

## UNC eco-blockade at Nhs enters 17 days

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Economic blockade called by the UNC at both National High Ways has entered 17th day today giving tremendous hardship to the people of the state. Life at both Hill and valley district has been severely affected due to the blockade.

## Imphal base morning papers to stop publication from tomorrow

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Imphal base morning newspapers will stop publication from tomorrow as the publication houses are facing acute shortage of currency for exchange. After demonization of the Rs. 500 and Rs 1000 denomination newspaper hawkers continue to give Rs. 500 currency note which become a burden to the media houses both in terms of returning change as well as depositing it to the banks.

## Schools in Imphal continue to shut

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Schools in Imphal continue to remain close as school transporters had stopped service due to non availability of fuel. Even as tanker trucks are reported to have been reached here in Imphal yesterday rationing has not yet begun today. Source said that the Oil depot are likely to distribute the oil today and distribution of petrol on rationing system will begin soon. School may remain closed for the next two days as it is likely to take some more time in distribution of the fuel.

## Kilo Kilonser of NSCN(R) joins NSCN(IM)

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Kilo Kilonser of NSCN(R) Thepuvezo Keyho, Kilonser Zaremo Murry and their followers have joined the NSCN-IM. A statement of MIP GPRN has welcome the two leaders along with their followers. The statement said that the NSCN/GPRN with its vision and hope is the only authentic organisation that could deliver the Indo-Naga solution. It appealed the Naga brothers from other political organisations to come together and strengthen the ongoing political talks for early solution.

## Currency Crisis: Shops Down Shutters

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Shops and other business establishment in Imphal are severely affected due to the currency crisis. The unending lines at ATMs and banks across the town are yet to normalize. Shop owners say they do not have lower denomination to give back to customers. There is also fear of providing items and goods on credit, if

they are unable to accept the old currency notes. "Everyone is coming to our shop with either Rs 500 or Rs 1000 note. We have literally no way of returning the change as there is really no change," said a shop owner in Imphal's Thangal Bazar. So we have put up a special board outside our shop to let customers know about it. This has severely affected our daily business. In

a normal day, we usually sell around 10-15 thousands but after the demonization move by Narendra Modi on 8th of this month, we are doing business of only 3000-4000 a day, added the shop owner. Many shopkeepers also complain that they do not have change for the new Rs. 2000 note, as bank has not been able to provide enough currency change.

## Another set of rules: Govt limits bank exchange from Rs 4,500 to Rs 2,000

**Source Business Standard**  
**New Delhi, Nov 17:** The government, on Thursday, announced another set of changed rules as queues continued to day eight of its demonetisation drive. It reduced the limit of over-the-counter exchange of old notes for new ones to Rs 2,000 per person from Rs 4,500 earlier.

The centre has also given the option to its lower level employees up to Group C to draw an advance of Rs 10,000 from their November salaries. Besides, it relaxed the weekly withdrawal limits for farmers and Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) traders.

It also allowed withdrawal of up to Rs 2.5 lakh from bank accounts for the explicit purpose of weddings. "To enable larger number of people to get benefit, with effect from Nov 18 the existing limit of Rs 4,500 will be reduced to Rs 2,000. This will be once per person. The usage of indelible ink continues. The move is to ensure that a larger

number of people reach the exchange counters." Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das said at a media briefing. To questions that this move implied a shortage of cash with the banks, Das said that that was a wrong assumption and that there was enough money in the system.

**Central govt employees can get salary advance in cash**  
Das said that central government employees up to group C, including those of state-owned companies, military, railways and paramilitary organisations, will be given the option of taking salary advance up to Rs 10,000 in cash, which will be adjusted against their November salaries.

**What's in to for farmers?**  
Given that crop sowing has slowed down at the commencement of Rabi Season due to a cash crunch, the centre will now also allow farmers farmers to draw Rs 25,000 per week against farm loans sanctioned or Kisan credit cards to meet their

expenses. Farmers can also withdraw the same amount per week from their own accounts. **APMC traders**  
For traders in APMC markets the weekly withdrawal limit now stands at Rs 50,000 per week for their business requirements. Das said that these provisions are subject to strict KYC norms.

