



## Govt. asks 'intolerant' Congress not to obstruct development

**ANI**  
**Hyderabad, Feb. 7:** Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu on Sunday called on the Congress to stop 'blocking' bills crucial to the nation's development, adding that India was on the development path under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

"The priority this Parliament Session is the GST Bill and the Bankruptcy Bill among others. Hope that the Opposition joins hands with us in passing the progressive bills. Don't see why anybody should oppose this bill except for political reasons," Naidu told ANI here. He hit out at the Congress for

'making excuses' and asked them to stop blocking bills as they obstructed with the growth of the country. Naidu also refuted the Congress' charges that the Centre was ignoring the grand old party when it came to taking a call over crucial bills. "We never ignored anyone and we have spoken with Congress umpteen number of times. The Prime Minister is

moving ahead and so is the Indian economy. The Congress is intolerant towards the mandate of the people which is for development and good governance. They should stop making lame excuses," he added. The Budget Session of the Parliament will begin on February 23. While the first session will continue till March 16, the

second session will take place from April 25 to May 13. The government is keen to push its legislative agenda, thwarted in the last two sessions, while the Opposition is all geared up to target the ruling dispensation on a host of issues, including the suicide of PhD scholar Rohith Vemula and imposition of President's Rule in Arunachal Pradesh.

## Diesel to be Exported from Numaligarh to Bangladesh

**IANS**  
**Guwahati, Feb. 7:** India would export diesel from Assam-based Numaligarh Refinery to Bangladesh, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said on Saturday. "India will export diesel from Numaligarh Refinery in Assam to Parbatipur in north Bangladesh. First we will export diesel by train on experimental basis before connecting through pipelines," said Pradhan after discussions on bilateral cooperation in the energy sector with Tawfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, energy adviser to the Bangladesh prime minister.

Eyeing the Bangladesh market in a big way for exporting petroleum products, he said a 200-km-long pipeline would be laid to export the products to the neighbouring country. The minister said Chennai and Paradip ports of India would be interconnected with Chittagong and Mongla ports of Bangladesh for export of the petroleum products. He said petroleum products can also be exported to Bangladesh from Paradip Oil Refinery scheduled to be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday. "There is also preliminary discussion over to lay gas pipeline to Bangladesh from Odisha as LNG terminal is

being set up here," said Pradhan. Informing that Bangladesh has allocated to oil blocks for oil exploration, he said there had been discussions on carrying out a preliminary survey soon and initiate drilling in the blocks after the rainy season. With the commissioning of the Paradip refinery, Pradhan said that India would be once again in a position to export petroleum products to Bangladesh. In this regard, he expressed keenness of India in setting up of marketing infrastructure in Bangladesh. He said the officials of oil corporations had recently visited Bangladesh to discuss various energy sector projects of mutual interest to both nations. Chowdhury said both the countries discussed to fix a timeline over oil exportation from Numaligarh refinery and other emerging issues including laying gas pipeline from Dhamra in Odisha.

## Father plead justice for murdered son

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Feb. 7:** Father of Salam Sanajaoba, who was murdered by armed assailants on February 4 night has urged the government to deliver justice to his son. In a press meet held today at Manipur Press Club Salam Khamba, the father of Sanajaoba said that his son was dragged out of his house by two masked men and shot him dead near his house on the night of February 4. He said his departed son is survived by his 20 years old wife and a 7 months old son. Narrating on how his son become a

member of KCP-MC Nongdren Khomba, Khamba said that his son was influenced by his friends as he had stopped education due to financial problem and was leading a life of farmer helping his family. He was arrested in 2012 and was detained in prison for 2 years and later after his release, he got married with Chanu and has been living a peaceful life since then. Khamba appealed the government to consider his plea by punishing the culprits involved in the killing as well as by proving justice to the family of his

son. He further appealed those responsible in the killing of his son to clarify the reason behind the killing.

