

Life crippled in Imphal as rebels observes Black day and call 18 hours general strike

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: Life in Imphal city, the capital of Manipur was put to partial halt as CorCom – the conglomerate of various rebel groups observes National Black Day and called 18 hours general strike beginning from yesterday's midnight. The general strike will conclude at 6 pm today as according to a release made available to media houses yesterday.

October 15 is the day at which the erstwhile kingdom of Manipur was annexed to the Union of India in 1949, after the controversial signing of merger agreement between the then king of Manipur Maharajah Bodhachandra and the representatives of the Union of India on September 21, 1949 at Shillong. Maist Communist Party Manipur also observed the day as Black day and boycotted all celebrations or events related to the merger of Manipur to the Indian Union.

CorCom is a conglomerate of proscribed groups UNLF, PLA, PREPAK, PREPAK (Pro) etc.

During the general strike all activities of almost all political parties except the Naga Peoples' Front (NPF) and Congress Party have been cancelled due to fear of unwanted disturbances from the rebel groups.

However, inter district passenger bus services, local passengers' vehicles including, diesel auto, tata magic and other private vehicles stay of the road. Interstate bus services also suspended today due to the bandh but Aircraft service function as normal.

Almost all business establishments at all the valley districts including, Kwairamband keithel, Bishnupur, Thoubal etc remain closed. Except for few vendors,



almost all major shops, private banks, offices and the nationalist banks stop functioning today. Theatre houses and all entertainment programme remain suspended. Even schools and colleges were shut down for the day due to the general strike called by the rebel group. In a press statement CorCom media coordinator Ksh Yoiheiba had stated that the day Manipur was forcibly merged into the Indian Union on October 15, 1949 would remain unforgettable to all the people of Manipur

(Kangleipak). Since the alleged forced merger, Manipuri people have been living a wretched life under the alleged colonial yoke, he alleged.

October 15 is one day on which all the people need to stand united against the Indian rule, it said.

Ksh Yoiheiba also further stated that the Manipur State Constitution Act 1947 was fully drafted by July 26, 1947 ahead of the departure of British colonial rulers from Manipur.

After the first democratic

election was held in June 1948, a Council of Ministers was sworn in on October 18, 1948 at the Darbar Hall of Kangla. These events marked the establishment of a democratic Government in Manipur.

However, the Government of India kept the king of Manipur under house arrest at Shillong, and the king was forced to sign the Manipur Merger Agreement on September 21, 1949. Then Manipur was annexed into the Indian Union on October 15, 1949, Ksh Yoiheiba of CorCom alleged.

NPF vows to support "framework agreement"

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: The Naga Peoples' Front (NPF) Manipur has vowed to support the framework agreement signed between the collective leadership of NSCN-IM and the Government of India on August 3 this year.

In an interaction programme with the intending candidate of 43-Phungyar Assembly Constituency identified as Hopingson A. Shimray held at Tribal Research Institution (TRI) at Chingmeirong here in Imphal, NPF state unit leaders expressed their views on finding a lasting solution of the Indo-Naga conflict.

"Framework Agreement" is the

only hope to find a lasting solution to the Indo-Naga political crisis said speakers on the occasion, while appealing all workers to work hard to make sure that NPF candidates win seat in the upcoming state assembly election. Hopingson A. Shimray while talking on the occasion said that NPF is a political party based on Naga history to protect Naga people of hill and valley for the development of socio-economic life.

He further said that due to the negligence of state government in hill area, hill people are living in underdeveloped when comparing to the other. He further added that NPF is the

only option for the Naga people for a better and prosperous society for the Naga people of the state.

He assured to support the framework agreement signed between NSCN (IM) and Indian Government and if he is elected he will work to make flourish the Hill Development Committee.

Today's moderated programme was moderated by Aaron Keishing.

Joy Rimai, Lecturer Amita University, social worker Lummi Keishing and Headman of Leihaoam Village Moses attended the interaction programme as resource persons.

Committee draws govt. attention on pathetic road condition of Sangaitheh

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: Sangaitheh Road Development Committee (SRDC) has decried government negligence to the various link roads inbetween Patsoi and Sangaitheh area.

