the Modi who now runs the country,

The man who helped Narendra Modi during University days

By- Rinku Khumukcham

May, 2016 should have been the perfect timing, but I came to know about this only 5 days back. I was not sure, so I went, tried to meet him. His brother-in-law said he will not give interview, but I insisted him saying that it will do good not only for him but for the entire people of the state. Finally he agreed to talk to me. The morning I received a call from a close friend about his willingness to talk to me, I cancelled all important assignments and drive to Thoubal from where chief minister Okram Ibobi represents as an MLA.

It was raining and I have to take shelter at a shop near the house where I was going.

Narendra was the name he introduced and they soon became friends. Singhajit himself was a member of the RSS and Narendra at that time was a Pracharak of RSS. I don't have that knowledge about the difference between being a Pracharak and a member of RSS, so I asked him about it.

"Pracharak are similar to group leaders, they are our guidance, and members are just followers", Singhajit said.

As according to Singhajit, Narendra Modi and he shared together what is being taught in the class and sometimes portion missed out by Narendra were also helped. Being a Pracharak of RSS, those days Narendra Modi was more than a wanted man of the Indira Gandhi Government and he had hectic scheduled in organization matters.

Narendra, being from

"Are you the journalist who is meeting my brother?", asked a lady where I took shelter in front of a shop just in front of his residence.

"Yes aunty, I don't have an umbrella, so waiting for the rain to stop", I answered.

She showed me her pleasant smile and provided me a plastic stool and asked me to wait for the rain to stop. After sometime the downpour stopped. I proceeded to the house.

The brother-in-law, an astrologer by profession, asked my identity. I told him every details of me. He asked me to wait for some more time as his brother-in-law who helps Modi in MA is on the way.

I was expecting this person in an air conditioned car. But to my surprise he came in a bicycle.

"I told my wife that the Prime Minister is a friend of mine whom I helped, but my wife made a mockery of me saying that Modi is everybody's friend", said Okram Singhajit Singh, the close friend of Modi, the Prime Minister of India.

Please don't file any story that will affect the image of my friend - the first word I heard from Okram Singhajit. I assured him that nothing such will happen.

"Over 1500 people were reported killed in fake encounter, as many as 100s including a youth has been detained under NSA, and people escaped from the custody are now outlawed, and talking about my friendship with Modi is a risk at this hour", said Singhajit before I started drilling his link with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Well, after, completing graduation from Thoubal College in 1980, Okram Singhajit Singh went to Gujarat to continue his Master Degree at Gujarat University, Ahmedabad. During the first few days of his University life, he saw a man standing near the main gate with a bag.

"He never talked, but on the third day he started asking where I am from?", Singhajit told me.



Ahmedabad that time understood Singhajit's problem and most of the time he helped Singhajit with his requirement in study like buying of notebook, pen etc. They studied together some times and argued about the topic to get better knowledge of the topic.

"I handed over the text to him and we studied together sometimes but he always scored more marks than me", recounted Singhajit. In return for the service Narendra provided him blank sheets.

"During my stayed at Ahmedabad my brother use to send me around Rs 250/- per month. Every University students of that time were sent the same amount. Once as my brother was hospitalized he stopped sending me my monthly fee for two months", Singhajit added.

That time the mess fee was around Rs 70/- per month. The hostel warden sometimes asked him to clear the due as it was almost two months that he did not paid. At that time there were 30/40 Manipuri students studying at different institutions including Gujarat University. Singhajit asked his Manipuri friend to help him but nobody could help him as they too have their own problem.

(Contd. on page 2)

Bomb scare at Kwakeithel

IT News
Imphal, Aug.1: A bomb like object found at the gate of Dr. Mangi's residence at Kwakeithel Thounaojam Leikai area today created a panic situation among the locals of the area.

The bomb like object was found in a polythene bag at the gate. Police which rushed the area later found the object to be a hoax bomb.

The polythene bag was reportedly placed near the gate by some unknown persons.

PPF appeals state govt. to hand-over the 2 dead Saudi convicts

IT News
Imphal, Aug.1: The spokesperson of the PPF, MI Khan, speaking to media persons said that a memorandum has been submitted to Deputy Chief Minister of the state requesting the handing over to PPF the lifeless bodies of two Saudi Arabians which was killed along with a Manipuri Kuki in an unfortunate incident at Saijuwa Central jail on 29 July- Yusuf S/O Siddiq from Medinatul

Manou Warh, Saudi Arabia and Abdus Salam S/O Abdul Ahad from Sudia Arabia. He further added that there aren't any states/ country/ ambassador to India which has claimed for deportation of the said dead bodies so far. However the dead bodies had been confirmed as Muslims so PPF appealed to hand over the dead body which are lying at JNIMS mortuary for conducting their last rites according to the Muslim customary funeral rites and rituals.

Army pulls up a KCP cadre

IT News
Imphal, August 1: Troops of 8 AR pulled up two suspected UG from Sanjembam area at around midnight day before yesterday. One among the suspects has been released however, the other identified as one Sorokhaibam Ibomcha aged about 48 years, s/o late Shamu of Sanjembam Maning

Leikai has been alleged to be cadre of a KCP group. The 8 AR trooper said some letter head of the UG were found from his possession when locals demanded his released. Local said that he was a farmer and had no relation with any underground organisation. He was later handed over to police.