## People prohibiting women entry in Shingnapur temple have no 'rationale': Sri Sri Ravishankar

**ANI**  
**Pune, Feb. 7:** Spiritual leader Sri Sri Ravishankar on Sunday said that the people, who are prohibiting the entry of women in Maharashtra's Shani Shingnapur temple, have no rationale behind their argument,

adding that their mindset could be changed only by persuasion and not by force. "Those who are trying to not allow women inside the temple premises, actually have fear in their minds. They think that bad omen will take place if women go inside the Shani Shingnapur temple. On what basis such people are saying that women should not be allowed inside the temple? The mindset of such people cannot be changed by force. We have to change their mindset through persuasion," Ravishankar said. "It is nowhere written in the scriptures that women should not enter inside the temples. If that would have been the case, women would have not been allowed inside India's biggest temple-Kashi

Vishwanath temple," he added. On January 26, at least 400 women volunteers, mainly hailing from Pune and led by Trupti Desai, president of Bhumata Brigade, made an unsuccessful attempt to storm the 'chauthara' of the temple when police stopped the marchers at Supa village, 70 kms from the temple. The temple drew attention in November 2015 after a woman had offered prayers at the popular shrine in 'breach' of the age-old practice of prohibiting entry of women, after which the temple committee had to suspend seven security men and the villagers to perform purification rituals. The temple attracts millions of tourists and devotees from across the country and abroad.

**Wanted Gurgaon gangster, 2 constables injured in Mumbai shootout**  
**HT**  
**Mumbai, Feb. 7:** Sandeep Gadoli, a dreaded gangster from Gurgaon charged with a string of murders who kept the police on their toes for over two decades, was seriously injured in a shootout in Mumbai on Sunday. Gadoli opened fire at two Gurgaon Police constables when they arrived at a hotel in east Mumbai's Andheri around 11 am to arrest the gangster. All three injured people have been admitted to hospital.

## Comedian O. Babu remembered

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Feb. 7:** Noted Comedian, who is still remembered as one of the best Manipuri artist Onam Babu was remembered on his Birth Anniversary. A memorial function was organised by Sumang Leela Council Manipur in association with the family of the artist at Iboiyama Sumang Leela Sanglen. R Raddhakumar, Commissioner, Arts and Culture dept. Govt. of Manipur, Prof. N. Khogendra and Dr. Moirangthem Nara graced the occasion as Chief Guest, President and Guest of Honour respectively. As a part of the observance, team Nokphade perform the comedy play "Wasaak Lourashi" which is sponsored by Manipur State Power Distribution Company Limited.

*Imphal Times daily will not have its hard copy publication on February 8, 9 and 10 due to technical problem. However, we will continue our web page and Android App news service as usual. Inconvenience is regretted.*

## MCPM terms silence on Sanjit Fake encounter as 'unfortunate'

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Feb. 7:** Rebel group Maoist Communist Party, Manipur (MCPM) term the silence of the Manipuri society even after a person confessed that he is a murderer, as the most unfortunate moment in the history of Manipur. Referring to the confession made by the Manipur Police head Constable, Herojit to the killing of Ch. Sanjit on July 23 at BT Road Imphal, the MCPM statement said that the silence is the most shameful thing of the so called educated class who are proud

by calling themselves as Professor, Doctors, Engineer or lectures. The statement question on the present status of human rights in the state by ignoring about the confession at which the police commando boldly said that he is the 'killer' time and again and by letting him free. It appealed the Civil Society, NGOs, Human Rights Organisation, Democratic forces, Political Parties and individuals not to remain silent to the killing of Sanjit in Cold blood by Manipur Police Commandos. It further stated that the journalists

community of the state had rendered its service with courage and it is now left to the people to decide on what to do regarding the killing of Sanjit. The statement further said that if the people remain silent to this incident then the world will consider people in the state as coward. There will be no meaning to be proud about being a meitei, naga or Kuki. The MCPM further said that if the issue of killing Sanjit in cold blood should not be put under carpet and urged the people to start a meaningful agitation.

## Workshop on environment held

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Feb. 7:** A one day workshop on sustainable land management and inculcating water management habit was held today at Wangjing High School in Thoubal district under the sponsorship of Ministry of Environment and forest, Govt. of India. The

inaugural function of the workshop organised by Voluntary for Scientific Action Rural Development, was attended by Dr. E. J. Singh, Associate Professor, DM College of Science, Sh. Pramod Devi, Head Mistress Wangjing High School and L. Inaobi as the Chief Guest,

President and guest of honour respectively. Life Line, Uripok Mayai Leikai Imphal West also organised a one day National Environment Awareness Camp on the theme Combating Desertation, Land Degradation and drought at Uripok Mayai Laikai.

