

BJP Election Management Committee Th. Chaoba and Media Secy. Basanta talking to reporters.



## Petrol, diesel rates cut by under 1 Re

**IANs**  
New Delhi, July 1: State-run Indian Oil Corp (IOC) has cut the price of transport fuel effective on Friday by under a rupee each, of petrol by 89 paise a litre and of diesel by 49 paise, both at Delhi with corresponding decrease in other states.

Making its previous fortnightly revision in fuel prices on June 16, IOC had hiked prices of petrol marginally by 5 paise a litre, and of diesel by Rs 1.26, both at Delhi, with corresponding increase in other states.

Petrol per litre from Friday costs Rs 64.76 in Delhi, Rs 67.79 in Kolkata, Rs 69.32 in Mumbai and Rs 64.24 in Chennai. Similarly, diesel costs Rs 54.70 in Delhi, Rs 56.89 in Kolkata, Rs 60 in Mumbai and Rs 56.25 in Chennai. Amid the recent fluctuation in global crude oil prices the Indian basket of crude closed trade on Thursday at \$46.48 a barrel, as per official data.

## Doctors display black badges in Mizoram

**PTI**  
Aizawl, July 1: Doctors working under the government in Mizoram today displayed black badges at their respective working places in response to a call by the All India Federation of Government Doctors' Associations (AIFGDA).

A press statement issued by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Mizoram State Branch, the AIFGDA submitted their three-point demands to Prime Minister Narendra Modi which included constitution of Medical Grant Commission and implementation of 'same work, same pay' by regulating salaries of government doctors in all the states.

## State BJP triggers fresh row over appointment of Parliamentary Secretary

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 1:** BJP Manipur Pradesh today triggered fresh row over the appointment of Parliamentary Secretary Congress government led by Chief Minister Okram Ibobi, terming it as 'unconstitutional'. Speaking in a press conference held today at BJP Manipur Pradesh Office, Convenor of the Election management Committee, Th Chaoba said that by appointing 5 parliamentary secretary which is equivalent to the Minister of State, the government of Manipur has violated the provision provided under Article 164 of the constitution of India.

Chaoba said that after the amendment of the article in 2003, Article 164, sub section 2 (1A) says that the total number of Ministers, including the Chief Minister, in the Council of Ministers in a State shall not exceed fifteen

percent of the total number of members of the Legislative Assembly of that State, provided that the number of Ministers, including the Chief Minister in a State shall not be less than twelve. As for smaller states like Manipur which have less legislators the number of Ministers can reach 12 including the Chief Minister as according to the 91<sup>st</sup> amendment of the Constitution of India but cannot exceed the number. He further said that, after inducting 12 cabinet Ministers, the Okram Ibobi Singh government inducted 5 more legislators as the Parliamentary Secretary on October 10, 2012. As according to the gazette notification of the state government the Parliamentary secretary is equal to the Minister of state as they enjoyed the equal status in terms of pay and rank.

Chaoba said as according to the sections 5 of the gazette, it is stated that the functions and duties of a Parliamentary secretary shall be such as may be specified, by notification in the official gazette by the Chief minister and as according to the section 7, it is stated that a parliamentary secretary shall be entitled to such salary and allowance as are admissible to a Minister of state under the salaries and Allowances of ministers Manipur Act 1972.

As the parliamentary secretary are equal to ministers it is in violation of the Article 164 of the Indian constitution, said Chaoba and stated that the matter will be taken to the Supreme Court besides, putting the matter to the notice of the Central Government. He further said that all the salary enjoyed by the 5 parliamentary secretaries should be recovered.

## BJP ridicules CM over Sports University land allotment

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 1:** Even as the Chief Minister of Manipur has stated that all land require for establishment of the Sports University has been allotted at Yaithibi Loukon, State BJP today said that as there are many disputed land in the area that the Chief Minister had stated the central government cannot take up steps to begin the University.

Talking to media person BJP leader Th Chaoba said that as the Chief Minister had allotted unclear land for the establishment of the Sports University the matter was not discussed in the Parliament.

"If a Bill has to be passed than the government should allot lands which are not disputed", Chaoba said.