"Different states have different payment timelines for crop insurance premium. The central government has decided that time limit in cases of payment of crop loan insurance premium will be extended by 15 days," Das said.

### It's the wedding season so you can withdraw up to Rs 2.5 lakh

Given that it is wedding season in India and a lot of complaints have been received from people with wedding ceremonies in their families, Das also announced that up to Rs 2.5 lakh will be permitted to be drawn from one of the bank accounts, either the bride or the groom, or immediate kin.

## Maoist warns JNIMS

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Maoist Communist Party, Manipur (MCPM) today said that they will declare director of JNIMS and his party as "enemy" of the people if proves about the allegation of corruption in the recruitment of nurses in the institute is found. The statement said that the party have received various complaints about irregularities to the appointment of nurses at JNIMS. It said that the MCPM has been keeping close eyes to both the JNIMS

and RIMS for a long time but till today people of the state are not being benefitted. As hospitals are not places to strike attack the doctors and the administrators are taking advantages of the situation. After thorough investigation the MCPM have come to know the various misappropriation of funds at JNIMS since the time of Director M Shyamo in 2014. 40 Monitors which cost only Rs. 39,000 per piece are bought at Rs. 2.5 lakhs per piece for an amount of Rs. 1.13 crore. Above this a total

of Rs. 33 Crore has been misappropriated in the name of maintenance of the Medical equipments, the statement added. It further stated that problems still is reeling in the JNIMS for the appointment of 342 staff nurses and grade IV employees. The Maoist said that they will start investigation to the foul play being underway since 2014 at JNIMS and if found prove there is reason that the director and his party be announced as enemy of the people.

## Govt announces new measures to tackle demonetisation problems

**Source AIR**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Government today announced new measures to contain the problems faced by people following the demonetisation of 500 and 1000 rupees notes. Farmers have been allowed to withdraw 25 thousand rupees a week against crop loan and kisan credit card to ensure sowing in the rabi season. Briefing media in New Delhi today, Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das said, traders registered with Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) markets and mandis have also been permitted to draw 50

thousand rupees in cash per week to pay for sundry expenses like wages. He said, the time limit for payment of crop loan insurance premium will be extended by 15 days. Mr Das said, up to 2.5 rupees lakh cash can be drawn from bank account for a marriage during ongoing wedding season. He said, one member of the family, be it father or mother, bride or bridegroom can withdraw the amount. The Secretary said, the existing limit of 4 thousand 5 hundred rupees for exchange of old 500 and 1000 rupee notes will be reduced to 2

thousand rupees from tomorrow. He said, Central government employees up to group C can draw salary advance up to 10 thousand rupees in cash that will be adjusted against their November salaries. He said, the Task Force constituted for re-calibrating ATMs held a meeting and a road map has been formed to re-calibrate all the ATMs and it will be done soon. Mr Das said, there is enough cash available with the Government and there is no cash crunch. He said, currency printing presses are operating at over 100 per cent capacity.

## CM inaugurates central poultry farm at khumbong

### To give employment to the unemployed youths will be the top priority - O. Ibobi singh

**ITNews**  
**Imphal, Nov 17:** Chief Minister Shri Okram Ibobi Singh said that how to give employment to the educated unemployed youths of the State has been a headache to the government and if this government comes to power again in the ensuing assembly election, then to give employment to the unemployed youths will be assigned the top priority.