Speaking to the media persons at the Manipur Press Club, Majorkhul, Mayanglangbam Jurandro Singh, Cashier of

SRDC said that in 2012, the committee had submitted a memorandum to the concern authority to repair the pathetic road condition of Patsoi to Maklang which is of 9.7 Km distance but fail to get any positive response.

He also said that later in the year between 2013-2015 proprietor of HVS brick field

took up the road repairing work by black topping at some parts using his machineries. However, it didn't last long, he added.

The committee demanded construction of the Patsoi - Sangaitheh road on or before November 2, 2016, failing which the committee will enforce total bandh on the road stretch from the following day.

Nurses of RIMS staging protest against appointment Laimayum Kullabati Dev as Nursing Counselor



RIMS Nurses to go cease work strike from Oct 18

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: Nurses at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) has strongly reacted to the appointment of one Laimayum Kullabati Dev as Nursing Counselor on deputation at the department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, RIMS. RIMS Nurses association had earlier warned to revoke the appointment of the said lady as it violates the guidelines of the RIMS. Following failure to listen to the plea the Nurses of RIMS today staged protest demonstration in front of RIMPS OPD.

"We have decided to launch cease work strike from today but as there are patients who need our service we differ it and stage protest demonstration so that patients do not face hardship", said a representative of RIMS nurses' Association. As per report L. Kullabati was serving as Deputy Nursing Superintendent at a hospital call Kalawati Saran Children's Hospital, New Delhi. She was recently appointed as Nursing counselor at Physical medicine and Rehab Department, RIMS on deputation recently.

"No such appointment has been made in the history of RIMS, and per the version of the director of RIMS appointment even by creating a post is in violation of the rules and regulation of RIMS", Priyadarhini Devi, Secretary of the RIMS Nurses' Association said. She further added that the

association will continue the protest demonstration till October 17 and if the authority failed to revoke Kullabati's appointment then the association will launch cease work strike.

Head of department of Physical medicine and rehabilitation department Prof. Ak Joy had advocated the appointment of Kullabati as genuine saying that the appointment was done as according to the instruction from Union ministry of Health

and Family Welfare. Priyadarhini Devi however said that the prof AK Joy was not telling the truth as it has been found that the appointment was done on favoritism basis as it is now known that she was appointed on the ground that her husband works here in the state of Manipur. If the RIMS Director fails to revoke the appointment in the larger interest of the RIMS and public by Oct.17 the association will go cease work strike from the following day.

RIMS Director clarifies

IT News

Imphal, Oct 14: In the clarification note, RIMS director Prof. Ch. Arun Kumar Singh said that there are 2 (two) posts of Deputy Nursing Superintendent lying vacant to be filled up on promotion. For an Assistant Nursing Superintendent to be promoted to the post of Dy. Nursing Supdt., 2 years service in the former post is necessary as per the Recruitment Rules of RIMS, Imphal. At the present moment, there is no employee in the institute to fulfill the criterion of 2 years as Assistant Nursing Superintendent for at least 2 years.

The statement said that in the meantime Ministry of Health & Family Welfare intimated repeatedly to consider appointment of Smt. L. Kullabati Devi on deputation for a period of 2 years against one of the two vacant posts.

This in view of the fact that her husband is posted in Manipur. The Government of India attaches utmost importance to the enhancement of women's status in all walks of life and to enable them to lead a normal life and also to ensure the education and welfare of the children. Guidelines have been issued by the Government of India from time to time for posting of husband and wife who are in government service, at the same station. It is on the basis of these guidelines (issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Govt. Of India) that the deputation of Smt. L. Kullabati Devi to RIMS, Imphal has been considered by the Central Govt.

While appealing the nurses' body to call off the cease work strike the RIMS director said that there will be no promotion of her.

DM College of Arts students demands shifting of AMSU office from DM College campus

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: Around 50 students of DM College of Arts today staged a protest rally demanding immediate action against the members of All Manipur Students' Union (AMSU) for allegedly assaulting two students of DM College of Commerce on the night of October 14. The students also demanded immediate shifting of the AMSU head Quarter office from the complex of the DM College.

The student protestors carried out the protest at around 2:15 pm unexpectedly from the Governor Gate area carrying placards condemning the assault of the two students of the DMC Commerce.

