

Old ladies participating a race organised in connection with 77th Nupi Lal celebration



CNA appeals for release of UNC leaders; calls for positive dialogue

IT News, Imphal, Dec. 10: Reacting strongly against the arrest of the two functionaries of UNC- President Gaidon Kamei along with Information and Publicity Secretary Sankhui Stephen Inpui on 25 Nov by the allegedly oppressive state government, the Council of Naga Affairs- an organisation based in Oking in Myanmar urged the state government to release the two officials of UNC without any conditions. A press statement released today by CNA also stressed on the danger of jeopardizing the Naga community as well as threatening the peaceful coexistence between the two communities and calls for a positive dialogue to settle the issue.

No bank officials will be spared if found involved in wrongdoing: FinMin

ANI New Delhi, Dec. 10: The Finance Ministry has sent a strong message to banks, saying that no official will be spared if found involved in wrongdoing. Sources said, the ministry is seriously looking into the matter. In a major crackdown on bank employees involved in irregularities post the demonetisation move, as many as 27 senior officials of various public sector banks were suspended on December 2 and six others were transferred to check corrupt practices. The Axis Bank earlier on Tuesday suspended its 19 officials allegedly involved in illegal activity post demonetisation.

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Bandh welcomes newly formed Kakching District

IT News Thoubal, Dec.10: just a day after the euphoria and heady celebrations on the creation of Kakching District, the newly formed district as well as Thoubal district experienced yet another reality check as normal life in the two districts were greatly affected by a 24-hour bandh imposed since 5 in the morning today protesting the efforts of the central government to change the site of the Sports University from Yaithibi Loukol under Thoubal District. Since the imposition of the bandh called by the National Sports University Demand Committee, Thoubal District, early in the morning, a large number of bandh supporters took to the streets and prevented any vehicular movement along NH-2(Imphal-Moreh) road while tyres were burnt on the road. Traffic in the two districts came to a grinding halt while Wangjing and Khongjom



markets bore a deserted look. Shops remain closed. Supporting the bandh called by the National Sports University Demand Committee, Thoubal District, various places in Kakching district remained cut-off with no vehicular traffic. Tyres were burnt and obstacles were laid on the road to prevent any attempt to use the road by the bandh supporters. Kakching market as well as shops in the district also

downed their shutters. It may mentioned that the present site of the NSU is still mired in controversies regarding allegations of forcible acquisitions as well as non-payment of compensations, while there is report of the state government considering the offer of free land by residents of Koutrik Village of Lamshang under Imphal West district for construction of the Sports University.

Dharna staged against injuring innocent public

IT News Imphal, Dec. 10: Following the bomb blast yesterday evening at Singjamei Mayengbam Leikai in which 6 persons including an 18 month infant sustained serious injuries, residents of the locality including Meira Paibis and representatives from clubs staged a sit-in protest at Mayengbam Leikai demanding stern and exemplary punishment of the culprit while denouncing such



thoughtless and planting and blasting bombs in public places. and indiscriminate actions of

Assam Police Arrest 3 with Rs 20 Lakh in New Currency

IANS Guwahati, Dec. 10: At least three persons have been arrested in Assam for allegedly being involved in exchanging new currency of Rs 2,000 denomination with old currencies for commission, police said on Saturday. According to the police, they were arrested on Friday night from a house in Hatiganga area in Guwahati. "We raided the house based on a tip off. A

group of three persons were waiting in the house with Rs 20 lakh in the denomination of Rs 2,000," the police said. It said they were supposed to exchange the amount with Rs 26 lakh in old currencies from another group. "We are interrogating the three to ascertain from where they managed to get the new currency in such a huge amount," the police said. It added that the role of some bank officials cannot be ruled

out behind the racket. It may be mentioned here that along with the rest of the country the people of Assam have been struggling for new currencies for last one month now. Although the banks have claimed to have taken steps to make the new currencies and smaller denominations available across the state, some people, particularly in remote areas, have still been facing hardships.

ADC of the newly formed 7 Districts commence duty

IT News Imphal, Dec 10: The state government does not have any intention of targeting any particular individuals or community and appeals not to misunderstand the decision of forming the new 7 districts said Minister M Okendro. Speaking to media persons at Old Secretariat, the Panchayati Raj and Rural Development (PR & RD) minister said that the rumor regarding the deliberate avoidance of informing new persons on the part of the state government is very unfortunate for the department, on the other hand the state government does not have any particular journalist while announcing the approval of the new 7 districts to the print and media firm as the decision was taken suddenly after a cabinet meeting which ends at the wee hour of December 9, he added. PR & RD Minister also clarified that the state government took the decision to create the new 7 districts after a close observation of the administrative convenience for the long awaited Jiribam, Kangpokpi and other districts. As the new 7 districts have been formed, the issues, communication problems, etc.

that the public have been facing for long will somehow be solved and there will be progress in the development works of the districts. The newly formed districts have already commenced their duties with the posting of the respective ADCs at their respective posts, he added. Minister Okendro also said the proper ADC quarters are provided which have been already constructed with the recent upgradation from the sub-divisions to full-fledged districts with proper infrastructure though the inaugural portion remains which might be held on coming December 14, he added. PR & RD Minister further said that the demand to form a district by raising a movement between different communities is very unfortunate and termed it a wrong move. Districts are not formed in consideration of a community or ethnic group, it is clearly formed with the proper administrative convenience in mind and above that there is a retired judge of the state as head, Additional Chief Secretary, administrative secretary as home,

