



Sit in protest demanding implementation of ILPS in the state

## Beneficiary complaint against failure of NFSA

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 27:** For the first time in Manipur, 2 beneficiaries of National Food Security Act had lodged complaints to the concern authority against the department's failure to

provide allotted ration quotas.

A statement of the Human Rights Initiatives (HRI) said that two(2) complainants namely Thokchom (O) Pramo Devi W/O Th. Yaikul Meitei of Porompat CT under Khetrigao Assembly Constituency and R.K. Ranjana Devi @ Nungshitombi W/O R.K. Sanatomba of WangkheiHijamLeirak under Yaikul A.C. have filed their complaints to the District Grievance Redressal Officer(DGRO)/Additional District Magistrate, Imphal East District, Porompat, Manipur for not getting ration/rice quota for the months of May, June and July 2016 by the Authority concerned under the National Food Security Act,2013 which has been enforced from the month of April 2016 in the State. The two complainants have also requested to the DGRO to pay food security allowance under the Act for failing to provide them ration/rice of the said months. The two families are belonging to economically backward family of the district and these two complainants have been filed under the Aegis of HRI as the part of ongoing right to food campaign. If the DGRO has failed to redress the grievances of the complainants, HRI will provide logistic to the complainants for further appeal to State Food Commission later on if the

grievances of the complainants are not redressed accordingly.

It may be mentioned that *any public servant or authority found guilty, by the State Commission at the time deciding any complaint or the appeal, of failing to provide the relief recommended by DGRO, without reasonable cause or willfully ignoring such recommendation shall be liable to penalty not exceeding Rs.5000/-* in accordance with the provisions of Section 41 of the Act. Further, HRI strongly demand to the Nodal Department i.e. CAF & PD, Govt. of Manipur that **all the notifications to be made under the Act including the mechanism for providing maternity benefit not less than Rs.6000/- to every pregnant woman or lactating mother (section 4(b)), value of a meal for providing food security allowance (Section 13) and time period for complaint and appeal should be made to the general public immediately** so that the citizen assert their entitlements as per provisions of law.

HRI also warn to the Political parties or so called social activist to stop playing card of the NFSA on the pretext of coming election and it is amounted to mockery with the people's entitlements or the law. It is also questionable to those politicians who are playing card of Food Security Act.

## Railway Minister to lay foundation for longest railway tunnel at Kotlien

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 27:** Union Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu will be laying foundation stone for Imphal Railway station at Malom Bhamdier in Imphal West district on July 30. On the same day he will also lay foundation stone for Tunnel/12 which is going to be the longest tunnel in the country at Tamenglong district on the same day.

The longest tunnel in Jiribam-Tupul section is 4.9 km in length, while the longest tunnel that the

Union Railway Minister is laying foundation day at Kotlien area in Tamenglong district in the Tupul-Imphal section will be 10.75 km, a railway official source said. According to official source, the Union Minister will arrive at Imphal Tulihal Airport on a special aircraft at 9.30 am. From 9.30 am to 10 the Minister along with Manipur government representatives at the Airport Lounge. Later at 10.30 am he will lay foundation stone for Imphal station. During the visit the Union

Railway Minister will meet Manipur MPs, Ministers and MLAs at Imphal and is expected to have lunch at Hotel Imphal.

At 4.30 pm the Minister will visit tunnel construction site at Tamenglong district where he will lay foundation stone for the longest Tunnel. The Union Minister will then halt for a night and will leave for Agradala in the next morning.

In June, 2014, Railway officials had stated that the Tupul-Imphal section covering 27 km is expected to be completed

by March 2018 with final location survey completed. The Railway Board has sanctioned Rs1,397 crores for this section. There will be 12 tunnels with a total length of 15.1 km, three major and 27 minor bridges along with two station buildings.

The state has the only rail head at Jiribam which is an extension of the 1.5 km Lumding-Silchar meter gauge section in Assam.

The first phase of the project covers 84 km of the Jiribam-Tupul section and work is in progress on 1,263 hectare of the 1,310 hectare area.

Railways said the Jiribam-Tupul section will have 112 minor bridges, six major bridges, three road over bridges (ROB) and two road under bridges (RUB). It informed that already work on 52 minor bridges, ROB and RUBs has been completed.

In the first phase, there was a total of 34 tunnels covering a total length of 39,401 meters. Railways authorities said tunneling work for 1,852 meters out of the 39,401 meters has been completed so far. A total of six new stations is expected along the newly bridge railway track.

