

A ceremonial Border Personnel Meeting (BPM) with China on the occasion of New Year 2016 at the Chinese hut at Damai of Zayu Garrison in Chengdu Province, China.



## 33<sup>rd</sup> foundation day celebration

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 2:** The 33<sup>rd</sup> foundation day celebration of the Kangleipak Ki Meira an evening daily held at Manipur Press club today. As a part of the celebration several outstanding media persons were awarded for their service and dedication. Mayenglam Romen of Sangai Express was awarded for best male journalist (print), Noren Ningomban of ISTV was awarded for best male journalist (electronic), Elengbam Babina of Sanaleibak was awarded best female journalist, and Ph. Satyamala of DIPR was awarded for best appreciated IPR personal (News). While two hawkers of Kangleipak Ki Meira were awarded as best hawker. During the function MLA N. Biren Singh, Director of Information and Public Relations, Somorjit Salam (MCS) and Addl. Chief Engineer of CADA K. Manoranjan Singh graced the function as chief guest, president and guest of honors respectively.

## Indian Army celebrates New Year with Chinese counterpart

**PRO(Defence)**  
**Imphal, Jan 2:** A ceremonial Border Personnel Meeting (BPM) with China on the occasion of New Year 2016 was held at the Chinese hut at Damai of Zayu Garrison in Chengdu Province, China. The Chinese delegation was led by Senior Colonel Hu Xiao Bao and the Indians were led by Brigadier SS Bhogal. This time the meeting was marked by a novelty. After paying respect to the National Flags and playing of National Anthems, the Chinese soldiers surprised and enthralled the audience by their performance of Hindi Bollywood songs "Jai Ho" and "Ankhe Khuli Ho Ya Ho Bandh". The Chinese women soldier performed a scintillating dance on the rendition of the Group songs by Chinese men. The meeting and performance of the cultural programme by both the delegates showcased the ever growing bonhomie and brotherhood amongst the Armies of both the Nations. It also fostered the feelings of friendship and commitment towards enhancing the existing cordial relations and maintenance of peace along the Line of Actual Control.

## Accused produced before court

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 2:** Main accused in connection with the murder of Tensubam Premanda of Takhel Mamang Leikai has been produced before the court of District & Sessions Judge, Manipur West at Uripok Cheirap Court complex today. The accused has been identified as Tensubam Babi aged 23, 5<sup>th</sup> youngest brother of Late Premanda, s/o Tensubam Mohindro of Takhel Mamang Leikai. In connection with the death of Tensubam Premanda, four other persons were also produced before the court. They have been identified as Keisham Ningthoual aged 26, s/o Keisham Ibomcha, Loushangbam Abungo aged 32, s/o Loushangbam Kulamcha, Pheiroijam Nabha aged 37, s/o Pheiroija, Chaoton, all four from Takhel Mamang Leikai. Family members of the four claimed that they are innocent and appeal to release immediately.

## Maoist movement in Chhattisgarh discussed

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan.2:** An interactive discourse on " Maoist Movement and the role of the State: Chhattisgarh experience" held at Manipur Press Club today. Suvojit Bagchi, Bureau Chief, The Hindu, Kolkata Edition as Key speaker of the interaction program highlighted the historical background on how and when the Communist Party of India- Maoist, the left-wing armed party entered Chhattisgarh. He elaborated the Maoist policy to empower the tribals in south Chhattisgarh and their policy in building up a military base in the area following an increase in the activity of the rebels. Suvojit on the other hand analysed the dark sides of the state's 'Scorched earth policy' to control the Maoist activities in the region however, the policy often defined in counter-terrorism.

The policy, he said, has annihilated many, ruined lives and destroyed history, which hitherto has never been documented. He also spoke on the role of Maoist as well as social media in conflict areas of Chhattisgarh and explained the nature and elements of Maoist movement in the region. The interaction program was jointly organized by the Centre for Manipur studies, Manipur University, Columnist's forum, Manipur with media partner, Imphal Times. Prof Rajendra Kshetri, HOD, Sociology Department, Manipur University moderated the discussion while Felix Padel, Anthropologist, great, great grandson of Charles Darwin and Jenifer, Community Activist based in UK and many other delegates took part in the discussion.

