

NSF protest rally against AFSPA at Urkhal



## ILPS demand protest underway

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** Relay hunger strike being underway at Keishampat Leimajam Leikai community hall under the aegis of the Joint Committee on Inner Line Permit System (JCILPS) demanding implementation of ILPS and lifting of wanted tag from former JCILPS convener Kh Ratan continues.

Around 100 of member from Nightingale Nursing Institute of Peromet and All Manipur Meitei Pangal Traditional and Cultural Association Kshetrigao Imphal east were participated in the really Relay hunger strike being underway at Keishampat Leimajam Leikai community hall under the aegis of the Joint Committee on Inner Line Permit System (JCILPS) demanding implementation of ILPS and lifting of wanted tag from former JCILPS convener Kh Ratan continues.

## Eustar Chishi Swu to succeed as chairman of NSCN-IM

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** Collective leadership of the NSCN-IM has agreed to appoint Eustar Chishi Swu wife of Late Isak Swu Chishi, the former chairman of NSCN-IM to field the vacant post of the NSCN-IM. A highly reliable source said that Eustar Chishi Swu will succeed as new Chairman of NSCN-IM.

## RIMS to open of Aug 13

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** Medical Superintendent of Regional Institute of Medical Science has appealed all staffs of the RIMS Hospital and Dental College RIMS to attend their duties on August 13, 2016 as the hospital will function normally despite being holiday on account of Second Saturday.

## Chirom Indira conferred National Award

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** Chirom Indira, W/o. Chirom Sanjoy Singh from Thangmeiband Lairenhanjaba Leikai, Imphal West, Imphal-795004, Manipur has received National Award 2015 in Design Development of Handloom Products. The award function ceremony was held at Varanasi on Aug 7 on 2nd National Handloom Day.

The award was honour by Smriti Zubin Irani, Minister of Textiles, Govt. of India. She is the first Indian lady and only one who have received this prestigious award for the first time in the history of Indian Handloom.

# SKAL dissolved as Sharmila sticks firm to contest election

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** Following Sharmila's unwilling to change her decision for joining politics by the contesting election, Sharmila Kanba Lup (SKAL), the organisation that come into existence since September 8, 2008 has decided to dissolve with immediate effect. Speaking to the media person the convener of the SKAL Oinam Momon said that SKAL and people of the state appreciated the unabated protest of Sharmila from for 16

years demanding repeal of the draconian acts AFSPA. She said people of the state have been extending support to her every moment during her protest. She further added that her sudden announcement to end the fast protest has shocked everyone. "Every time she was released the state government SKAL always asked her stand and she she always made firm stand saying that she will continue her fast protest until AFSPA is repealed. However,

SKAL was surprised to hear her statement of July 26 where she announced to end the protest on the ground that people are not supporting her protest anymore", Oinam Momon said. "Sharmila should know that SKAL and the people of the state has always been supporting her mission", Momon added. Members of SKAL including Oinam Momon however were sceptical of the recent decision to contest election

made by Sharmila. Momon said that the whole episode seem to be a well plan by both state and central government through their agents. She further added the decision to dissolve SKAL was taken after meeting with Irom Sharmila. Momon however make sure that, even though SKAL is dissolved it will continue its struggle against AFSPA. Members of SKAL now will join hands with Apunba Lup to launch a new agitation for total repeal of AFSPA.

## 3 including 2 minor girl rescued from being trafficked to Myanmar

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** A team of Thoubal Police comprising of lady officers rescued 3 girls including two minors who were being trafficked to neighbouring country Myanmar. The accused - a lady identified herself as Thangkumi Mizo (Thang)(56) W/o (I) Sanga Mizo of Moreh ward no. 3 and driver identified as Lalbaikiana (50) S/o (I) Vanvel Thanga of Khawmawi Village Churachandpur at present Ngathel Veng Churachandpur were arrested by the police team from Kakching Lamkhai area at around 4.15 pm, police says.

In a press conference held today the arrested accused were paraded before media at Conference hall of SP office Thoubal district police. Briefing media persons, Additional SP (LO) Rakesh Balwan said that on 10<sup>th</sup> August at about 3.00am get information from a reliable source regarding some minor girls being trafficked from Churachandpur side to Moreh

and beyond. Immediately a team of Thoubal Police including lady officers rushed and laid down a Check point at Kakching Lamkhai. At about 4.15am intercepted the suspected vehicle Maruti Suzuki ECCO bearing registration no. MN01G/5273 and apprehended the lady and driver and rescued three girls. All girls being from Churachandpur and in the age group 15-20 years with two minor girls.

A case was registered at Women PS with FIR No. 20(8)2016 WPS-TBL U/S 370(3)(5)/373.34 IPC & Sec 5(a)-(d-i) of immoral trafficking (P) Act 1956. Both have been remanded to 10 days police custody. Additional SP (LO) Rakesh Balwan further added that the arrested lady revealed that she has sent many such girls across border with the help of her accomplice namely Mrs. Sesei Haokip (36) yrs of Head Quarter Veng CCPur, Mr. Lalrohul of Appolo Veng, CCPur New Bazar. That there

are many such agents like her few of them are namely (i) Mrs. Sangpui of Konpui Village, CCPur, (ii) Mrs. Sanghi of Thingkangphai village CCPur (iii) Mrs. Mary of Churachandpur and many more who do the same. She used to hand over girls to one person named Puia at Tamu who would take them to Yangon (Rangoon) where one person named Baulte would arrange to stay of girls in Yangon and also arranged fake passports and visas. "We are still examining her and making a list of all such traffickers active in Manipur and trying to apprehend them by coordinating with other Districts police. At the same time we are also making a comprehensive list of all such trafficked girls", Additional SP (LO) Rakesh Balwan added.

