

IMC Election 2016 Certificate distribution for Imphal West



## Anti Bills JAC and Outer Manipur tribal Forum calls 24 hour total shut down in hill area tomorrow

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Condemning the police action to a group of tribal protestors who were opposing the passing of the 3 Bills passed by the Manipur government in front of Manipur Bhawan, Sardar Patel Marg, New Delhi yesterday evening, the Joint Action Committee Against formed against the 3 ILPS related Bills and the Outer Manipur Tribals' Forum (OMTF) has called a 24-hour Total Shutdown on all tribal areas of Manipur starting from the midnight of June 8. The Total shut down called was resolved during an emergency meeting held today morning. Outer Manipur Tribals' Forum (OMTF) is an apex body of the Hmar Inpi, Mizo People Convention, Thadou Inpi, United Naga Council and Zomi Council. The meeting vehemently condemned the incident that happened in front of the Manipur Bhawan, New Delhi terming it as unprecedented use of excessive force against u - n - a - r - m - e - d peaceful tribal protestors. In a press statement the JAC appealed the tribal people of Manipur to observe the Shutdown to show solidarity

and support to the tribal brothers and sisters in Delhi. Following the total shut down the JAC also appealed to precede daily sit-in protest at *Salphate Pumbuk*, Hiangtam Lamka. Earlier, the sit-in-protest was decided to staged from June 9. The JAC said that medical services and emergencies, airport pickup and drop, electricity department (including prepaid recharge outlets), telecom service, water supply, ongoing school/college exams, pre-planned conferences/seminars and weddings shall be exempted during the total shut down protest. The JAC statement said that the peaceful protest outside the Manipur Bhawan took a violent turn last night after the Manipur Rifles personnel

posted there started assaulting the protestors physically. This was followed by an unexpected ambush of lathi charge from the Delhi Police personnel without prior warning, in gross violation of the standard operating procedures, resulting in a number of tribal civilian casualties, with cuts and bruises from head to toe, without any differentiation being made between men and women protestors, the statement added. "Many tribal women including four young mothers were indiscriminately thrashed, beaten, slapped, kicked and pulled by their hairs; two young women were even groped and molested by the Delhi Police! Many men were picked up and beaten by the Police even as they were

leaving the protest area peacefully", the JAC said. It said the Chanakyapuri Police Station had detained around 60 individuals including 21 women since last night for around 12 hours. Demanding clarification for detaining women protestor at night the JAC said that even the injured were not spared either, as they were dragged back to police custody from the hospitals without giving them a much needed rest. The statement further said that after the brutality and raw force exerted by the Manipur State Forces on tribal protestors resulted in the gruesome death of the nine Tribal Martyrs in Lamka last year, it is indeed disheartening to witness a similar senseless, vicious and discriminatory action on the part of the Delhi

Police. The JAC asked, "why democratic and peaceful protestors were dealt with such extreme violence while Chief Minister Ibobi Singh and his cohorts who openly confess their allegiance to CorCom, an umbrella of banned Meitei militant groups, were heavily guarded while they should have been arrested and booked under the appropriate law! Let not the Union government be swayed and misled by the dirty communal politics of Manipur; and let the tribals no longer be seen as second class citizens with lesser human rights or easy victims of filthy political violence perpetrated by larger communities in Manipur as well as the national capital, New Delhi."

## NIA court convicts UNLFF chief RK Meghen to 10 years rigorous imprisonment



**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Special Court of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) today convicted former Chairman of the United Nation Liberation front (UNLFF) **RK Meghen @ Sanayaima to 10 years rigorous imprisonment. The court verdict was announced today. The Special Court of NIA Special Court at Guwahati also announced 10 to 7 years imprisonment of 17 other members of the proscribed group who were arrested in relation to the case of the proscribed group.**  
**RK Meghen, also called RK Sanayaima, is a graduate of International Relations from Jadavpur University in Kolkata. He was arrested by a team of NIA from Dhaka in 2011. Since then he has been detained in NIA custody in Guwahati.**  
**Before the former chairman of the UNLFF has been arrested around 11 members of the proscribed group had also been arrested and more after investigation by the NIA. Trial of the former UNLFF chief along with other members has been undergoing since then.**