## Postman goes on motor bikes

**IT News**  
**Imphal Jan 2:** "Post Man", the ambassador of India Post, will be seen delivering speed post articles in Manipur on motor bikes from today. In order to make faster delivery of speed post articles Manipur Postal Dept. today started delivery of Speed Post articles in the state by putting seven motor bikes on the road, said Shri Vinod Kumar, Director (Posts) Manipur while sending postmen staff on bikes by giving them departmental caps. Vinod Kumar, Director Manipur said that the use of motorbikes will surely make the delivery much faster and the number of motorbikes would be increased if department feels more demand for it. He further said that the Manipur Postal Division worked really hard to provide these bikes by the New Year since November last year. L. Tiken Singh ASP Manipur intimated that on an average more than 800 articles are being received for delivery in Imphal Head Post Office. Presently the seven bikes cover the postal delivery beats of Checkon Soibam Leikai, Wangkhei, Sangaiprou, Keishampat, Deulaland Dingku Road, Khongman and Uripok. The use of motorbikes in delivering articles was started some years ago however this is the first time that so many motor bikes have been put to use.

## Experts discuss ways to transform Manipur economically

**ANI**  
**Imphal, Jan. 2:** In a two-day seminar based on the theme "Economic Transformation in North East India: Predicaments, Potentials and Policies", experts gathered in Imphal recently to discuss ways to boost the economy of Manipur by implementing various central and state-sponsored schemes. Economic transformation is the key to the development of the northeast region as it battles a high rate of unemployment, dwindling agricultural output and an unimpressive manufacturing sector. The event was organised by the Department of Economics, Manipur University, under the sponsorship of Indian Council for Social Science Research, New Delhi. "Various aspects of the economy were discussed and on various academic platforms in the Northeast, but somehow, we seem to have let the north eastern region's economy at the macro level. We also addressed the issues of agricultural stagnation, industrial growth, undirected growth of the service sector as a whole for the north east. That is why we have taken the issue of transforming the north eastern region's economy in the regional context," said Professor Priyoranjan Singh, the convener of the seminar. Poor infrastructure combined with limited market access has hindered the development

prospects of the landlocked north eastern states. In recent times, several policies have been initiated to bring the economy of the Northeast region at par with the national economy. The government wants to create employment avenues for the youth. "Unemployment is a general problem. It is everywhere but in Manipur the official statistics shows that over 7 lakhs people are registered as unemployed," said Dr. Hemanta Meitei, Associate Professor, Manipur University. Recently, various skill development schemes, including National Digital Literacy Mission, Electronic System Design and Manufacturing and Pradhan

Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana were launched in Imphal with an aim to provide training to local youth and generate employment avenues for them. This will bring the educated but unemployed youth to the mainstream and contribute largely to economic transformation in the region. The youth of the region wish to get employment, industrialists want more business and farmers are aspiring to enhance farm output. Northeastern states in India are lagging behind others because of decades' long insurgency and violence. Gradually, things are changing and a new wave of economic prosperity is gaining momentum.

## 1 NSCN K cadre killed in gunfight

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Jan 2:** One NSCN cadre was killed on Wednesday evening in a

gunfight with troops of 18 Assam Rifles in general area of Zhutovi village. According to AR sources, after receiving inputs of presence of NSCN (K) cadres, two patrols of AR personnel were sent to the area. When the troops reached a rubber plantation area, three persons were

reportedly carrying extortion from truckers, AR stated. As the AR personnel approached the spot and began to question the trio, AR said two of them fled from the area while the other one took out a pistol and fired at the AR troops. In the exchange of fire, the patrol leader shot the suspected

NSCN cadre, AR sources informed. One 9 mm pistol along with cash was recovered from the deceased, while the body was later handed over to police, AR said. Till the time of filing the report, it could not be ascertained as to which group the deceased belonged to.