IPAK opens scandalous activities of Dr. M. Shyamo

IT News
Imphal, August 1: Indigenous People's Association of Kangleikai (IPAK) Manipur has opened the scandalous activities of Dr. M Shyamo, when he was the director of JNIMS.

Interestingly, the alleged scandalous activities of Dr. Shyamo was opened a day after the former director sought clarification regarding his unexplained prolonged holiday to the concern government authority. In a pres meet held today at IPAK office, Premkumar Pebam, General Secretary (Org) of the association said that Dr. Shyamo had issued 2 supply

orders for purchase of 40 Bed Side Monitors at the estimated cost of Rs. 1,13,27,300/-. According to the order each bed side monitor cost Rs. 2,49,500/- however, as according to the supplier IPAK alleged that the exact cost of each item was Rs. 39,000/- only.

Premkumar further said that the matter was found after during an RTI query to the JNIMS. He said if the concern authority did not cancelled the supply order issued earlier and sanctioned fresh order as according to the actual price, then all those involved will be considered as enemy of the people.

17th State Handloom Day Celebration

IT News
Imphal, Aug. 1: Handlooms Promotion Council Manipur observed the 17th State Handloom Day Celebration today at a function held at Manipur press club. The Chief Guest of the function Govindas Konhoujam, Minister of Commerce and Industries said that Manipur is rich in culture, tradition and sports, however handloom products still lacks exposure

and to enhance our handloom products we need to expand our marketing region. He further added that if artisans of our state assure that products can be increased in large quantities, state government can get reserved transportation from Ministry of Railways. The improvement in the handloom sector can also be able to provide jobs to the unemployed of the state he added.

As part of the celebration, Handlooms Promotion Council present Handloom Promotion Award' 2016 to 42 artists from the state. Director of Commerce and Industries IAS B. John Tlanginkhuma and Chairperson of Manipur State for Women's Commission Dr. K Sobita Devi graced the function as President and Guest of Honour respectively.

Under its Rise & Shine campaign, IMA trains over 50 doctors in Imphal on the growing prevalence of Vitamin D deficiency

IT News
Imphal, August 1: The Indian Medical Association under its Rise and Shine campaign organized a continued medical education (CME) program in Imphal to discuss the growing epidemic of Vitamin D deficiency amongst the Indian population. The CME was attended by over 50 leading doctors of the city.

Vitamin D, also known as the sunshine vitamin plays a crucial role in calcium and bone metabolism. It protects the body against cognitive disorders, diabetes, cancer and CVDs like congestive heart failure and left ventricular hypertrophy. The major problem area lies in the fact that a large section of the population is not aware of this deficiency and its causes, symptoms, and

consequences. As the deficiency is found to be present in over 80-90% of Indians, it has become a huge cause of concern amongst the medical fraternity. The Rise and Shine campaign is a National movement initiated last year by the Indian Medical Association under an unconditional educational grant from USV. It aims to create sensitivity amongst its 2.5-lakh members across 30 states and 1700 branches over a period of two years about the need to raise awareness of Vitamin D deficiency. The campaign aimed at providing soft skills training to all doctors on topics such as public speaking, managing patient records online, adapting to the new mobile app culture, how to break the news of death to a patient's family

has received an overwhelming response till now. Addressing the CME, Dr. Salam Ranabir Singh, Assistant Professor of General Medicine, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, Imphal said, "The constant rise in the incidence of Vitamin D deficiency is a major cause of concern for the medical fraternity. Majority of the patients who come to me with symptoms such as fatigue, muscle pain and weakness, muscle cramps, joint pain, weight gain, high blood pressure, restless sleep, poor concentration, headaches, etc are diagnosed with hypovitaminosis D deficiency. Adding to this, Dr. S.S Agarwal - National President and Padma Shri Awardee Dr. KK Aggarwal - Honorary Secretary General of the Indian Medical Association in a joint

statement said, "One of the common causes of Vitamin D deficiency is inadequate sun exposure and the consumption of a poor and predominantly vegetarian diet. Heart health is closely associated with Vitamin D. Its deficiency is a risk factor for various cardiovascular ailments such as ischemic heart diseases, congestive heart failure, heart attacks and strokes. Most of the tissues in the human body have receptors of vitamin D and its deficiency is bound to interfere with the normal functioning of organs. People must be encouraged to consume Vitamin D-rich foods, spend more time out in the sun, and take supplements as and when required."

Dr. Ambrish Mithal, Chairman, Metabolic Disorders & Endocrinology, Medanta - the Medicity and Dr. Sachindra

Laishram, Hony. Secretary, IMA Manipur branch in a joint statement said, "There's very little source of Vitamin D in our diets and thus sunlight is the main source of Vitamin D for humans. There are various factors which are responsible for the synthesis of vitamin D in the body: duration and time of exposure to sunlight, latitude, atmospheric pollution, and skin pigmentation. All doctors must counsel their patients on the importance of sunbathing, consuming Vitamin D rich food and taking necessary supplementation to cure the ailment. This can help in preventing the rising incidence Vitamin D deficiency which is fast becoming a global and national health issue. We are extremely happy that this initiative has been taken by the IMA National body to educate doctors."