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Imphal Times Reporter, Laishram Ranbir receiving award for wining 3rd prize in the Spot Photography contest held at Kwatha, organised on occasion of Kwatha festival

Governor launches national campaign on medicinal plants
Inaugurate 1 day state level buyers-sellers meet

DIPR

Imphal, Oct 25 : The Governor of Manipur Dr. Najma Heptulla today launched National Campaign on Medicinal Plants and Inaugurate One-Day State Level Buyers-Sellers Meet on Medicinal Plants at Indian Medical Association (IMA) House, Lamphel. The function was organised by Manipur State Medicinal Plants Board (MSMPB), Directorate of AYUSH and sponsored by National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India. Speaking on the occasion as Chief Guest, Dr. Najma Heptulla said the Manipur State Medicinal Plants Board has been functioning an an Autonomous Body since September, 2005. The Mission of the Board is to promote and propagate medicinal plants in Manipur and to attain leadership for the State in this sector and I am confident that it will certainly fulfil the aspiration of the people and give benefits to all the people of the State. Medicinal Plants have been identified and used

throughout human history. The use of plants as medicines pre-dates written human history. Ethnobotany, the study of traditional human uses of plants, is recognised as an effective way to discover future medicines. In 2001, researchers identified 122 compounds used in modern medicine which were derived from traditional plants sources; 80% of these have had a traditional use identical or related to the current use of the active elements of the plant. Some of the pharmaceuticals currently available to physicians are derived from plants that have a long history of use as herbal remedies, including aspirin, digoxin, quinine and opium.

The Governor further said she was happy to knew that within a short period of its existence, Manipur State Medicinal Plants Board has organised several Workshops and Health Fairs for promotion of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants and Healing system. To name a few, the Board has organised National Workshop on Conservation & Commercialization of Medicinal Aromatic Plants in 2007, Comprehensive Health Fair in 2009, Stakeholder Meet on Traditional Healing System of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants in 2010, three-day National Workshop on Sustainable Management and Commercialization of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants in 2013.

The objectives of this campaign such as market authorization of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants and its products, good cultivation and collection practices, institutional linkages for promoting production and marketing of medicinal & Aromatic plants, to bridge the gap between buyers and sellers, agro-technology of selected potential Medicinal & Aromatic Plants and scope of post-harvest management of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants will surely achieve the target and translate into large scale benefit to the people of the State.

The function was graced by Minister (Social Welfare & Co-operation) Km. AK. Mirabai Devi as President, Commissioner (Horticulture & Soil Conservation, TA & Hills) Shri Thaithuilung Pamei and Chief Conservator of Forest Shri Th. Mohendra Pratap Singh as Guest of honour respectively.

Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey appointed as new VC of MU

IT News

Imphal, Oct 25: As the ongoing impasse over reservation policy continue to freeze all sort of academic activities at Manipur University, President of India, Pranab Mukherjee, who is also the visitor to the University has appointed Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey, Professor & Head, Department of Economics, banaras Hindu University, Varanasi as the Vice Chancellor of Manipur University.

Until today Prof. Amar Yuman is in charge of Vice chancellor of the Manipur University, he will relieve the charge and return back to his department as soon as Prof. Adya Prasad Pandey takes charge as the new VC.

Mahila Congress protest; burns effigies of Narendra Modi, Muivah & Zeliang

IT News

Imphal, Oct 24: Members of the Manipur Pradesh Mahila Congress Committee today protest yesterday's attack to Chief Minister Okram Ibobi and the Ministerial team who had visited Ukhrul to inuagurate various structures constructed in the district. The Mahila Committee members along with other congress workers set out a protest rally carrying the effigies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang and NSCN-IM general Secretary Th Muivah by shouting slagans against their senister planing to assasinate congress leaders. The rally begins from the MPCC office and then after proceeding towards Kanglapat road turned back towards thier starting point. before getting inside the office the Congress workers burnt the effigies of the Prime Minister of India, Nagaland Chief Minister and NSCN-IM General Secretary TR Zeliang in front of Bir Tikendrajit park. The Mahila Congress members blamed the Prime Minister Narendra modi for allowing the NSCN-IM cadre to operate openly inside the territory of Manipur when the cease fire was confined only in the state of Nagaland. A leader question the reason behind central force remaining quite to any activities of the armed cadres. The leader also blamed Nagaland Chief Minister TR Zeliang for spewing venom among the communities of the state and also for supporting the organisation which has been trying to distort the integrity of the state.

