

## IMA condemns attack on RIMS

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** The State working committee, IMA Manipur State Branch strongly condemns the attack and siege at the RIMS administrative block on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> July 2016. A press release signed by Dr Sachindra Laishram, Honorary State secretary states that such repeated attacks will seriously hamper the working and discharge of duties of the doctors and ultimately affect the proper functioning of the premier medical institute of the state. The committee further appealed to all concerned not to disturb the peaceful atmosphere and maintain the sanctity of Hospitals/ Medical Institutions in future.

## NE likely to have its own new airline

**Agencies**  
**Dimapur, July 9:** A brand new airline based out of Guwahati and connecting all capitals of the North East states is likely to be introduced very soon. According to a report on the Business Insider India, this is for the first time that the Indian government has decided to launch a subsidiary to provide connectivity within the Northeastern part of the country, many areas of which lose out on potential tourism revenue because of lesser air connectivity. The to-be launched airlines will be a subsidiary of Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd, and would most likely start its operations with a fleet of 6 fixed-wing planes and 5 helicopters. The planned subsidiary will have an equity base of Rs150 crore, with 51% of its shares owned by Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd while the North Eastern Council (NEC) will own the rest 49%. "It was during a meeting of all state chief ministers from the North East and Department of North Eastern Region minister Jitendra Singh that the decision to start this airline was taken," the Business Insider India reported.

## All-Political Party meets CM over new Bill

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** Delegates of All-Political Party held a meeting with the Chief Minister today at Chief Minister's Secretariat with CM in the chair to discuss an alternative to the much contested and controversial Protection of Manipur Peoples Bill 2015. The consultative meeting was held after the Chief Minister extended an invitation to the All Political Party on April 4 to discuss on the matter. Proposal for drafting a new Bill- 'Protection of local People of Manipur Bill 2016' was put up with the base year proposed to be changed to January 1972 from the earlier base year of 1951 which drew

opposition from a few delegates. Chief Minister O Ibobi who is also the Chairman of the Drafting Committee stated that the new proposed Bill will be introduced in the upcoming Monsoon Assembly session and will be put up for further modifications by constitutional experts before the presentation. It was also stated that the draft bill will be presented to the JCLIPS and Joint Action Committee against Anti-Tribal Bill (JACATB) for deliberation and discussion as also with other stake holders before a final version is drawn up. It may be recalled that JCLIPS have earlier issued a statement that the body will submit a new ILP related Bill which is yet to

be finalized as of the moment. The delegates of the All Political Party also urged the Chief Minister to bring the protracted issue to a meaningful and rational conclusion at the earliest so that the state and the people can return to a normal life. Delegates of a regional party categorically stated during the meeting that the new draft will meet the same fate as the earlier one as it is absolutely certain that the President will not give assent to the new drafted Bill as well. Meanwhile, it is learnt from reliable sources that the JACATB has convened a meeting today to discuss the developments regarding the much contested Bill.

## Stand of democratic movement against AFSPA vindicated

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) welcomes the judgement of Supreme Court condemning the large scale killings in Manipur in the guise of self defence while dealing with insurgency or militants as unacceptable. The judgement said that if members of the armed forces are deployed and employed to kill citizens of the country on the mere allegation or suspicion that they are the

'enemy', not only the rule of law but also democracy would be in grave danger. A press statement issued by North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) also stated that the Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA) gives soldiers sweeping powers to arrest or interrogate people in "disturbed areas" or states dealing with separatists or insurgents. This law has been used by the army to use draconian measures against Indian people. The release

further mentioned that NEFIS believes that by denying the right to rule of law, the Indian state has kept North-East people relegated to the status of second class citizen in the country that claims itself to be the world's largest democracy. While NEFIS welcomes this move, one has to see what more can be achieved on the ground. This ruling is a vindication of democratic movement against AFSPA, the statement concluded.