While taking statements of girls and examining accused police team had found out that many more girls from the state, hundreds have fallen prey to trafficking by such agents.

"The age profile of targeted girls being 14-20 years", police said.

These traffickers target poor families preferably in interior of hill districts with promise of job in Singapore. Police also found out that the family of the girl was given Rs.5000/- after sending girl across border. The girls are handed over at Tamu to agents from Myanmar side from other places come as well. They are all given some basic training in language etc. Further from Yangon they are taken to different places like Bangkok as per demand of trafficking industry. This is a big international racket and girls ultimately end up in immoral businesses. Additional SP (LO) Rakesh Balwan added.

It is requested to all people specially village elders to be vigilant and not to fall prey to such traffickers and immediately inform police if they come across such agents. This is a big international racket and we are exploring all options to stop the same.

## CEO convene meeting for Nodal Officers and ECI officials

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug 11:** According to reliable source, Chief electoral officer Manipur has called a meeting of Nodal officers with ECI officials led by Deputy Election Commissioner (DEC) and DG, ECI on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2016 at 11:30 am. at conference hall south block Imphal Secretariat. The source further informed that, a 5 member team

of ECI led by Deputy Election Commissioner and DG, ECI will be visiting Manipur on August 11-12 016 to assess the preparation for the upcoming assembly Election in the State. The team after arriving will meet Nodal Officers from IT Department, N Deven, revenue Department, Y Rajen Singh, Dy Transport Department, BK Sharma, Dy

Director DoP, Subash Singh on 12<sup>th</sup> Aug at 11.30 AM at the conference Hall of South Block, Imphal Secretariat. Further the mentioned officers will attend the meeting with officials of ECI on 12 Aug at 11.30 AM and present Action Plan prepared by their Deptt in reference to Conduct of the forthcoming Assembly Election.

## Lecture on Zero garbage drive

**PBDEFENCE,**  
**Imphal, Aug. 11:** Noney Battalion under the aegis of LoktakBde. of Red Shield Divorganised a lecture on Zero Garbage Drive, at village Veitumkhullen on 11 Aug 16. Throw in the garbage, in the open results to morbidity amongst the children. Improved hygiene practices

are essential to curtail the transmission of garbage related disease. Appropriate awareness and education can bring about a change in attitude towards the hygiene and sanitation, and this would go a long way in creating a positive health in the society. The lecture was organised under supervision

of the Coy Cdr of Kotlein. A total of 65 villagers attended the lecture. Zero Garbage Drive is an initiative to create an awareness regarding good hygiene & sanitation, so that an improved health standard can be achieved. The villagers thanked the battalion for organising the lecture.

# Will Irom Sharmila dare take on Modi to fulfil her AFSPA promise?

**Ningombam Bupenda Meitei**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi knows that even if he were to contest against Manipur CM Ibobi Singh in the 2017 Assembly elections, he would squarely lose in the Northeastern state. He must bring a local face to the fray. And therefore, this local - Irom Sharmila - has only stated publicly, "I want to be Manipur's CM". She never said, "I want to be India's PM." Manipur Assembled did not legislate AFSPA. The Indian Parliament validated AFSPA and the prime minister safeguards the law. The Supreme Court has not yet ordered that AFSPA is illegal and unconstitutional.

The demand to repeal AFSPA must mean "repeal, invalidate, delete AFSPA from the Constitution of India and law of the land", and "remove AFSPA from Manipur" is asking "to remove AFSPA from Manipur only and it has no effect with regard to whether AFSPA shall be repealed or not".

decision rests only with the Parliament, and must be initiated by the PM alone?

Just by becoming an MLA or the CM, can one decide not to declare the state as part of the "Disturbed Areas" - the prerequisite for AFSPA to be introduced in a territory? Will Assam Rifles leave the state after Manipur's "Disturbed Areas" tag is removed by the state Cabinet? And after the removal of the tag, will the ministry of home affairs, which operates Assam Rifles, and the ministry of defence, which takes care of the Army officers deputed to the paramilitary force allow it to continue in the region without the support of AFSPA? Would that be doing justice to the soldiers? If one really wants to repeal AFSPA, and not revoke it temporarily from one state only to win an election, the most appropriate means is to ensure that it is declared null and void by the Parliament, not an Assembly.

The most symbolic gesture would be to take on a political leader who is responsible for safeguarding and protecting AFSPA - that is the prime minister of India - by fighting an electoral battle against them.

In order to keep her promise, can Irom Sharmila contest against PM Modi in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections and defeat him in a parliamentary constituency? Marriage of political convenience?

Marriage shall always be honoured and respected as a personal choice, and should never be politicised. But the individual, especially a poll candidate, is also expected not to politicise or make electoral gains from a personal union.

In Irom Sharmila's case, the larger question is: will she marry before or after the Manipur elections?

Valmiki is remembered today not as a thief, but as the author of Ramayana. Phoolan Devi is not remembered as a rebel, but as a former Member of Parliament.

In the case of Valmiki and Phoolan Devi, the end justifies the means. For a Mahatma Gandhi, the means justify the end. One cannot choose to be both Phoolan Devi and the Mahatma at the same time.

The difference in their paths should be the point of a serious engaging debate for the politician Irom Sharmila.