The Congress party Mahila Committee also hit back to NSCN-IM Supremo Th. Muvah and urged the concern government authority to arrest and punish all those involved to the attack to CM.

Bomb placed at Dice game ground

IT News

Imphal, Oct 25: Unknown assailants placed hand grenade at dice game gambling spot yesterday. According to report reaching here, some unknown persons hurled a Puritmayum leirak at Bamol leikai under Porompat Police station when people were engaging dice game at around 11.30 pm yesterday. The bomb did not explode but people playing dice game were dispersed.

KCP Poirei Meitei Lup, in a telephonic conversation claimed both the bomb. The person who claimed to be Poirei said that they have no intention to blast the bomb but was hurled to show their capacity to act at anytime. He further warned more such attack saying that next time it will explode. Earlier the armed group had warned to stop playing dice game.

LJP Manipur State Unit appeal MCPM to revoke boycott cal

IT News

Imphal, Oct 25: Lok Janashakti Party (LJP), Manipur Sate Unit has appealed the Maoist Communist Party, Manipur to revoke the decision to boycott the party.

Speaking to the media persons at the office of LJP, Karam Shyam, MLA of Langthabal Assembly Constituency said that the boycott put upon the party and himself is very unfortunate as LJP do not have any connection with any gang or party. The party thinks and works for the welfare of the people for the society. The allegation put upon the party and MLA himself of having connection with a gang party Delhi based is totally unacceptable, he added.

MLA also said that despite being a small party having small member in the Manipur State Unit, LJP works for the interest of the people of the state. The party strongly condemned the allegation, he added.

RK Somorendro (Kaiku), President, Dalit Sena Manipur Unit said that after coming into the politics, many persons gretted and wished him but he have no idea of who is who.

He said he have no intention to go against the party.

While he was attending a function (Swasti Puja) for one of his friend at Delhi, he met the political leaders of the LJP and has taken some photos which were later uploaded at social media. Unfortunately, the photos seems to have created a wrong intention to the concerns but he do not have any idea that it would turn out in such a way that, treats will a part of him, he added.

RK Somorendro appeals the concerns group to revoke the band put upon the party.

Ningombam Ibohal Singh, LJP Spokesperson said that the party has never worked against any group or the people or the society and never will. LJP also does have any intention to seek support from any concern group or organization.

Since LJP is working in the interest of the people, being the spokepersons, appeal the concern group to revoke the boycott at the earlist.

AR man killed self

IT News

Imphal Oct 25: A Rifleman of 26 Assam Rifles trooper identified as Wangdsu was found dead inside his barrack at Singhat Khuga Dam area under Churachandpur Police Station at around 10.30 pm yesterday. Wangdsu, the rifleman from Arunachal Pradesh has been posted at the area some months back. Report suggested that he might have killed himself using his service weapon , INSAS Rifle. Details on how and why he shot himself are not known.

Bomb found

IT News

Imphal Oct 25: A handgrenade was found early today morning at Top Khekwa at Sanjenbam area.

The bomb was retrieved by a team of Police bomb squad. Source said some armed rebel might have placed the bomb.

Visitors witness beauty of Kwatha Village during 2 days festival

IT News

Imphal, Oct 24: The two day Kwatha Fest which began from October 22, 2016 wind up on October 23, 2016 with visitors beyond expectation.

Even on the second and last day of the fest, thousands from across the State, minor to senior, had visited the village to take part in the fest.

"The village had many amazing gifts, the product, the landscape and the surrounding areas are wordless to describe. The most precious thing is that the view of Kabow Valley which can be seen clearly from the village. Such fest/event is essential to promote a village like Kwatha, which is the only village dominated only by Meitei community that also in the hill area far from city", said Mahesh, a visitors of the festival.

During the fest, many old dance forms of Kwatha Village were showcased along with song and dance exhibition; many stalls had also opened exhibiting Soibum (bamboo shoot), Haribob and Wai-yuu (local brewery).

