

JNIMS is a cottage industry of CM and his cronies: BJP VP

ITNews
Imphal, July 11: The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Manipur Pradesh on Monday alleged that JN Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), Porompat is a cottage industry for Chief Minister and Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare. Addressing a group of media persons here today at BJP, Manipur Pradesh head office, Vice President Moirangthem Asnikumar Singh said that the public institute is filled with corrupt activities. Director (i/c) of the government-run institute and Commissioner of Health and Family Welfare, corrupt



activities are carried out in broad day light with the full backing of Chief Minister, who is also the president of JNIMS Society. Corruption, nepotism and favoritism in appointment and promotion of staffs became a hallmark of JNIMS.

Referring to media reports, the Vice-President of BJP, Manipur Pradesh alleged that the JNIMS Director in-charge collected a huge amount of money for regularization of 48 Staff nurses and 2 computer operators under the advice of Chief Minister, Okram Ibobi Singh. "It is clear that the Chief Minister himself is patronizing irregularities and corrupt practices in JNIMS", Asnikumar said.

This is just a tip of an iceberg; many skeletons will tumble out. If JNIMS happens to be de-recognized by Medical Council of India (MCI), career of medical student would be affected due to irregularities of the Director while dancing to the favourite tune of Chief Minister.

While demanding a white paper on appointment, tender and promotion in JNIMS from its inception to the present from the president of JNIMS Society within a week's time, the Vice-president of BJP warned that the party wouldn't remain a mute spectator, and will submit a detailed report to Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and MCI.

DEMORALIZATION OF COMPETENT SENIOR FACULTIES

"Promotion of Dr N Jitendra Singh as Professor Unit III on 06/08/2015 and Dr Ng Javan, promoted as Associate Professor on 06/08/2015 after the cut-off date without any publications is against Regulations. Dr ST Singh, Associate Professor has been promoted after cut-off date without 2 (two) research publications; Dr Keisham Upendra Singh promoted in October 2015 after cut-off date without giving author names in the publications quoted; promotion of Dr

Ibemhal Heisnam to Associate Professor without any publications and no authors names given; hence cannot be considered," are the deficiencies pointed out by MCI in its assessment minutes of JNIMS, Asnikumar said. Such irregularities and nepotism in promotion of junior and inexperienced persons to higher responsibility led to demoralization of competent senior faculty members, he pointed out.

LOKTAK SCAM
Replying to queries posed by reporters, the VP of BJP stated that the party is serious about rooting out corruption in the state. The BJP exposed the infamous multi-billion Loktak scam involving high level government officials, and following the discussion on the issue in the parliament, the central government has sent instituted enquiry committee to probe the embezzlement of the present Congress government.

ADDITIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

He also informed that the Pradesh BJP will announce additional list of state executive members and the name of the new party spokesperson likely this week. In this regard, a meeting has been convened today morning at the party head office and finalized the names to be nominated to the State Executive Committee.

Manipur has highest concentration of Looms and weavers in the country: DIC

ITNews
Imphal, July 11: As part of the series of conference of Head of Departments of the state organised by DIPR Manipur the officials of the Department of Commerce and Industries today said that Handloom is the most important and fast growing cottage industry in Manipur. As per the report of 2009-2010 Manipur has 20.04 lakh loom workers and 1.90 lakh looms. The state has the highest concentration of weavers and highest concentration on the possession of loom in the country and more than 50% of handloom products is contributed

from North East state. State government has been providing financial assistance to the weavers to avail credit facilities from banks under Deen Dayal Hathkargha Prosaan Yojana (DDHPY) and Integrated Handloom Development Scheme (IHDS) to 18,272 weavers of the state. To create a better working atmosphere with better light and environment, workshops were constructed for 17,042 weavers.

The official further said that the department managed to provide employment to unemployed diploma and degree holders to monitor,

supervise and producing new and attractive designs.

Floral tribute paid to victims of extrajudicial execution

ITNews
Imphal, July 11: On the occasion of 7th Foundation Day of Extrajudicial Execution Victim Families Association Manipur (EEVFAM) held here today at Kwakeithel Thiyam Leikai Community Hall, family members of those who were killed in extrajudicial executions offered floral tribute to the photos of the victims. Addressing the gathering president of EEVFAM, Renu Takhellambam expressed her

Sushma Swaraj issues apology to Manipuri woman

New Delhi, July 11: Union External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj apologised to a Manipuri woman who alleged racism by an immigration officer at Delhi's Indra Gandhi International Airport. Swaraj apologized to Monika Khangembam on Twitter, saying that Immigration department doesn't come under her Ministry, but that she will surely take it up with Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh. Meanwhile, Kiren Rijju also confirmed that the matter had been taken note of.

Tweeting out an apology, Swaraj said, "Monika Khangembam - I am sorry to know this. Immigration is not with me. I will speak to my senior colleague Shri @rajnathsingh ji to sensitise Immigration officials at the airport." When asked

about the matter, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs of India Kiren Rijju also said, "Action will be taken as and when details are given to us." This came after Khangembam posted on Facebook about how she was bullied by an immigration officer at the airport and asked to 'prove her Indianness'. The post had attracted a lot of attention of Facebook and elsewhere on social media, with a lot of people speaking up in solidarity with Khangembam. A lot of media channels also picked up the story. She alleged that the officer, after looking at her passport, has asked her, 'Pakka Indian ho?' and had proceeded to ask her all sorts of weird questions like, 'Name the number of states in India', and 'Which states border the state of Manipur.'