## JCILPS 13 hours cease work agitation affect normalcy

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Life in many part of Imphal and other valley districts of the state has been severely affected as JCILPS intensify their agitation demanding implementation of Inner Line Permit System by

calling 13 hours no work protest from 5 am to 6 pm today. As announced by JCILPS, large number of people today came out in the street and staged protest at their respective localities in Imphal areas and other areas

of the valley district. Many protestors also blocked all sorts of vehicular movement at their areas. However, those coming for rituals and medical purposes as well as students appearing the ongoing college semester

exams were allowed to pass. Khwairamband Keithel and other business establishment in and around Imphal areas were closed. Road stretch of Uripok to Naoremthong were blocked by different meira paibis and club members of the area. Tyres were burnt, poles were placed across the road. At Khabeiso, protestors used wood logs, tree planks and even burnt tyres to blocked the road. No report of unwanted incident has been reported till now.

## Editors' Guild Secy to depose before PCI

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Editors' Guild Manipur Secretary Yunam Rupachandra Singh left for New Delhi on Wednesday to depose before the Press Council of India (PCI) on threats faced by media organisations, editors and working journalist of Manipur both from state and non-state actors. Rupachandra, who is also editor-in-chief of Impact T.V, will place various evidences before the inquiry committee of PCI which has taken up a suo motu cognizance with regards to the threats in Manipur. PCI has also asked the state chief secretary and the DGP to present their cases before the committee hearing at the conference hall of PCI, Soochna Bhawan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi on Thursday at 11 am.

## Singjamei Kongba road indefinite bandh continues

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Protesting against the state government allegation to convenor

Khomdram Ratan of JCILPS, indefinite bandh called by locals of Singjamei till Kongba Road is continued. Meira Paibi and club members of the stretch came out to the street protesting the baseless charges on Khomdram Ratan. Tyres were burnt; woods and tree planks were placed on the road blocking vehicular

movement. One of the agitators said that, until and unless state government revoke the allegations and charges put upon Khomdram Ratan, the protest will be continue. Different form of agitation will also be held if the concern authority fails to fulfill their demands as soon as possible.

## Vehicle lifter rounded up

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** A vehicle lifter identified as Md. Sahadat (29) s/o (L) Md. Abdul Gani @ Abocha of Lilong Turel Ahanbi Atoukhong, was rounded up by people while trying to lift a two wheeler Honda Activa from MPP office near Polo Ground Imphal under city Police station Imphal on Tuesday. The person was later handed over to police. City Police had registered a case against the vehicle lifter under FIR No. 76/06/2016 city ps/u/s 379/511 IPC and after producing to magistrate police remanded the thief in police custody till 14/6/2016

## Kakching Khunou Municipal Council takes over Water Supply scheme

**IT News**  
**Imphal, June 8:** Kakching Khunou Municipal Council has resolved to look after the Water supply scheme as the village Water Supply Sanitation committee had failed to comply with the guideline of the Council and the PHED. A press statement

of the council said that the standing committee of the VWSC has failed to comply with the kind of work assigned to them and following that the Council had decided to dissolve and take over the charge looking after the Water Supply Scheme in the interest of the villagers.