Spot photography competition was also held during the fest on three categories (1) Flora (2) Fauna and (3) Lifestyle of the Kwatha Village.

Many visitors showed interest seeing such festival in other villages of our State too, majority by Meitei community.

The two day festival was held for the first time to promote Kwatha Village, one of the oldest existing Meitei Village of Manipur and the indigenous production of bamboo shoot.

Kwatha Village is situated at the inner side of Chandel District. The Festival is being organized by Schedule Caste Welfare Club, Kwatha, powered by Assam Rifles.

Failed CM; don't divert it by bringing NSCN-IM in the theater

IT Desk

Imphal, Oct. 25: It is an open secret that most people in hill area particularly those living in Senapati, Ukhrul, Tamenglong and Chandel districts are indirectly or directly influence by armed rebel group NSCN-IM ensuing peace talk with the Government of India. It is however not sure that whether the common people are being terrorize to follow the verdict, which is announced on the interest of party, or is it a support which comes willingly from the hill brethren – a matter need to be pondered by all concern citizen of the country. This is being reminded and brought to the notice of our fellow citizen as some desperate attempt to draw a red line between Hill brethren and the valley brethren is notice to the opposition from the Ukhrul people in the Okram Ibobi Singh hasty move to inaugurate a hospital which was not yet completed. Demand for inauguration of the Hospital after completion is a genuine demand and linking up of the public wrath with the activities of NSCN-IM is a pure politics of some vested interested people to disintegrate the unity of the state.

And there is no reason for NSCN-IM to be happy when the people of Ukhrul called public curfew to oppose the inauguration of the incomplete structures which will be of no use to the people. The opposition and the public outcry that occurred yesterday which force back Okram Ibobi Singh and his ministerial colleagues without inaugurating the construction is pure democratic protest which has been trending in the state as mere peaceful protest remain as no use. We have seen, witness various peaceful protest sideline by the present government and such demand are only brought to their table after men or women or students were killed in law enforcing agency's action to control public protest. Even the 16 years of fast-unto-death protest of Irom Chanu Sharmila has been called off as she herself considered it as no use.

About the rocket blast at an IRB post hours before the arrival of the CM and his team, it is a ridiculous strike and if it was carried out by the cadres of the NSCN-IM then it was nothing but chopping their own legs with an axe. Such attack will sabotage the public agitation and this would have been known by every common people. NSCN-IM , a rebel now succeeded in running a parallel government will not do any such attack considering the outcome. And the gun shot heard minutes after Chief Minister and his team was airlifted by chopper, there is a video evidences on how a police officer was calling all those security personnel cordoning the area. Video evidences cannot lie and it is the people who see the video clip that will judge who were shooting at whom.

Well a matter of fact which stands true is that TNL, the Tangkhul civil body which spearhead yesterday's uproar is a component of the United Naga Council (UNC), an assume frontal organization of the NSCN-IM. But some rights cannot be totally related with other wrongs committed.

Living aside the issue of NSCN-IM, every citizens of the country know that Legislative Assembly election is just round the corner. Every political party are gearing up poll campaign and almost all political party are charting strategy to oust the Okram Ibobi Singh led government or in other word Congress party which is power for three consecutive terms.

The one resolution in Yangkhopao declaration which was organized by the UNC may also be bring to this event. The declaration vow to support Naga Peoples' Front (NPF) and we cannot underestimate the game plan of NPF to oust congress party. On one hand it is common understanding that the NPF which is back by assume frontal body of NSCN-IM will try not to hurt sentiments of the BJP, for reason best known to their leadership. A support to the people's movement is additional gain for the political party and it happens everywhere in the state. Even in Churachandpur, some civil society groups are looking for alternative political party other then Congress taking advantage to the dead of 9 tribal innocent people.

In view of the emerging trend, it is clear that too long in power makes the person consider him as above the people as well above the law. 15 year is a long year to change the mindset of the people and bring development, peace and harmony among the people of the state. In fifteen years if the Chief Minister has failed to even walk at some of his own state, then it definitely showed that in fifteen years he had spewed poison of hate feeling among the various communities of the state.

It would be definitely wrong to relate yesterday's incident with NSCN-IM as it was purely a wrath of the Ukhrul people who are our brothers and sisters.