Reacting to the statement of the Chief Minister at which he said that sufficient land has been acquired at yaithibi Loukon, Chaoba stated that how could a land be acquired without proper official

procedure under the right to fair compensation and transparency in land acquisition, rehabilitation and settlement act 2013 and proper presentation of the Social Impact Assessment report to the public.

Chaoba said that the state government has not notified the people of the Yaithibi Loukon about the establishment of the Sports University and acquisition of land without proper notification is complete violation of the rights of the

people.

The matter has even been taken up as a serious one by the Asian Human Rights Commission on May, 2015. The Rights body had appealed both the state and central government authority to stop force land acquisition at Yaithibi Loukon.

Mentioned may be made that Chief Minister Okram Ibobi had blamed the central government for not starting the sports university even after allotting land some days back.

## Two Myanmar nationals held for carrying heroin

**PTI**

**Aizawl, July 1:** Two Myanmar nationals were arrested today for carrying about 221 grams of heroin here, an Excise department official said. Ngunsingluai (43) of Tuicherh village in Myanmar and Kimmenpar (20) of Chawthe

village in Myanmar were arrested by Mizoram Excise and Narcotics officials for possession of the contraband, an official release said. The contraband has street value of around Rs 6,75 lakh in the local market, the official said.

## NEFSA in trouble for agent at CAF & PD Minister's constituency

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 1:** State government failure to provide allotted share of rice to a fair shop agent at Seijang Village under Lamlai Assembly constituency had ignited protest from the beneficiaries' yesterday evening.

Interestingly, the constituency belongs to the CAF & PD Minister Ksh. Biren.

Large number of people thronged to the residence of Huidrom Inaoton Singh at Seijang Awang Leikai, who is the agent of the fair price shop of the area against his failure to distribute allotted share of rice to the beneficiaries.

Earlier, a JAC formed at Lamlai Assembly constituency had staged a protest demonstration against the alleged misutilization of rice sanction under National Food Security Act (NFSA)

Secretary of JAC Mutum Ongbi Thobisana, while speaking to media persons said that even though the JAC had warned the agent to provide full share of allotted rice to the beneficiaries and made available to the people before July 1, Huidrom Inaoton, the agent brought only few share of the allotted rice.

When question by a JAC member Huidrom Inaoton stated that he was compelled to collect incomplete share of the allotted rice as it will be difficult to get even that share if it was not collected before June 30. At 8 pm yesterday a meeting was convened at Seijang Community held by the JAC.



## NFSA a total flop in Manipur - BJP

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 1:** The auspicious National Food Security Act (NFSA) which came into force since May this year is a total flop in the state of Manipur as government is not sincere in implementing the Act. Speaking to media persons, Chaoba said that the Act which is implemented at many states since 2013 cannot be implemented properly in the state. He said even though the act came into force in the state anomalies to the side of the government has deprived the right of the common people who are supposed to be benefited under the act.

He said even at the constituency of the CAF and PD Minister as well as at the constituency of the Chief Ministers complaints to the implementation of the act has been notice. "People are angry as there share are misutilised, the way that the government implement the NFSA need to be investigated by an independent committee headed by a Retd Chief Justice", said the Chaoba.

The veteran BJP leaders also blamed the government over its disparities to the distribution of ration cards to the beneficiaries.

As the Fair price Shop Agent, Huidrom Inaoton failed to turn up to the meeting the irate locals stormed to the residence of the agent however, a team of Lamlai police which rushed the spot on time prevented the locals from causing any trouble. The JAC then lodged

a verbal complaint to the police team and later the police kept the rice in their custody at around midnight yesterday. The JAC further warned serious form of agitation if the people were deprived of the allotted share as according to NFSA.

## MC Mary Kom to be part of Vijender's title fight

**PTI**

**New Delhi, July 1:** Five times World Champion and Olympic bronze medalist boxer MC Mary Kom will be part of Vijender Singh's bout for the WBO Super Middle-weight Asia Pacific Championship Title, to be held at the Thyagaraj Stadium here on July 16.