## Indifference of state government adversely affecting poor students: SSUM

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** As part of the ongoing effort on protection of poor students, Socialist Students Union of Manipur (SSUM) conducted an inspection visit at Wangoo high school of Bishempur district today. In a press release SSUM said that the Wangoo high school has 531 students and has only 14 teachers including principal, head master, 4 utilise teacher and 8 support teachers. The teachers of the school have been facing difficulties in managing the

massive students and teacher are dissatisfied with the government policy toward the school. The state government did not take up any infrastructure development from the last many years. The villagers and teachers are contributing for the development of the school including fencing, furniture etc. The act of state government of neglecting government schools meant neglecting of poor students as government schools are mainly sought by student from poor families. SSUM

appeals to the concern departments to provide all the requirements of the school so that the staffs and students can have a real opportunity to compete with the students from private schools who have been provided with all necessary facilities. Intervention and support from the state government is also of utmost importance if the deteriorating conditions and public perception of government schools is to be altered and students from poor families can avail of quality education.

## Deafness Screening Camps begins at Thoubal District

**IT News**  
**Thoubal, July 9:** Grand Hearing (Deafness) screening camps under National Health Mission, National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness for people and ALIMCO, MOSJ & E, Govt. of India under the BPL with hearing problems in the district started today at District Hospital Thoubal, under the theme "Lets Wipe out Deafness & Mutism". T Ranjit Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner/Chairman District Health Society

Thoubal, Dr.N Jayantakumar, CMO/District Mission Director, District Health Society Thoubal and Dr.H Angomcha, Medical Superintendent, District Hospital Thoubal graced the function as Chief guest, President and Guest of Honour respectively. The camps commenced today at six different places of Thoubal District. The Camp will be organized at Santhel community hall on July 10, Sugnu CHC on July 11, Kakching CHC, Yairipok CHC

and Lilong PHC on July 12, 13 and 14 respectively. Dr.Jayantakumar, CMO Thoubal appealed to all the MLAs, PRIs, SDOs, ZEOs, CDOs, NYKs, NGOs and ASHAs to support the camp. NHM Thoubal District Programme Manager H. Rishikesh Sharma and National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness Nodal Officer Dr.Achuina Golmei were present at the Camp. More than 1000 people were examined for deafness related problems.

## Parties colluding to pilfer NFSA foodgrains: Maoist

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** No single individual is responsible for the pilferage of foodgrains which are allotted to the poor and the needy. The nexus of every single political party, politicians, bureaucrats, armed militants, brokers and agents are hands in glove in stealing from the less fortunate in the state, stated a release by proscribed group Maoist Communist Party, Manipur. Reiterating its stand that the party does not indulge in snatching away the benefits of the poor and the needy, and will not in the future, the release expressed concern over reports of militant groups joining in the fray and cautioned these

armed groups to refrain from doing so as such acts will bring suspicion and distrust to the whole revolutionary movement in the state. The statement further praised the people for standing up to the misdeeds of

these forces and demanding their rightful share while applauding the people responsible for delivering the exact allotted shares to the beneficiaries in the last couple of days.

## Mass sit-in protests planned against 'Wanted' tag.

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** Joint Action Committee against the announcement of wanted tag on JCLIPS leader Khomdram Ratan and on implementation of ILPS, Singamei Wangma announced that it will stage a mass sit in protest at Singamei area on 10 and 11 of this month demanding withdrawal of

wanted tag on Kh. Ratan in a press meet held at Manipur press club today. The convenor of the JAC Subash said that the JAC will wait till the hearing of the court, if the result of the hearing comes against the people's motive than the JAC will get ready for more strong agitations.