## Delhi University student found dead in friend's house

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, Feb. 7:** The body of a third-year student of Delhi University was on Sunday recovered from her friend's house in Shakti Nagar area. Arzu Singh, was missing for two days and her parents had filed a complaint with the police. Her body was found inside the shaft in ventilation area of her friend's home in Shakti Nagar area of north-west Delhi. The police have arrested her friend Navin Khatri. The victim's sister said, "She

left for college on February 2 and did not come back. This morning we got a call from the police that her body has been recovered." According to an india.com report, Arzu was in a relation with a boy named Navin and the relation was under strain which caused her depression. The family of the victim has accused the family of her boyfriend Navin for Arzu's

death. They have said that the boyfriend's family did not approve of their relationship. "She was friends with this boy and they wanted to get married. But the thing was called off as his family didn't approve of their relation. If they felt she can create problems in his wedding which was on the 4th, they should've told us instead of doing this," the sister said.

## AIDS prevention: Centre launches 'Project Sunrise' in Imphal

**ANI**  
**New Delhi, Feb. 7:** Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J.P. Nadda has launched Project Sunrise for prevention of AIDS in the eight North-Eastern states. Launching the project funded by the Centre for Disease Control of the United States, Nadda said, "The Project will be implemented in the North East, in addition to the existing projects of the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO)." He said, "the AIDS prevention special programme for the North-East will be implemented in 20 districts of the eight states including four districts of Manipur- Imphal East, Bishnupur, Ukhrul and

Churachandpur." The Centre is working towards bringing the people living with HIV/AIDS into the national mainstream. The new initiative will cover one lakh people living with HIV/AIDS giving them treatment and care facilities free of cost. NACO is going to directly transfer its funding to State AIDS Control Societies instead of the existing system of funding it through state governments. Manipur Health Minister Phunjang Tensing, Meghalaya Health Minister A.L. Hek and Director General of NACO N.S. Kang also attended the launching function.

## Loktak is Just 'Money Making Machine' to Politicians: Locals

**Wahengbam Rorkychand**  
Loktak the biggest freshwater lake in the Northeast states of India is undoubtedly the pride of Manipur. The lake is both economically and ecologically important to the state and its people. However, fishing community of Thanga alleged that the lake is found to be a money spinning machine for politicians. "Loktak is our mother; since time immemorial the lake has been feeding the people of Manipur and nourishing us", said a fisherwoman and resident of Thanga Salam Leikai, who has been fishing

in the lake for almost a decade, while the 47-years-old woman added that lots have been changed in the last few years. The population of fish in the lake has been decreased significantly and fishing community of Loktak lake are having a tough time to earn their livelihood out of their traditional occupation of fishing, she said. When asked about the changing scenario of the lake, Assistant Secretary of All Loktak Lake Area Fishermen Union (ALLAFUM), Deben told that the lake is a favorite

place for politicians to play their political plays and make money. As a routine activity, during the state tourism festival floating biomasses are removed from the lake. Interestingly, removing of *phumdi* (biomass) from the lake is an unending process. *Phumdi* removed from the lake would be dumped at another place and after sometime it would be kept again at its earlier place. This indefinite process of cleansing *phumdi* from the lake is just an act to ewash the people and make money,

Deben alleged. During the last Sangai Festival-2014, the government removed *phumdi* from Ething and Sendra areas and it were dumped at nearby Komjin area causing inconvenience to the people at large. After some time, the *phumdi* were again dumped at Loktak lake, he said. Involvement of politicians and high level people in various "saving Loktak" projects and activities worsen the situation, he said. **Extinction of rare fish species**  
The ongoing development

works in and around the lake is "terrorization of fishermen" in the name of development. Commissioning of Ithai Dam and Loktak Hydro Power Project have put the people of affected villages into misery. Around 8000 acres of cultivated land have been submerged under water and massive ecological imbalances have been caused due to the two hydro projects. It also caused extensive ecological change around the lake which led to the extinction of over 20 rare local fish species from the lake, said the Assistant Secretary.