



## CIRCA celebrates Manipur Independence Day with Leishemba Sanajaoba

**IT News**  
**Imphal, August 14:** Coalition of Indigenous' Rights Campaign (CIRCA), Manipur has celebrated the Manipur Independence Day today at Sana Konung here with the titular king of Manipur Leishemba Sanajaoba.

As part of the celebration, King Sanajaoba hoisted the Malem Puba Paphal Tongba Phiral at the compound of Sana Konung along with volunteers of CIRCA and representatives of various civil society organizations.

Speaking at the gathering, K Sanajaoba, who attended the celebration as resource person said that Manipur Independence Day observation is not against the constitutional framework; it is a wakeup call to study and understand the history of Manipur.

"Manipur was not a colony of British India at any stage of history, the then Kangleipak



has an organized government and continued to exist as suzerain state even after the 1891 Anglo-Manipuri war. The kingdom continued to enjoy its sovereign political status under the Rules for the Management of Manipur while the power to govern the people was vested upon internal self government or native rule administration. However, after India got independence, the suzerainty status of Kangleipak (now Manipur) had been revoked with the implementation of the Indian Independence Act-1947.

He also said that following Manipur's annexation to the Dominion of India various external hegemonic forces have come into play to obliterate the rights of the people and erase 'unique' cultural identity of the Manipur.

"The people have been suppressed upto the extent that even the minds have been colonized and the mass movements in the state of Manipur failed to garner support from the people as their minds have been controlled by the external hegemonic forces," Santomba said.

While Cultural Activist Ningthoucha Lancha said that the history of independent Manipur couldn't be mixed with the history of India or British India; there is no connection between the two. As an imperialist, Indian is utilizing the land and resources of Manipur and it is becoming increasingly clear with each passing day, Lancha said.

Owning to mistakes of the

erstwhile ruler of Manipur Maharaja Bhagyachandra, the people of Manipur had to endure the pangs of Chahi Taret Khuntakpa (7 years of devastation) and the territorial boundary of the kingdom has been shrunken as a price of entrusting to protect the Kingdom of Manipur to British from the hands of Burmese.

According to the points of agreements under the Merger Agreement and the Instrument of Accession, Manipur should be returned to its pre-merger status. The Government of India should be responsible for the external affairs, defence, communication and transport. The article Nos 6, 7 and 8 of the Merger Agreement, which was signed between the then king of Manipur, Maharaja Bodhchandra and Governor General of India at Shillong, the capital city of Meghalaya on 21 September 1949 clearly mentioned about respecting the sovereignty of Manipur by the Dominion Government of India.

The 14th of August is the day on which the cultural identity, sovereignty and independence of the kingdom of Kangleipak had been restored. From this

important day CIRCA and with other like-minded groups will be celebrating the Manipur Independence Day till September 20 across Manipur.

He also appealed the people of Manipur to pledge together and aspire for a developed and independent state from the Manipur Independence Day occasion.

Stating that Manipur has a different time zone known as Manipur Standard Time (MST) since time immemorial, Lancha appealed to follow MST and set the watches one hour earlier than IST.

He also said that separate time zone must be assigned as per the Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

On the occasion, the titular king of Manipur appealed all the civil society organizations and its leaders to come together and stand for the people.

Owing to the presence of different blocks of pressures groups the people of Manipur are in a dilemma without knowing which group to endorse or what cause.

"Manipur would remain polarized unless the bodies come together and decide their common line of actions," Sanajaoba said.

## IGAR (S) greets on I Day

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 14:** Major General VS Sreenivas, VSM IGAR (South) and All Ranks of Assam Rifles extended warm greetings and best wishes to all the people of Manipur on the occasion of Independence Day - 2016. The IGAR (South) also sends

his earnest message of peace, harmony, unity and understanding on this joyous occasion and exhorts all sections of the society to unitedly stand together in paying homage to our freedom fighters and working together for the peace and progress of the State.

## Media Sensitization Program held

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 14:** A Media Sensitization program under the theme "Swachh Survekshan- 2017 & Housing for all-2022" was held today at Manipur Press Club in continuance of the Swachh Bharat Mission organized by the All Manipur Working Journalists Union (AMWJU). The program highlighted the effective completion of the mission by the year 2022. Various resource persons spoke about the importance and advantages of the mission. In his speech as the Chief Guest, Nepram Geetkumar, Chief Town Planner and Director, MAHUD stressed on the importance of media in the successful implementation of any central sponsored schemes or missions, deliberating on the ways to make Imphal a planned city. He also outlined the

criteria for declaring twenty eight towns in Manipur as Open-defecation free urban areas by January 2017 as a resource person while urging every individual to share the responsibility to keep Imphal neat and clean by cultivating the habit of proper waste disposal. He also asked eligible beneficiaries of Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG) to avail of the Credit-Linked Subsidiary Scheme while seeking housing loans from banks, housing finance companies and other such institutions which would provide interest subsidy at 6.5% for a tenure of 15 years or during of loan whichever is lower. Ng Uttam, Joint Director, MAHUD spoke about maintaining proper sanitation in and around Imphal with a commitment to be among the 500 selected

cities in Swachh Survekshan 2017. Highlighting the role of urban local bodies in keeping Imphal clean, he remarked on the importance of scientific disposal of waste by the households, schools, hotels, hospitals or any other institute. Peter Salam, District Coordinator, MAHUD, discussed on how Imphal could become a world class city. Y Narmada, Associate Town Planner, Town Planning Dept also commented on the proper sewage management in and around Imphal city. W Shyamjai, President-AMWJU, hailed the initiatives of the Manipur Urban Development Agency and MAHUD for turning Imphal into a smart city and emphasized the role of media persons in reaching out to the people on any development program launched by the central as well as the state government.