## Orphan girls celebrate New Year 2016 with Manipur Postal Dept

**IT News**  
**Imphal Jan 2:** The orphan girls of an orphanage celebrated New Year 2016 in inspection bungalow of Imphal HPO campus and enjoyed music & dance with the staff members of Imphal postal division. Vinod Kumar, Director (Posts) Manipur invited these girls in his office as a special gesture to spread happiness among orphan kids. This orphan home for girls is located in Pambai Khul, Don Bosco school, Langjing Tharoijam road in Imphal. At the entrance each staff

member was welcomed with flowers and they were shown beautiful rangoli made by Ms Homeshori who is working as Chief of Philately Bureau in Imphal HPO. In the beginning of function all children were given opportunity to perform activities of their choice. Children preferred singing song and dance with the Manipuri music. All staff members were become emotional with their performances. Ms Rebaca impressed all with her moves during dance performance. Rev. Kh. Nilbir Singh intimated

that these children are gift of God and he thanked director postal and staff members for this function. Vinod explained this as a step to spread smile on the faces of these children as no one is sharing happiness with them and in orphan home they do daily activities in a mechanical manner which is far away from emotions. He added that inviting these children and celebrating New Year with them is an effort to provide them an opportunity to mix with other people and enjoy happiness with group of kind hearted persons.

## A perspective on Kabui marriage:

## New generations now seem to forget the aesthetic culture of Kabui

By: **Gaithaohungliu Remei (Sunshine)**  
**IT News**

**Imphal, Jan 2:** This account on the ancient practice of Kabui marriage system is based on the narration of a 90 year-old Poudikhonliu Remei of Thangmeiband Tharon village. Among the entire population of Manipur, it can be assumed that just a few have actually witnessed the traditional and customary holy marriage of the indigenous Kabui tribe. The arranged marriage of the Kabui ethnic group takes a long traditional process and lots of money are spent during the whole process, feoding included. As such, youths of the Kabui tribe mostly prefer to elope in order to shorten the wedding. In arranged holy marriage, the groom's family take the initiative by taking traditional liquor to the residence of the girl with the objective of proposing. Failure to accept the liquor, on the part of the girl meant that the proposal has not been accepted and henceforth the "liquor" brought in earlier will be rejected. However, if the proposal is accepted, a particular day would be fixed, on which date, the groom's family had to bring a pair of iron hoe referred to as "Lougai" in the Kabui dialect. The tool is later carefully kept under the pillow of the girl's father.



Kabui Tribe in their traditional attires

The "Lougai" are strongly tightened to make sure that they do not make any striking sound. The popular belief is that if the father of the girl experiences a good dream, it will be taken as a symbol of a happy married life for the both the girl and the boy. On the contrary, if the dream happens to be bad, it is assumed as bad omen, the process is then again repeated on the next night.

Nevertheless, if the dream is one of happiness, the father of the girl will narrate his account to the elders of both the families in the morning. Subsequently "Joupaan Keime" literal meaning oblation of wine to the deity, is carried out. The menfolk will later rejoice yet again by consuming liquors and the procedure is referred to as "Mangai Jou Jangmei." Later on, the boy's family will engage a house within the neighbourhood of his fiancée, though it has to be of the same clan as that of with the prospective groom. The house concerned will serve as the communication centre (if the boy and the girl's families happen to be from different villages). Known as "Nouthan Kaibang", relatives of the man can take shelter at the said residence, if considered necessary, till the marriage is concluded. Accordingly, two respected elders are chosen by the boy's family to act as a form of negotiator (Nouthanpou) till the marriage is performed. Meanwhile, the process of offering the aforementioned "Lougai" will be delivered by the boy's family with the girl's family warmly accepting it so as to fix the date of marriage. As such, when the date is fixed, the "Joupaan Keime" is then again carried out by the elders so that no unwanted events take place prior to the marriage.

(Contd. on page 2)