The incident happened when Monika was travelling to Seoul on Saturday to attend the 10th Ewha Global Empowerment Program (EGEP) from July 10 to 24. She was to represent India and present a paper on Manipuri women and conflict at an Open Forum Program. The identity of the officer in question has not been revealed.

Women representatives met CM, lays down term for removal of 'Wanted' tag on Ratan

ITNews
Imphal, July 11: The JAC formed against the wanted tag on former JCILPS Convenor Khomdram Ratan attempted to storm the CM bungalow today at around 11:30 pm. The JAC has been on a mass sit-in protest at Singjamei area since yesterday demanding the removal of wanted tag from K Ratan.

State security personnel blocked the protestors near Nupi Lal complex, after which four representatives were allowed to meet the CM including former JCILPS Women Wing Convenor L Nganbi, Nongpok Leingak Nupi Lup, Imphal East President Y Memma, Co-Convenor of the JAC T Thaba

and organisation secretary P Sobita. Speaking to media persons, L. Nganbi said that the representatives laid down the terms to the CM in the strongest form demanding removal of wanted tag on K. Ratan. However the CM said that since there is a controversy of that photo in which K. Ratan was seen

holding a flag of a proscribed UG group, if the state government did not announce the 'Wanted' tag than there will be lots of problem for the state government and even to the JCILPS movement from the central government. She further said that CM has assured that the state cabinet will consider the matter after the court procedure.

Assam flood situation grim, displaced residents suffer in relief camps

ANI
Jorhat, July 11: The flood situation in Assam remains grim, affecting thousands of people residing in the area. The River Brahmaputra is flowing above the danger mark in Jorhat, putting immense pressure on embankments in the district.

Several tributaries of the Brahmaputra, including the Bhogdoi and Dhansiri have inundated over 100 villages in Jorhat and Golaghat districts, which are the worst hit in terms of crop and livestock damage. The Assam Disaster Management Authority (ADMA) has confirmed that 90 roads, embankments, culverts and bridges in the state have been damaged by the flood

waters. Officials said that nearly 50,000 people have been affected in Jorhat district alone. The government has set up relief camps and shelters for the flood affected people. The district administration is providing food and other facilities to those rescued from flood affected areas.

Chief Minister Sarbananda Sonowal has reviewed the flood situation and instructed the state health department to monitor hygiene related issues. Sonowal stressed on providing proper relief materials to women and infants. Heavy rains in Assam during past few weeks have created a flood like situation in the state, disrupting the lives of the residents.

More than 8 lakh additional hospital beds required in Northeast Region

ANI
Guwahati, July 11: A healthcare summit organized recently in Guwahati, Assam, has informed that the northeast region requires over eight lakh additional hospital beds. Participants said that the Northeast region has potential to be South East Asia's healthcare hub. Taking a serious note on that, FICCI and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) had recently organized a two-day summit under the banner called "The Northeast Healthcare Summit" in Guwahati. During the summit, over 200 delegates, including doctors from north eastern states, national and regional speakers and stakeholders representing hospitals, pharmaceutical companies, Medical devices companies and others participated in the deliberations. The summit was inaugurated by Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Mizoram, Lal Thanzara, in

presence of Chairman, FICCI NE Advisory Council, Ranjit Barhakur, President Public Health Foundation of India, Dr K. Srinath Reddy, Vice president PHFI, Jayanto Narayan Choudhury, and State Health Ministers from Mizoram, Meghalaya, Sikkim and Members of Parliaments from northeast states. Laying major emphasises on making affordable and accessible world class health care available across the region, the summit also highlighted the need for taking a holistic approach to health care, giving equal importance to different alternate and complementary systems of medicine, the statement said. During his address, Health and Family Welfare Minister of Mizoram, Lal Thanzara, hailed the organizers for organizing the important summit that highlighted key issues in today's evolving healthcare scenario pertinent to Northeastern parts of India. However, he also lamented that due to lack of financial resources, skilled manpower in health, tough terrains and quality

medical colleges; healthcare has taken a back seat in the NE region. "Poor healthcare services in the Northeast and the need to enhance manpower, including setting up of more medical colleges in the region the requirement of the day. There is an urgent need to review the progress of schemes sanctioned by centre or the North East Council (NEC) towards the improvement of healthcare services in the region, especially infrastructure, in addition to finding out better ways and means to remove health problems and inaccessibility to quality healthcare especially in rural areas of the region. At present, only Assam, Tripura and Manipur have been able to set up their own medical colleges, while states like Mizoram, which grapple with cancer, are yet to get any college," Lal added. The minister also appealed to the attended delegates and organizations in related fields to put aside

monetary benefits and work towards the improvement of healthcare services in the region. Dr K Srinath Reddy, President of Public Health Foundation of India, in his video address said, "Northeast is one of the most vibrant regions in India, but its health indicators have unfortunately lagged behind rest of India on many counts. With so much technological and infrastructure advancements, it is time to bring about a rapid improvement in the public health indicators, especially in light of the renewed commitment by the central government towards speedy achievement of universal health coverage in the entire North-east region." Further, he also appealed to all the stakeholders like policymakers, industrialists, health practitioners to come with a forward looking plan to improve the health scenario in the region, and become a major healthcare hub for entire Southeast Asia.

(Contd. on page 2)