

Government official take pledge on Sadbhavana Diwas day



## Sadbhavana Diwas Observed Let us all take pledge to strengthen the unity & integrity of the country – O. Ibobi Singh

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Aug 20:** State joins in observing the *Sadbhavana Diwas* commemorating the 72<sup>nd</sup> Birth Anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, the former Prime Minister of India. Speaking as the Chief Guest in the function organised by Manipur Government at 1st MR Banquet Hall, Chief Minister Shri O. Ibobi Singh appealed to all to take pledge to live harmoniously and peacefully to strengthen the unity & integrity of the country. Chief Minister pointed out that the Diwas is observed to remember and pay our respect to Rajiv Gandhi who sacrificed his life for safeguarding the unity and integrity of India. Describing



Rajiv Gandhi as a dynamic Prime Minister he said Rajiv Gandhi was a leader who brought a new revolution in the country, a leader who banned political defection by introducing Anti Defection Bill in the parliament and the one who lowered the voting age from 21 to 18 among others. Saying that the age old tradition of living together

peacefully and harmoniously in the country i.e. unity in diversity is being disturbed today by the enmity and hatred amongst different communities and by the act of violence. He maintained that in view of such a situation the observation of the *Sadbhavana Diwas* gains more significance. Speaking as the President of

the function, Deputy Chief Minister recalled Rajiv Gandhi as a leader who transformed India in the IT and education sector and who brought Punjab Accord, Assam Accord and Mizo Accord through peaceful dialogue. He said Rajiv's good quality was recognised internationally. To fulfil his dream of a peaceful and developed India let us rededicate ourselves for the unity and integrity of India, he appealed.

Later, a *Sadbhavana Pledge* was also administered by the Chief Minister in the function. Ministers, MLAs, Chief Secretary, DGP and other top officials of civil and police were also present in the function.

## Manipur Governor designate Dr. Najma A. Heptulla arrives



**Imphal, Aug. 20:** Newly appointed Manipur Governor designated Dr. Najma A. Heptulla has arrived at Imphal this afternoon. Dr. Najma A. Heptulla would be sworn in as the Governor of Manipur tomorrow at Darbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Imphal.

The new Governor arrived at Imphal airport at 3.15pm by Airbus A320 of Indian Airlines AI- 889. She was warmly received by Chief Secretary O. Nabakishore, DGP L.M. Khaute, Imphal West DC Ningthoujam Jeffrey, Imphal West SP Dr. A.K. Jhaljit and Protocol Officers Rehanuddin Choudhury.

## 'Surgical strike' inside Myanmar by Army?

**New Delhi, Aug. 20:** A major gunbattle took place between Army troops and suspected National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) militants along the India-Myanmar border, in the Mon district of Nagaland, on Friday. Unconfirmed media reports said at least 30 Indian paratroopers had conducted a "surgical strike" inside Myanmar, and quoted the NSCN-K+ as claiming that it had killed "five to six" commandos. However, Army sources rejected the reports and said the gunbattle took place inside Indian territory. The fierce encounter took place near Throllu village in Mon district on "our side of the border" at about 5.30am, said Army sources. "Our troops had laid an ambush along a known infiltration route. After the ensuing firefight, the militants fled back into Myanmar. They left some weapons behind. There were no casualties on our side," said a source.

In June last year, days after militants had killed 18 Army soldiers, Indian special forces had conducted a surgical military strike across the Myanmar border to inflict "significant casualties" on the groups behind that

## Student protesting against construction of Power sub station picked up

**Imphal, Aug. 20:** 2 students of Yairpok Aided Govt. School who were staging hunger strike in protest against govt. decision to construct Power Sub - Station at the school premises were picked up today at around 11.30 am.

## Gun fight reported

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 20:** A fierce gun battle was reported today at Khangpi Village in Churachandpur district at around 12 noon today between troops of 2/5 Gurkha Regiment and armed militants suspected to be cadres of Zairang United Front (ZUF). The report added that the gun fight lasted for around half an hour. No report of casualty has been reported so far but it is expected that some casualty could have been caused to the cadres of ZUF. The cadres escaped as security troops reinforce. The security later conducted mass search operation till late today evening but no report of any arrest made.