Mary Kom will organise a special bout for her boxing foundation in the undercards

of Vijender Singh. In this bout, two female boxers of her foundation will participate in a three round contest.

Commenting on this association Mary Kom said: "I am really excited to be part of Vijender's first title fight.

This biggest ever professional boxing show will give big boost to Indian Pro boxing and I am sure this will attract more and more young kids to start playing boxing as a sport. Two

female boxers of my foundation will be part of the undercard fight. I would like to wish goodluck to my dear brother Vijender Singh and will be there in Delhi to cheer him."

Welcoming Mary Kom's association with his bout, Vijender said: "I welcome my sister MC Mary Kom for being part of my title bout. I am sure boxing fans will enjoy the undercard fight of women boxers from Mary Kom foundation.

## Youth in Manipur take up medicinal, aromatic plants farming

**ANI**

**Bishnupur, July 1:** Under the 'Make in Manipur' initiative as part of the 'Make in India' campaign launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, aromatic and medicinal development centre in the state is generating job opportunities for the unemployed youth besides helping farmers.

Entrepreneurship in aromatic and medicinal plants has tremendous potential in Manipur, which is considered to be the gateway to South East Asia.

Four youth from Bishnupur district set up an Aromatic and Medicinal Development Centre in 2015 in collaboration with the government.

The firm spread over 500 acres is helping grow plants like stevia, lemon grass, ginger and turmeric.

The firm, which employs around 70 people on a daily basis, aims to provide employment to at least 2,000 persons on a sustainable basis in future.

With this initiative, the centre has greatly helped farmers engaged in aromatic herbs cultivation.

"When 'Make in Manipur' project was started, four people from each district were selected and given training on aromatic and

medicinal plant. I was also selected and was part of the training. After the training, I gave a proposal to the Commercial Industry department to set up a firm on medicinal plantation," said Wahengbam Lamnganba, Secretary, Aromatic and Medicinal Development Centre.

Wahengbam helped the firm to develop a farm of Lemon Grass and an oil extraction plant from lemon grass.

Technical support and infrastructure for distillation has been provided by the Commerce and Industries department of Manipur which is also offering marketing support.

The firm is catering to the demands of oil for various products like Perfumery, soaps and cosmetics.

"I have no other job apart from this. With the salary I have received from here, I am able to look after my children and manage to pay their school fees and other basic needs," said Dona, a staff.

Cultivating aromatic herbs and medicinal plants has greatly helped the farmers in Manipur.

Keeping this in mind, Manipur Food Industries Corporation is encouraging the farmers to grow aromatic and medicinal plants in their own land with financial assistance from the banks.

## First squadron of LCA Tejas inducted into Indian Air Force

**New Delhi, July 1:** The indigenization efforts received a shot in the arm today when the Made in India Light Combat Aircraft Tejas was inducted into Indian Air Force in Bengaluru today.

It was a proud moment as Indian Air Force inducted its first indigenously designed and manufactured fly by wire fighter aircraft, 'Tejas'.

The first squadron named as 'Flying Daggers' was formed when Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Southern Air Command, Air Marshal Jasbir Walia, handed over two aircrafts to Group Captain Madhav Rangacharya, the commanding officer of 'Tejas'.

Tejas is a single-engine multi-role fighter jet, pegged to be world's smallest and lightest supersonic fighter.

Defence Aviation major Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has commenced the initial serial production of 'Tejas' with plans to supply six aircraft to IAF this year and eight next year.

The squadron is expected to reach full strength of 20 aircrafts by 2020. The squadron will be based in Bengaluru for the first two years before being moved to Sulur airbase in Tamil Nadu.

The Indian Air Force has contracted 20 'Tejas' aircraft in the Initial operational Clearance configuration and 20

in the Final operational Clearance configuration. Tejas will be an alternative combat aircraft that will replace the ageing MiG 21 series in Indian Air Force.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said induction of indigenously made Tejas fighter jet into the Air Force is a matter of unparalleled pride and happiness for the country. In a tweet, Mr Modi lauded Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and Aeronautical Development Agency on the induction of Tejas fighter jet.

The Prime Minister said, this illustrates skills and strengths to enhance indigenous defence manufacturing.