## 'State ignored centre's call for recommendation on ST status of Meitei/Meetei'

**IT News**

**Imphal, July 27:** The Indian government, as a reply to a memorandum submitted by the ST demand Committee of the state government along with necessary supporting documents to discuss the possibility of including Meitei/Meetei in the list of Scheduled Tribes of India on 29 May 2013, but the same have been ignored by the state government so far. The disclosure was made in a Press hand-out of the Scheduled Tribe Demand Committee of Manipur which has been spearheading the movement to include Meitei/Meetei in the list of scheduled Tribes of India to ensure the security and safety of the interests, cultures, customs and

traditions of the indigenous people of the state. Reiterating the need for inclusion of Meitei/Meetei in the list of Scheduled Tribes of India as a constitutional assurance for safeguarding the indigenous people of the state, the release also stressed on the central government's criteria for enlisting a community in the scheduled Tribes list which the Meitei/Meetei community fulfills. A charter of demands regarding the same has also been submitted to the Chief Minister for discussion and deliberation in the upcoming Assembly session in July. The release further states that a 12-hour relay hunger strike by 100 volunteers will be organized on 7 August which will be followed by a Mass

Rally by the indigenous people on 18 September. These democratic forms of protests and agitations will exclude students upto class VII for the time being, while the much criticized forms of protests like bandhs and blockades will not be resorted to as far as possible by the Committee which is adopting a new theme: 'Movement with a difference', the release added. It also warns everyone concern of misinterpreting the public-friendly approach to protests as a sign of weakness or cowardice, and urged every right-thinking and able indigenous people in the state to come forward and support the steps being taken up by the Committee.

## 1st death anniversary of Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam



**Rameswaram, July 27:** The first death anniversary of former President Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam is being observed today. Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to Dr. Kalam on his first death anniversary. In a tweet, Mr Modi said, its been a year since our beloved Dr. Kalam left us and created a void that is irreplaceable. Union Ministers Venkaiah Naidu, Manohar Parikkar, Pon Radhakrishnan laid down the foundation stone of Dr Kalam National memorial at Rameswaram today. Information and Broadcasting Minister Venkaiah Naidu recalled the teachings and achievements of Dr. Kalam. He said, Dr. Kalam became famous as Missile Man with Pokhran nuclear test and Agni, Prithvi missile tests. Mr. Naidu thanked Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalitha for giving land for building the national memorial for Dr. Kalam in Rameswaram.

## Security intensified at Mizoram-Bangla border

**PII**  
**Aizawl, July 27:** Security has been beefed up along the Mizoram-Bangladesh international border after the Union Home Ministry instructed the state government to maintain strict vigil on border areas, a senior police official said today. The instructions have been issued to the district SPs of Kolasib, Mamit, Lunglei and Lawngtlam sharing border with Bangladesh to intensify security in their respective districts, the official said. BSF personnel deployed in the areas were also instructed to intensify patrolling along the 319 km-long Mizoram-Bangladesh border, he added. Security was already tightened after recent terror attacks in Bangladesh.



Students of various schools in Imphal area continue various form of protest demanding immediate implementation of Inner Line permit system in the state. Around 11 am today morning large number of students today staged sit-in-protest by sitting across the road at Lamlong Keithel area leading towards Ukhrul. As the students staged the demonstration surprising everyone, local meira paibis of the area also came out joint the student by guarding them. Vehicles coming along the route were forced to divert as the student continue the protest. Police tried to intervene the student but remain helpless till late evening.

## JCILPS supporters rounded up 61 non locals, released 11

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 23:** Supporters of JCILPS pulled down 61 non-locals coming towards Imphal at various passenger buses today at Sekmai area. The drive which began from July 21 has so far pulled down over 450 non-locals which tried to enter the state and handed over to police. In today's drive the JCILPS supporters after verification all the 61 non locals and set free 11 students which showed proper valid documents. The remaining were handed over to Sekmai Police.