## Floods in Assam affect over 1 lakh people

**Agencies**  
**Guwahati, July 9:** Over one lakh people have been affected by floods in seven districts of Assam for the last few days, an official said on Saturday. A total of 112,307 people in 213 villages of Lakhimpur, Nagaon, Golaghat, Morigaon, Biswanath, Barpeta and Jorhat districts were marooned by floods till late Friday, the Assam State Disaster Management Authority official said. The situation may get worse in the coming days as the state meteorological department has predicted more rains for Assam and other northeastern states. "The situation is worse in Jorhat, Golaghat and



Lakhimpur district where the district administration have opened six relief camps, housing over a thousand affected people," the official said. District administrations have been asked despatch relief material to the affected areas, the official said.

and in Dhubri district. The Dikhow river was also flowing above the danger level at Sivsagar and the Dhanisri river was flowing above the danger level at Golaghat and Nulmalgarh. Besides, there were also reports of massive erosion in Majuli river island. While the flood waters have inundated several village in the area, people feared erosion of river banks in last few days. In Jorhat, the district administration called in the army to help carry out rescue operations. The surging waters have reached embankments in the district causing more worries for the people.

## 3 months Skill Development Training Program concludes

**IT News**  
**Imphal, July 9:** The 3 months long Skill Development Training Programme for the youths of Manipur concluded today. The training programme was organised by Red Shield Division in collaboration with JCRE Skill Solution with the aim to provide vocational training to the youths of Manipur and assist in acquiring profitable jobs. 30 youths of Bishempur

District participated in the training course which offers hospitality management and electrical work. 7 selected participants would be provided placement at Billion Smiles Hospitality Pvt. Ltd Bangalore, Classic group of hotels and Hotel Yaiphaba of Imphal. Chief Guest of the function Brg. Goutam Chauhan, VSM Bde Cdr of 73 Mtn Bde Bishnupur said that during

the last 10 years there has been lots of changes seen in the state and the problem of armed underground activists are going down. Such vocational trainings will help to provided job opportunity to the youths of the state in the metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai etc. Later Brg. Goutam Chauhan distributed certificates to the participants in the Skill Development Program.

## South Africa a place where 'Mohandas' became 'Mahatma': Narendra Modi

**PTI**  
**Johannesburg, July 9:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and Nelson Mandela and met anti-apartheid revolutionaries and families here on his maiden visit to South Africa. "Amidst the lived history of an extraordinary struggle for justice. Prime Minister met anti-apartheid revolutionaries and families," Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Vikas Swarup said in a tweet. "Reliving the life of two legends," Swarup said. The Prime Minister also paid floral tributes to Gandhiji's bust and inaugurated a special exhibition featuring both Gandhi and Mandela. "Homage to a remarkable history. PM visits Constitutional Hill, earlier a prison which housed both Gandhiji & Mandela," he said in another tweet. Modi also paid a visit to Nelson Mandela Foundation, a non-profit organisation founded by Mandela in 1999

to promote his vision of freedom and equality for all. Modi is on five-day four-nation tour. He visited Mozambique yesterday and is on the second leg of his tour of Africa here. He will also visit Tanzania and Kenya. Modi, wearing a 'Madiba' shirt identified with anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, said India's dynamism is not about mere words but it is driven by concrete action. "It (dynamism) is defined by our commitment to change the face of the Indian economy. Not just through sustained rapid economic growth but through multiple transformations that aim to uplift," the Prime Minister said. "India's rise can be defined as HOPE, Harmony, Optimism, Potential and Energy. India's rise is a story of rare resilience, renewed respectance, superb speed and spectacular scale," he said in his 40-minute address. He said his government wants

enterprises to flourish, businesses to grow and the country to rise. "For this, we are already shaping a policy framework that strengthens India's ability to build trade, manufacturing, innovation and investment partnerships with other countries in the world," he added. Modi said his intent was to ensure that the 800 million youth of India should fulfill the dreams, not only of India but the global demand. "It is not only the economy or society that is racing ahead but the mindsets are also changing," he said while giving an overview to the audience about the developments in India which he wanted them to see for themselves. Seeking to strike a chord, Modi said as South Africa works for its economic prosperity, safety and security, it will find in India a "trusted and reliable partner". He said both India and South Africa face similar challenges and India is ready to join this country in its endeavours.