## Clash among students continue at CC Hr. Sec. School; Students' bodies condemn act of vandalism

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 20:** Clash among students continue today at CC Higher Secondary School over differences in whether the ongoing half yearly examination of the school should continue or not in the backdrop of the assault to some students who volunteer protest against the arrest of former JCILPS convenor Khomdrat Ratan on August 18 night.

However, teachers along with the help of police timely intervene the opposing groups from engaging in

bloody confrontation. A joint press meet organised by Kuki Students' Organisation (KSO), Democratic Students' Alliance of Manipur (DESAM), All Tribal Students' Union Manipur (ATSUM), Joint Tribal Students Union (JTSU) and All Manipur University Students' Union (AMUTSU) at the office premises of KSO at Tribal Market, New Checkton term the disturbance to the exam by some students as unfortunate. Speaking to the media persons President of KSO

Thanglalon Baite term the attitude of some of the student as unfortunate as their act of vandalism disturbed the academic atmosphere at CC Higher Secondary School. He alleged those students of using force to those who tried to resist their attempt to disturb the examination. Baite appealed the concern department, school authority and third party of those students' organisation supporting the students not to repeat such act in the school as it severely disturbed the school atmosphere.

## Aditi Ashok flops in round 3

**Rio De Janeiro, Aug. 20:** After two promising rounds, Indian teenage woman golfer Aditi Ashok performed poorly in the third and penultimate round by carding eight over 79 to lie tied 31st with a three round aggregate of two-over 215 in the Rio Olympics here. The Bengaluru golfer, who was tied eighth and looking good for a medal after round two, conceded a lot of ground in round three dropping as many as 23 places to be virtually out of medal contention going into the fourth and final round of 18 holes. The 18-year-old had managed a three-under 68 to be tied eighth after 36 holes. In the third round yesterday, she played an ordinary back-nine where she was held back by five bogeys.

## Missing focus in the proposed Manipur Regulation of Non-Local People Act, 2016,

By: Mohd Amir

After reading the draft Bill, Para 9 may create more doubts and problems in near future. **Para 9 "No suit, prosecution or other legal proceedings shall lie against any officer of the State Government for anything which is good faith done or intended to be done under this act".** This ambiguous statement may create more troubles in near future in implementation of the bill. This clause doesn't give any remedy for grievance redressal. We, human beings are bound to make mistakes. Even District Judges, High Court Judges gives erroneous judgements which go against the principle of natural justice. This is the reason why we have the process of Appeals. We can appeal to higher authority to get justice. But the para 9 of the said bill prevented us from going anywhere when we are harassed by State Officials. Nepotism, Communalism, Corruption are deeply engrained inside the Machinery of State Government and State Politics. In such environment, citizens are harassed on day to day basis by those people who are in power. Even we are being harassed by VDF, Police personnel who are answerable to the rule of law. Also, conditions of Manipur is not conducive to development. Bandh, Blockades, Disturbances, Threats, Gun culture etc. are our tradition.

In this condition, how can we expect a State Government Official to discharge his duties wholeheartedly and without any bias. In his course of action, he commits mistakes and will surely commit mistakes in order to fulfill the immediate requirements. When Officials commit mistakes, ultimate sufferer is the normal people. Officials may act against local/non local people. A tribe from Nagaland/Mizoram may suffer in the hands of Meetei Officials. A Bihar visitor may be manhandled by State Officials. A muslim from other states/countries who comes on religious tour may be harassed by a Meetei Official A local Manipuri may be harassed by State Officials for non compliance of rules. We can imagine in a number of ways because duties, power and functions of State Officials are not clearly spelt out. Where will we go and submit our grievances when the Bill has already given immunity to State Official in good faith? In AFSPA 1958, Officers/Jawans can shoot anybody who he thinks terrorist, because he is being given immunity from prosecution, it seems that, due to long rule of AFSPA, our mind has started working on the lines of AFSPA!! So, instead of giving immunity to erring officials, it will be better to delete the said para. Instead, a mechanism for grievance redressal may be added. **9 "Any aggrieved person, Local/Non local, who feels victimised or suffered in the hands of Directorate Officials may submit their grievance in writing to the Director within 15 days from the date of occurrence of incidents/accidents"**

## 15 shops gutted at Jiribam

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 20:** at least 15 shops were set on fire early today morning by miscreants at Jakuradhor under Bora Bekra Police station in Jiribam at around 1.30 pm. One Pharmacy, Stationery shops and few groceries shops were burnt down in the arson.