## Nara demands immediate intervention of CM over NFSA issue

**IT News**  
**Imphal, August 14:** Communist Party of India, Manipur State Council has drawn the attention of the concern state authority to look into the prevailing issues over allegations of mismanagement of rations under National Food Security Act in Manipur. Speaking to media persons at the BT Road head office, Secretary of CPI Manipur State Council, Dr Moirangthem Nara Singh said the NFSA had been implemented four months back in the country, however the beneficiaries are not receiving their due shares till today due to involvement of local MLAs

and government officials. NFSA had been implemented for the betterment of the people but in the state of Manipur the flagship scheme is a flop show owing to the misconduct of the incumbent state government, Nara said. Instead of providing rations to the people, some owners of fair price shops have been reportedly distributing rations only on paper. In most of the assembly constituencies, rations are not distributed regularly. Highlighting the misconducts over distributions of rations under NFSA a team of CPI Manipur

State Council had also submitted a memorandum to Chief Minister of Manipur on June 25 demanding to stop politicization of NFSA and immediate intervention. However, the government failed to take any actions till date, Nara lamented. CPI wouldn't allow exploitation of rights and would fight to render justice, said Nara while informing that the party would undertake various forms of protest demonstrations including mass rally highlighting exploitation of rights by concerned authority and agents of fair price shops.

## John Abraham, Mary Kom and the Tetseo Sisters to join Marathon to promote Entrepreneurship in NE region

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 14:** Run Raise Respond North East - 7 Sisters: 4 Marathons- a major charitable initiative that aims to raise funds to support and inspire local entrepreneurs and assist the Assam food relief but more importantly to showcase the opportunities and latent potential of the North East with a population of 50m people is being organized this coming September by Nigel Eastwood, a renowned telecom media and technology investor and advisory board member across the North Eastern states of India. Nigel, a

successful entrepreneur from the UK has been operating businesses in India for over a decade. Commencing on the 4th of September 2016 and during eight days thereafter, Nigel is going to complete four charity half marathons in the cities of Guwahati, Shillong, Kohima and Imphal to raise funds. A number of celebrities and industrialist have agreed to join him including; John Abraham, Mary Kom and the Tetseo sisters and the Chief Ministers of Assam and Manipur. During the evening post each event, there will be a networking session in partnership with the CII NE

Council allowing local entrepreneurs and interested parties to get together and socialize during which the 'rising stars' of entrepreneurship in each of the cities will be identified. The funds raised will go directly to a number of lucky entrepreneurs that will also receive mentoring from Nigel for 12 months. A proportion of the funds raised will also go to support Assam food relief initiatives. The Half Marathons covering 21.1 kms will be held in Guwahati (4<sup>th</sup> Sept), Shillong (6<sup>th</sup> Sept), Kohima (8<sup>th</sup> Sept) and Imphal (10<sup>th</sup> Sept) respectively.

## Song and drama division performed cultural programs

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Aug. 14:** In connection with Celebration of Indian Independence Day under the theme 'Azaadi 70 years: Yaad Karo Qurbani', Song and Drama Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, NER, Imphal centre organised a Cultural Programmes at Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Imphal yesterday.

During the programme, artistes of the Song and Drama Division, Imphal centre presented 13 items which includes, Bande Matarang (National Song), Lailharoba Dance (Manipuri folk dance), Wangna Pairi (Manipuri patriotic song), Ae Mere Watanki Logon



(Hindi Patriotic song), Taina Taina (Creative dance of Tamil Nadu), Stick dance (Creative dance of Manipur), Manipuri Martial Arts (Dragger Fighting), Lamdamsida Pokchaba Lamdamsida Chaojaba (Manipuri Patriotic song), Lavni Dance (Maharashtra), Dhol Cholom (Manipur), Kabui Naga Dance (Manipur), Sare Jahan

Se Achha (Patriotic song), Jana Gana Mana (National Anthem). The Song and Drama Division was set up as a small unit in the year 1954 and started functioning under the Directorate General, All India Radio. In 1960 the Division assumed its separate entity and was established as an

independent media unit of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The main function of the Division was to create awareness among the general public through live media utilizing wide range of performing arts for propagating various policies, programmes and the schemes of the Central government with different theme such as, communal harmony, national integration etc.

The cultural programme was also graced by Manipur Chief Secretary Shri O. Nabakishore and Director General of Police Shri L.M. Khaute. Later, the Governor Shri V. Shanmuganathan had interaction with artistes of the Song and Drama Division, Imphal Centre.

## Security beefed up in Mizoram for Independence Day

**PTI**  
**Aizawl, Aug 14:** Security has been beefed up and police patrolling intensified in Mizoram in view of the 70th Independence Day celebrations tomorrow, with bomb disposal squad checking the venues of the main function here today. Though no specific threats were reported, Superintendent

of Police (Aizawl) Lalhuliana Fanao told PTI police patrolling was intensified in Aizawl and elaborate security arrangements were made for vital government installations. Police personnel visited hotels to ascertain that no suspected terrorists or militants were lodged there, he said. Entry into the terminal building of the lone Lengpui

Airport near Aizawl was restricted and only bona fide passengers were allowed inside since last week, Fanao said. Bomb disposal squad members were checking the Assam Rifles Ground here where the main function of the Independence Day celebrations would be held, the officer added.