## "Repeal AFSPA from northeast at the earliest"

**PTI**  
**Kohima, June 8:** Naga Hoho, the apex tribal body in Nagaland, today urged the central government to repeal the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act 1958 (AFSPA) from the northeast region "at the earliest". Naga Hoho Media Cell expressed anguish over, what it termed as, the "callous" attitude of the Centre towards repeal of the AFSPA from the northeast in general and Naga areas in particular despite repeated appeals by Naga civil societies and human rights activists. "In return, the successive governments irrespective of political parties in Delhi always decide to remain a mute spectator ever since the

enactment of the draconian laws," a release issued by Naga Hoho Media Cell said here. Pointing out that "there is a peaceful atmosphere in Naga areas as of now", the apex body said, any policy that harms the atmosphere of trust and confidence "would be dear to all stakeholders". It said both the Union government and the Naga people have agreed to a settlement for respecting the wishes of the people for sharing sovereign power and to establish a lasting relationship between the government and the Nagas. "We make this statement in the background that, there is an ongoing political negotiation and peace

process between the government of India and the Naga people which can be testified by the signing of Framework Agreement signed on August 3, 2015," the statement said. The Hoho maintained that the Naga people were taken by surprise with the RSS reportedly declaring its support for extension and continuation of AFSPA in the north east and Jammu and Kashmir. The Naga's struggle for self determination cannot be equated with "terrorism" with the Union government recognising the uniqueness of Naga political history and the universal principle that sovereignty lies with the people in a democracy, the Hoho said.

## Bandh has no future; why the Manipuris should stop Bandh/blockade Culture?

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 The recent announcement by the Manipur Government to ban the bandh/blockade culture in the state is a welcome step. It is high time the state government to decide to hold the bandh callers liable for losses incurred to the exchequer on account of the bandh. Leaders of any party or organization behind any bandh must be booked and prosecuted as per law. Then, it has to be ensured that there is no disruption of transport and trade and business in the event of a bandh. Apart from government intervention, the role of the people will matter most when it comes to defying a bandh. It has become a habit with the people to support a bandh, willingly or otherwise, which in turn has continued this violent trend. It is time to realising that the bandh culture has been hampering the

development of the state and its economy. The government announcement came from considering with various courts orders that can be an incentive for the public and the government machinery to stop this irrational restraint sought to be imposed on them by some self-proclaimed leaders. We can recall here that 1997 Kerala High Court's ruling that the bandhs as "illegal and unconstitutional". The High court further restricted demonstrations and processions on public roads. It was of the view to "exercise of a right of protest should not infract the fundamental right of another citizen who is equally entitled to exercise his rights." It is of the view that "A bandh call implied threat to life and property of a citizen." The Supreme Court of India (SC) also upheld the Kerala High Court ruling that any sort of hooliganism in the name of bandh should be stopped. In 2004, the SC fined two political parties, BJP and Shiv Sena for organizing bandh in Mumbai as a protest against bomb blasts in the city.

In 2010, the Guwahati High Court also declared all bandhs in Assam and Meghalaya as illegal. The Court ruled that bandhs violate the fundamental rights of the citizens and directed the Governments of Assam and Meghalaya to take steps to ensure that no further infringement of the fundamental rights of people should happen henceforth. The Government of Meghalaya and Assam happily endorsed the High Court ruling. Even they went a step further and cited an anachronistic order way back in 1953 to say that even publicizing a bandh call is illegal. In September 2015, West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress superno Mamata Banerjee said that the bandh has no future and should be stopped though she supports the cause of working class movements. Bandh is actually a Hindi word meaning "closed". It is a means to achieve certain objectives through protest by the community or certain groups that force the general public to stay at home and not go to work. A

bandh is a powerful means of protest as it has a significant impact on the local residents. It forces the government machinery to bring a short-term solution with the bandh callers in condensing of the situation. By calling a bandh, citizens are prevented from communications, traders are prevented from carrying on their business activities, and daily laborers are prevented from earning wages and other business establishments. It leads to losing huge economy of the country or the state. Those citizens who violate bandh face the wrath of terror. The organizers of the bandh also indulge in unnecessary acts of vandalism like the destruction of government and private property and vehicles, stoning and clashes between the bandh organizers and the police and can be responsible for fatalities. At the same time, a blockade is an attempt to cut off food supplies, communications from a particular area by force either in part or in totality. An economic blockade is being used as a tool by various groups and instantly formed socio-political organizations for their personal gains. **(Contd. on page 2)**