## Indian authority talks with Myanmarese authority over border dispute

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Aug. 20:** Indian delegates today hold meeting with the Myanmarese counterpart at the DC office of Tamu district Myanmar. Source said the meeting begins at around 9 am and continue till late in the evening and discussed in depth about the claims of

the Myanmar authority about Indians intruding at their territory at Border Pillar No. 81 area near Kwatha Village. The Indian delegates comprise Chandel DC, DFO Chandel, SP NAB, SDPO Moreh, ADC Chandel and Custom authority while the Myanmar delegates comprises DC Tamu, Forest

Officer Tamu, Immigration Officer Tamu, Costume Officers Tamu and Town Chief Commissioner Tamu. Besides, border issue the meeting also discussed on various other issue regarding drug and forest product smugglings. Both authorities had agreed to work together in fighting the menace.

## Pasighat advanced landing ground gets operational

**PIB/DEFENCE**  
**Imphal, Aug. 20:** The upgraded Advanced Landing Ground (ALG) at Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh was inaugurated by Hon'ble Shri Kiran Rijju MoS for Home Affairs in the presence of Air Marshal C Hari Kumar AVSM VM VSM, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C), Eastern Air Command on Friday. The event was attended by a large number of civil and military dignitaries including the Chief Secretary and Secretary Civil Aviation Arunachal Pradesh and Air Vice Marshal Manavendra Singh VRC VSM, Senior Officer-in-Charge Administration, Eastern Air Command Shillong. A flypast by a formation of three Sukhoi-30 MKI Air Dominance Fighter aircraft,

that took off from one of the forward EAC airbases was a highlight of the event. This was followed by a Su-30MKI also landing at the ALG. The touchdown by a frontline fighter jet of the IAF at the ALG is a 'historic first' in the predominantly hilly state of Arunachal Pradesh, which has several ALGs at varying altitudes. Earlier, the AOC-in-C and other senior officials who arrived at the ALG by an An-32 aircraft from Shillong and were received by the Chief Construction Engineer (North East Project). Also, the Hon'ble Union Minister had arrived in a BSF helicopter. Thus it was a rare sight to see many different types of aircraft at this forward airfield.

The new runway surface and other infrastructure built are similar to the other upgraded ALGs that have been inaugurated in the recent months. Replete with facilities such as aprons for ground manoeuvring, Air Traffic Control Tower, perimeter road and a security wall, the ALG will facilitate operations of fixed wing aircraft as well as helicopters of both civil and military operators. The ALG at Pasighat will facilitate air connectivity with rest of the country and give a huge fillip to tourism in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. The pristine and picturesque landscape of Pasighat, on the banks of river Siang, will become accessible to rest of the world. The unspoilt natural

beauty of the area is sure to attract many a tourist, which in turn will usher in a new round of prosperity and happiness for the local population. AAI is in the process of setting up a civil terminal, the construction of which has yet to commence. Now the need of the hour is for all agencies to get together and make it happen. The ALG at Pasighat was taken over by the IAF in February 2010. Previously, it was small strip that was partly paved, partly grassy, and reinforced with perforated steel plates. It was utilized in the past for air maintenance sorties and casualty evacuation by the IAF. Commercial helicopter operations were also being undertaken from the helipads

that existed earlier. It may be recalled that following a MoU between Government of Arunachal Pradesh and Ministry of Defence in June 2009, the IAF had embarked on an ambitious reconstruction plan to upgrade eight ALGs, including infrastructure development at an overall outlay of nearly Rs. 1,000 Crores. The ALGs a Walong, Ziro, Along, Mechuka and Pasighat have since been upgraded and are operational now. Two ALGs at Tuting and Tawang are expected to be ready by the year end, while the ALG at Vijaynagar would undertake reconstruction as soon as the road connectivity between Miao and Vijaynagar is restored.