## KCP Poirei clarifies on attack to M Ibotombi

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 27:** Rebel group KCP Poirei Meitei Lup today said that the bomb attack to the residence of M Ibotombi Singh at Yairipok area was not related with the students' agitation against the construction of Power Sub station inside the premises of two government schools at Yairipok. In a press statement the outfit said that it has no interest on the matter and had not spell a single words on whether to construct or not. The bomb attack was carried out as M Ibotombi had time

and against showed high handedness to the party when he was the BDO at Bishempur. It said the party had requested him to meet the party but he had defied all the time. Reacting to the Joint Student Coordinating Committee (JSCC) who had alleged the party to have been acting in favour of MLA K Meghachandra, KCP Poirei Meitei Lup said that it was unfortunate and appealed the JSCC should find the truth before misleading a party which has been doing good work for the people of the state.

## Army organises Medical camp

**PIB/DEFENCE**  
**Imphal, July 27:** Troops of Red Shield Division organised medical camp in most remote places of Tamenglong district on 24 Jul 16. Medical camps were organized on request of villagers. Red Shield Division organized a medical camp at Bunning and Kabonram Villages on 24 Jul 16. 52 people of different age groups including women and children from Bunning and Kabonram villages received medical consultation, treatment and medicines during the Camp. The aim of the camp was to provide the much needed medical relief to the people of these remote villages, who are devoid of basic medical facilities. The Medical officer also imparted information about prevention of malaria, skin diseases, water borne diseases, personal hygiene, water sanitation and prevention of HIV/STD's.

## Manipur Facing a Rising Burden of Hepatitis C, Say Doctors

**Rorrikychand Wahengbam**

**Imphal, July 27:** With increasing incidences of Hepatitis C in the country, the infection is emerging as a major health threat in the country. In India, the prevalence of the Hepatitis C is relatively higher in Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh, Puducherry, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram. Manipur is also facing the rising burden of the disease, according to doctor. As we observe World Hepatitis Day, Dr Goldie Longjam, Consultant Gastroenterologist of Shija Hospitals and Research Institute, Imphal talks about the high burden of hepatitis C in Manipur with the infection prevalent in general population in addition to iv drug users "The problem of intravenous drug use has been prevalent in Manipur for the last two decades. Until now, we were only concerned about the rise in HIV incidence. However, with the rise in hepatitis C cases, the infection is now being taken seriously and is considered a threat to the health of the people in the state. IV drug users are at high risk of hepatitis C as the infection is transmitted not only through needle sharing but also through other injecting equipment such as filters, spoons, mixing pots and swabs," says **Dr Longjam**.

Hepatitis C is a blood-borne virus. In most infected areas in the country, it is primarily caused by blood transfusions with unscrubbed blood, surgical procedures that follow unsafe practices and the use of unsterile needles by intravenous drug users and even people living with diabetes. Secondary causes include sharing personal-care items such as toothbrushes and razors with a person infected with the virus. It also may get transmitted through unprotected sex. Aggravating the threat is the fact that unlike hepatitis A and B, there is no vaccine yet to prevent hepatitis C, which can lead to chronic liver disease, even liver cancer. "When compared with HIV, HCV has a higher transmission rate from one person to another. Of those infected with HCV, about 75 per cent tends to develop chronic infection (over a long period), of which 7-18% progresses to develop cirrhosis over a 20-year period. This could further progress to hepatocellular carcinoma (in 1-6% or liver failure (2-3%)," adds **Dr Longjam**. The problem with hepatitis C is that it is asymptomatic in nature and exhibits symptoms only when it reaches a chronic stage. "With nearly 75% of patients showing no early symptoms of the disease, the initial symptoms of the infection resemble that

of common flu. Report any of these symptoms to your doctor, so that steps can be taken to test for hepatitis C," says the doctor.

However, unlike earlier, the infection is both treatable and curable these days. With the availability of new generic drugs, the cure rate of Hepatitis C has increased up to 95%. These drugs are not only cost effective but also ensure minimal side effects.

**What is Hepatitis?**

Hepatitis (HEP-ah-TY-tis) or inflammation of the liver is of five kinds: A, B, C, D, and E. Hepatitis A and E virus is transmitted through contaminated water and food, while Hepatitis B and C are communicated through blood and body secretions. The initial symptoms of the infection resemble that of common flu. While hepatitis A is the most common form of hepatitis, hepatitis B and C are the deadliest. Prevalence of Hepatitis B is 3-5% while hepatitis C is 1% in India. It is important to stress that hepatitis infections can be prevented.

Prevention of hepatitis B & C involves practices to prevent contact with infected blood. Using condoms, strictly avoiding sharing of needles or razors, and making sure tattooing or body piercing is done using clean tools are all important measures.