This was stated by the Chief Minister while speaking as the Chief Guest at the inaugural function of the Central Poultry Farm at Khumbong, Imphal West District under the Department of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Manipur today. Shri O. Ibobi said that the government considers the problem of unemployment in the state seriously and as it is impossible to give government jobs to all, the government emphasizes on the development of entrepreneurship. To this end, the state cabinet has recently taken a decision to adopt Manipur Start up Policy, he continued. So far, it is heard that this type of policy is being newly adopted in some states of India like Kerala, Gujarat, Karnataka and West Bengal, he added. Under the policy our skilled and innovative unemployed youths who do not have enough money to start his small industry will be given support to enable him to start



industry. Saying that Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Department will be incorporated under the policy as the Department can give gainful employment to the unemployed youths more particularly in the rural areas with the investment of less capital money, he stressed on the need of taking up of many short term training programmes in poultry farming and other areas for the unemployed youths by the department. He also mentioned that if we give more thrust to this sector not only employment generation but also it would reduce the import of the poultry products in the state which is impacting on our economy. He was hopeful that the Central Poultry Farm would be a centre for providing employment to the unemployed youths. Speaking as the president of the function, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Gaikhangam expressed his happiness on the increase of the activities

of the Veterinary & Animal Husbandry. He said, the present government has taken up steps to revamp many departments of Manipur Government so as to give the benefits of the departments to the people and many mega projects like Thoubal Project, Dolaitahi Project which had been lying forgotten for the last many years are now almost completed and being awaited for inauguration. He appealed to all to give cooperation to the government and also to inculcate the sense of belongingness and sense of participation to preserve and protect whatever infrastructure the government has built for the benefit of the people. Vety. & Animal Husbandry/ Commerce & Industries Minister Govindas Konthoujam, MLA K. Sarat Singh, Principal Secy (Vety & AH) L. Lakher and director Vety & AH dr. N. Rajendro Singh were the Guests of Honour of the function.

## Lok Sabha adjourned as opposition seeks demonetisation debate

**Source IANS**  
**New Delhi, Nov. 17:** A united opposition's relentless demand for a debate on demonetisation under a rule which entails voting today forced the adjournment of the Lok Sabha for the day as the government refused to accept it. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Ananth Kumar said the government was willing to debate the issue under Rule 193, which does not entail voting, as it did not want two voices to emerge from Parliament, drawing incessant protests from the opposition. As opposition parties refused to budge, Speaker Sumitra Mahajan adjourned proceedings for the day after a 25-minute adjournment earlier. The House was adjourned for the yesterday as a mark of respect for a sitting member who had passed away in August. As soon as the House met, Trinamool Congress leader Sudip Bandyopadhyay said his party wanted to move an adjournment motion. Leader of the Congress party in Lok Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge said his party too wanted to move a similar motion to discuss the "hardship being faced by the people and the economic disruption

and the failure of the government to redress the plight of the people." He said another issue his party wanted to flag was the "leakage" of the information on demonetisation before it came into force. The Question Hour between 1100 hours and noon went on amid continued vociferous protests and sloganeering by opposition members, including those from Congress, TMC, the Left, SP and RJD. Members of some other parties, including AIADMK, were also seen in the aisle. "We all want a discussion under the Rule 56 so that we can know what is the stand of all parties when they vote. Then everyone will participate," Kharge said. Kumar insisted that people at large are with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision on demonetisation. "They want black money, fake currency...to be finished. We want cooperation from you. We are ready to discuss. We do not want two voices to emerge from Parliament," he said. Bandyopadhyay said opposition parties were together. "We are in a mood to censure the government," he said. Soon after the Question Hour, the Speaker said she had disallowed

all the adjournment notices, including one moved by BJP ally SAD. Mahajan said she was ready to allow a discussion but not amid such a din and added that all parties will have to decide on its modalities. RJD's Jai Prakash Narayan Yadav also pressed for an adjournment motion. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister said the government was ready to discuss at length the "historic" decision by suspending the Question Hour but under Rule 193 where there is no formal motion or voting. He said all political parties are against black money, corruption and fake currency. Rejecting the suggestion, members of Congress, TMC, RJD and Left parties rushed to the Well shouting slogans. AIADMK members entered the Well, but were raising slogans demanding release of Cauvery water by Karnataka for Tamil Nadu. As opposition members raised slogans like "Pradhan Mantri jawab do..." and "shame-shame", the Speaker continued with the Question Hour.