

48 hours general strike underway; normal life hit

IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: The 48-hours statewide bandh called by JAC formed against the declaration of the wanted tag on JCILPS former convener Kh Ratan has affected normal life with business activity coming to a standstill and educational institutions remaining shut.

The JAC called the bandh from yesterday midnight against the arrest of Ratan by a team of Manipur Police on Wednesday midnight from protest site at Keishampat Leimajam Community hall.

It may be mentioned that Ratan was arrested in connection with a non-bailable warrant issued by the same court on August 2 in connection with FIR No. 85 (6) 2016 SJM PS, u/s 121/121-A/109/120-B/148/149/152/153-A/188/341 IPC, 3 PDPP Act and Section 18/20 of UA (P) Act. Scores of bandh supporters took to roads and prevented movement of vehicles at different locations in the city. State Road Transport Corporation and petrol shops



suspended its services, while educational institutions declared a holiday, banks and other commercial establishments did not open their shutters. State police forces have been

deployed at various places of the city as a precautionary measure. The bandh remained by and large peaceful and no untoward incident was reported from any part of the city, according to police.

Sharmila's mother denied from meeting her daughter by security personnel at JNIMS

IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: The gambit on the recent development encircling over from Chanu Sharmila seems to be emerging out to the public sphere as Sharmila's 84 years old mother Irom Ongbi Sakhi Devi was denied from meeting her daughter by security force JNIMS where the iron lady is presently staying after she end her 16 years long fast-unto-death protest demanding repeal of AFSPA on August 9. Irom Singhajit, Sharmila's elder brother who tried to question the reason behind disallowing their mother from meeting her daughter was also reportedly mishandled by the security force.

Talking to reporters at Manipur Press Club, Irom

Singhajit, the man who sacrificed everything for the cause of his sister since she began her protest in November 2000, said that he took his mother to JNIMS at around 11 am today as she was eager to meet her daughter wanted her to come home. "Much have been told by national media about our family on the decision of my sister, but not everything is true, how could a brother, mother throw out a sister who had dedicated whole her life for the cause of the people", Singhajit said. He said that as his mother wanted to meet her daughter which has been kept separated for 16 years, he took her by carrying at his

Health Minister inspecting site for AYUSH Hospital



Sharmila's brother talking to media at Manipur Press Club

back as she was too weak to walk all alone. "The security there stopped us saying that we need permission from the Superintendent of JNIMS even after my sister (Sharmila) told him that she was her mother", Singhajit said. "When I went to the Superintendent office to seek permission he was not in the room. Some staffs said he went out on hospital inspection duty", he added. Singhajit then said that he went again requesting the superintendent to allow his mother to meet her daughter, but to the surprise the security personnel nearly assaulted him using abusive words. Irom Chanu Sharmila was released on bail on August 9

after she announced that she would end her fast protest. Sharmila however said that she will continue her fight against AFSPA by contesting election. Human Rights activist, Babloo Loitongbam who also accompanied Singhajit during the meeting with media persons at Manipur Press club questioned the reason for disallowing a mother from meeting a daughter who is no more in anybody's custody. He said the security forces were allotted for her protection and they should follow her order. Babloo also asked if the JNIMS Superintendent has any right over Sharmila over her meeting with anybody particularly her mother.

CBSTDC demands govt. to do its part before ST Demand movement turns hostile

IT News
Imphal, August 19: Amidst Manipur bandh called against the arrest of JCILPS former convener Kh Ratan, who had been announced as wanted by State Home department, the Coordinating Body on Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee (CBSTDC) has continued their relay sit-in-fast/hunger strike at Wall Club Ground, Wangkhei Angom Leikai here today.

Speaking to Imphal Times, Mutum Churamani, Convener of CBSTDC said that as part of the ongoing demand for inclusion of Meitei/Meetei in the list of ST category the body will be continuing their relay 12-hours-sit-in-fast till 31 August 2016 at the ground along with different likeminded people and groups, besides organizing public meetings at different locations.

Reiterating the resolutions made during the Public Meeting regarding the inclusion of Meitei/Meetei in the ST category which was held at Iboiyaima Shumang Leela Shangle on May 22, 2016, Churamani said



demanding that Manipur government should take a decision during the upcoming state legislative assembly session and recommend the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to include Meitei/Meetei in the scheduled list of 432 (1) of the Constitution of India. Since the day one of the demand for inclusion of Meitei/Meetei in the ST list, the CBSTDC has been resorting to only democratic forms of agitations. The body would also organize a mass public rally on 18 September 2016 in the state capital city. Even if, the state government failed to comply with the

demands of the ST demand body, it would be compelled to launch various severe forms of protest demonstration including fast-unto-death, Churamani said, while informing that a team of 10 people about 80 years old is ready to undergo fast-unto-death. While observing that in Manipur democratic movement of the people seems to have no room, the Convener of CBSTDC appealed the state government to do its part for inclusion of Meitei/Meetei in ST list before the present ST demand turns hostile.

Shutting of Indoor Stadium angers players

IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: Badminton players expressed discontentment over the locking of the main gate of M Munindro Indoor Stadium located at Moirang Kokilbon without giving prior information to the players. The Indoor stadium is the only stadium of Moirang Assembly constituency constructed under the Military Civic action

programme. Speaking to the media persons, Hemam Uttam, Secretary of Badminton Association of Moirang said that no prior information given by Moirang Municipal Council regarding the closure of the stadium. He said that even though the stadium is under the Moirang Municipal Council, after having mutual talk with the local MLA and members of

the Council, players are made to undergo practice. Hemam Uttam further said that sudden locking of the stadium main gate even without any formal notice to the local MLA is unfortunate. Hemam Uttam warned that any kind of intense agitation launch by people should bear the responsibility by the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson of Moirang Municipal Council.