Commissioner Revenue and Commissioner DD and Hills as committee members to avoid any misunderstanding while forming a district in the boundary commission. The forming and announcing of the new districts will not have any undue effect or advantage for anyone in the coming election. All the works of the new districts will come under the DC who has already been posted in the earlier Districts, he added. Appealing to the public and people of the state the minister said not to create any misunderstanding among each other as the state government assures to provide the full facilities and proper infrastructure for the districts to function in full swing at the earliest. On the other hand, some of the groups or individuals who consider the recent move of the state government announcement of the new 7 districts as a desperate move to gain political mileage is strongly condemnable and will not be taken lightly. The decision was taken for the welfare of the people of the state, not on the basis of any community, the Minister asserts.

Awareness Programme on AIDS Helpline – 1097 (Toll Free) held

IT News Thoubal, Dec.10: One day Awareness Programme on AIDS Helpline – 1097 (Toll Free) & HIV/AIDS was held today at Eastern Boarding cum Coaching Centre, Khangabok. The programme was organised by AIDS Helpline 1097 Toll Free Telephone Counselling Centre, Thoubal in collaboration with Peoples United Service Institute (PUNSI) Khangabok. Shri M. Nobin Singh, Principal, Eastern Boarding presided over the function. The programme was attended by 80 boys and girls. Ch. Basanta Singh, Former District Project Officer of NYK Thoubal was the resource person of the day. He talked on the theme "Hands up for HIV Prevention". It is important for all the sections of the society to combat HIV and AIDS. He also described about the routes of transmission of HIV/AIDS and



its preventive measures, multi drug regimen, post exposure prophylaxis and anti retroviral treatment etc. As of now, there is no vaccine for HIV treatment, prevention is the only key about this virus so awareness and education is very important. M. Nobin Singh, Principal appealed to the students to spread the information about HIV and AIDS so that they also can act as peer educators in their villages and will definitely help in expanding the awareness to the masses. W. Unil Singh, District Coordinator of AIDS Helpline 1097 Telephone Counselling Centre Thoubal

highlighted the importance of organising programme to the youth and students. He appealed all the participants to dial 1097 to enquire about any doubts or to update information on HIV/AIDS. Later, an open quiz programme on HIV was held. Kumari Monica Thangjam got first prize. Kh. Harishkumar got Second prize and S. Sadananda got third prize. Prizes were distributed by the position holders by the President of the function. The programme ended with a vote of thanks from Km Tamphasana Devi, secy. PUNSI.

Battle 30+ : Modi's surgical strike and Iboi's Bramastra

Wahengbam Rorrkychand IT Exclusive Imphal, Dec 10: The declaration of 7 (seven) new districts in hush-hush mode by Chief Minister Okram Iboi-led Congress government in Manipur amidst the ongoing demand and counter-demand for Sadar Hills district on December 8 is being hailed by many in the state. Inhabitants of the newly born Kakching and Jiribam districts were seen celebrating the historic occasion with pomp, while some beleaguered sections were seen falling dumfounded with the 'surgical strike' from CM Iboi. The move has actually created a positive aura of the government and Iboi's style of governance. The creation of 7 (seven) more districts (Noney, Kakching, Kangpokpi, Jiribam, Pherzawl, Kamjong and Tengnoupal) by splitting 7 (seven) existing districts of the state could be seen as a master stroke to quench the ceaseless demand and counter-demands for separate district status in the state. Considering the nature and timing of the decision of the ruling government, some enthusiastic political pundits have the

opinion that the Indian National Congress has acquired the weapon to thwart BJP's NaMo mantra from reaching the state by breaching its 45 robust barricades (Congress MLAs) that spread across the nine ranges of Manipur. In a tête-à-tête with President of Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC), TN Haokip told this reporter early this week that the Congress party and members of Congress Legislature

REPORTER'S BEAT

Party have faith in CM Iboi's leadership and incumbent state government. The president of State Congress Committee also responded with confidence to a query regarding the prospect of Congress in the upcoming elections to Manipur Legislative Assembly that his party will get "absolute majority" to form government. The statement of the President, MPCC is affirmed by MLA of Sagolband, RK Imo Singh, who is also the General Secretary

(Admin) of the Pradesh Congress, and claimed that Congress party will unswervingly form its fourth government consecutively by winning 30+ seats in the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly polls expected to be held in the early part of 2017.

Termining the creation of new 7 revenue districts as a 'brilliant decision' of the state government, RK Imo said that the move is a 'surgical strike' against those opposing it. Creation of a district is the sole prerogative of the State Government and it cannot be done on grounds of caste, religion, community'. However, he refused to consider Chief Minister, Iboi's master manoeuvre as *Bramastra*, a fatal weapon created by Hindu lord Brahma used against specific intended enemy, for the Congress against arch rival party BJP to retain power for another term post polls in 2017. "Good governance is the need of the hour and let's hope we can see more in the future after the next election. Wish it was done earlier but nevertheless hats off to the Government," commented the young legislator.