The protestors were held up at the traffic island near Chief Minister Bungalow by team of Imphal Police Station when they tried to submit a memorandum to the Police station itself demanding to arrest and award appropriate punishment to the responsible persons of AMSU including shifting of the AMSU Head Office from the DM College Campus.

The student protestors were later dispersed by a police team and sent them back to

carrying placards condemning the assault of the two students of the DMC Commerce.

The protestors were held up at the traffic island near Chief Minister Bungalow by team of Imphal Police Station when they tried to submit a memorandum to the Police station itself demanding to arrest and award appropriate punishment to the responsible persons of AMSU including shifting of the AMSU Head Office from the DM College Campus. The student protestors were later dispersed by a police team and sent them back to

DM College campus.

Report said that Khelemba of Wangoo, a B.Com 3rd Semester student and Clinton of Thanga a BA 1st Semester student were assaulted by the members of AMSU at the gate of DM College of Commerce boy's hostel at around 9:30 pm of October 14, 2016.

Mera Hou Chongba

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: 'Mera Hou Chongba' the only traditional customary common festival of all ethnic groups inhabiting in the state of Manipur will be celebrated tomorrow at Kangla and Sana Konung. The traditional festival which depict the traditional bondage between various communities of the state is being organized by Mera Hou Chongba Thousil Lup, Sana Konung.

45th Foundation day of AMBA

IT News
Imphal, Oct 15: All Manipur Buddhist Association (AMBA) is celebrating its 45th Foundation day at Manipur press Club on Sunday, the 16th October. In a press communiqué the association appealed all concern members as well as those interested in Buddha teaching to attend the celebration which is set to begin at 1 pm.

How can a state CM intervene in a central varsity (Manipur University)?

By : **Ningombam Bupenda Meiei.**

Manipur University is a central university like any other central university in India. Manipur University is not exclusively meant for students and teachers who have their domicile in the state of Manipur only. It, besides welcoming foreign students and teachers, is for any Indian citizen who is eligible to be either a student or a teacher in the university. It is a centre of excellence for mankind to flourish to cherish humanity.

Reading a news report which states about the interference – by giving directives which are reportedly taken seriously by the authority of Manipur University - by Manipur's Chief Minister in the affairs of Manipur University has brought out two issues. Firstly, can a state Chief Minister interfere or intervene in the internal affairs or issues related to admission, academic engagements, etc. of a central university? Secondly, under which rules of a central university act state that a state Chief Minister can give directives and such directives are to be received seriously by the authority of the central university? Manipur University is not a university of the people, by the

people and for the people of Manipur only. It is a central university of India. It is also the nation's central university which welcomes any foreign student from across the globe. It is indeed India's central university which plays a significant role in India's relationships with South East Asia. The socio-economic and political conflicts of Manipur must not be used to exploit the continual flow of intellectually engaging academic environment of Manipur University because Manipur University is neither a state university nor a private university set up by a trust based in Manipur. The state's local issues shall not destroy the beauty of a central university called Manipur University. If a state Chief Minister is worried about law and order of the state which could be affected by whatever event or events happening in a central university, then it is the onus of the state's machinery to ensure a peaceful conduct under the rules which are all laid down in writing. The concern for state's law and order should not become a cause to maneuver or make an attempt to interfere in any event which happens inside the campus of Manipur University or in any issue whose jurisdiction comes

under the powers and responsibilities of the central university's Vice Chancellor. Academic institutions like central universities cannot run under a directive of an elected leader of a state called Chief Minister. The best that any Chief Minister could do would be to suggest his or her idea to the President of India who is the Visitor of the central university. It is stated, in a newspaper in Imphal, that the state Chief Minister has given his directives. The questions are: in what ways has the Chief Minister given his directive? Was the directive sent in a written form or a verbal mode of communication? Did the directive come from Chief Minister's Secretariat? Again, it is also interesting to note that, in the same newspaper's report, the authority of Manipur University has taken the Chief Minister's directives seriously. In what way, can a central university's authority take and accept the directive from a state Chief Minister? If the news report is true, then both the Chief Minister and the authority of Manipur University have reduced the status of central university, which is enjoyed by Manipur University, to a level of state university.

(Contd.on page 2)