Site for AYUSH hospital inspected

IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: State AYUSH department has distributed Belladana (Ayurvedic medicine) to over 5 lakhs people in Manipur to prevent Japanese Encephalitis (JE) under "project Balledana 200". This was stated by the official of the AYUSH department while talking to reporters during site inspection visit for construction of 50 bedded AYUSH hospitals at Kwakeithel Konjong leikai under Naoriya Pakhanglakpa

Assembly Constituency. Health Minister, Korungthang, MLA RK Anand, Director of AYUSH Dr. K Lokendro and other officials of the AYUSH department today inspected the site for construction of the hospital at around 8 am today. AYUSH officials said that the department has been in the fore front every time when the state face epidemic. He said that at the time when the state was hit by swine flu, the AYUSH distributed Arsenic

Album to almost all the people across the state to prevent them from getting the flu. The cost was not expensive but the effect did save many from getting the flu, the official added. The 50 bedded hospital of the AYUSH is to be constructed under financial assistant from the ministry of AYUSH. Health Minister Korungthang expressed satisfaction to the effort being made by the department authority and said that the hospital will benefit the people.

Grenade found



IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: Police today recover a hand grenade the ADC Complex of Kangpokpokpi near Manmasi Messianic Council Centre Kangpokpi at around 1pm today.

MoS Railway to visit Imphal

IT News
Imphal, Aug 19: Union Minister of State for Railway, Govt. of India Rajen Gohain is visiting the state on August 21. State government of Manipur has declared the Minister as State guest. The Minister will leave Imphal on the same evening.

2 militants gunned down in Sonitpur district of Assam

Sonitpur, Aug. 19: The Assam police gunned down two militants in Sonitpur district in wee hours today. Official sources said security agencies have launched offensive at Paharpur under Rangapara area against banned outfit NDFB Songbijit faction. One of the slain militants has been identified as the self styled Platoon Commander of the outfit.

Myanmar asked for taking action against N-E militants, Rijju

PTI
Pasighat, Aug 19: India has requested Myanmar to take action against the insurgent groups taking shelter in that country, Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijju said today.

"There are reports of some leaders of insurgent outfits from the north east taking shelter in Myanmar and we are in constant talks with the government of that country requesting them to take action against them," Rijju told reporters after inaugurating the advanced landing ground (ALG) here. The minister made the remarks after his attention was drawn to the law and order situation in neighbouring Assam where outlawed ULFA activists and NDFB rebels carried out attacks prompting Chief Minister Sarbananda

Sonowal to ask the Centre for more forces to tackle the situation. Claiming that the situation in Assam was under control, Rijju said the Unified Command Structure has been continuing its operations against NDFB militants since the carnage on December 23, 2014.

"We were of the impression that after the massacre of

December 2014 the activities of the NDFB have been controlled. "But the recent killing at Kokrajhar early this month and the continuous violence triggered by ULFA in Upper Assam have been seriously viewed by the Home Ministry," he said. "Additional forces will be deployed to tackle the situation," he added.

Norway ready to mediate between India, Pakistan over Kashmir

Srinagar, Aug. 19: Norway has offered mediation of talks between India and Pakistan over Kashmir dispute. According to Radio Pakistan, Norwegian Foreign Minister Borge Brende has termed the

situation in Kashmir as "very delicate." Brende stated this at a joint news conference with Pakistan Advisor on Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz after the delegation-level talks in Islamabad on Thursday night. To a question about the

alleged human rights violations in Kashmir by Indian forces, Norwegian Foreign Minister said there is a "very delicate situation in Kashmir and his country is available for mitigating tension between Pakistan and India."

Assam Gets Hi-Tech Cancer Detection Machine

Guwahati, Aug. 19: Assam Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated a Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography (PET-CT) scanner system along with a cyclotron at the Guwahati Medical College and Hospital, giving a much needed boost to Cancer care in the state. The PET-CT scan is a type of nuclear medicine imaging device. Along with the cyclotron, which is a

radioactive isotope making machine, the PET-CT scanner will enable doctors at GMCH to detect hidden cancer cells in the patient's body in the shortest possible time. Congratulating Health minister Himanta Biswa Sarma and doctors and officials of the GMCH for successfully installing the PET-CT scanner system, Sonowal said that his government had given top priority to improving health and education in the state. Health and Family Welfare minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said that installing such highly-advanced cancer detecting machines would go a long way in making Assam successful in effectively treating and preventing the disease. Sarma claimed that the GMCH and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) were now the only government-run health institutions in the country to

possess both PET-CT scan and cyclotron machines. Sharma said that the cyclotron can produce the radioactive isotope, fluorodeoxyglucose, which when injected into a patient's body can help the PET-CT scanner detect hidden cancer cells in the patient's body in a very short period of time. "With an alarming rise in the number of cancer cases in Assam, the BJP-led government soon after taking charge in May decided to install the PET-CT scanner immediately so that cancer could be detected at the earliest, treated, cured and eventually prevented in the state," Sarma said. According to Sarma, the government has several plans in the pipeline to ensure availability of good quality and highly advanced cancer treatment facilities for patients in the state. The 200-bed cancer hospital will be functional from October.