

## AR Major injured in militant's ambush

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 30:** A Major of the Assam Rifle sustained serious bullet injury today morning after armed militant group ambush them Kamjong area in Ukhrul district. Report reaching here said that suspected armed militants today ambush a convoy of 31 AR at around 4.30 am at Kamjong area. Major Mandeep Singh of C-Coy sustained bullet injury in the attack. He was immediately evacuated using a helicopter for treatment. Details of the incident is awaiting.

## Charangpat locals rise against MLA Meghachandra

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 30:** Tension grip in Charangpat area of Wangkhem Assembly Constituency after large number of people of Charangpat area opposes invitation of Wangkhem Assembly Constituency MLA K Meghachandra in the 20th Foundation Day of Rural Youth Development Organisation Charangpat. At least four people including women were injured after police fired tear gas shell to control the situation. Report said that supporters of K Jadu , a candidate aspirant of the upcoming Assembly election thronged to the Rural Youth Development Organisation office over the inclusion of MLA K Meghachandra to the invitation card. Supporters of KJadu alleged that name of K Meghachandra was not included in the invitation card was later put by force without the consent of the local people. Meanwhile, MLA K Meghachandra was inaugurated the Rural Youth Development Organisation after the situation was brought under control by the police.

## KNF-N apprehended

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 30:** Combined troop of Thoubal district police Commando and 2 Assam Rifles apprehended a cadre of the KNF- Nehlun group during a search operation conducted at Bungbal Khullen at around 2 am yesterday. The Apprehended cadre is identified as Kaiminlal Haokip (20 years), son of Lungjang Haokip of Bungbal Khullen. The apprehendee was handed over to Yairipok Police station, said police source.

## "Meeyamgi Thougallai Manipur" a Political Party to challenge National Political party formed

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 30:** With the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly election just nearly 5 months to go a new political party called MEEYAMGI THOUGALLOI MANIPUR (MTM) was formed today at the complex of Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR). Speaking to the media persons, Chungkham Joyraj, Convenor of the adhoc Committee of MTM said that national parties have failed to satisfy the aspirations of the people of Manipur and the prolonged degradation of political systems has brought the people of the state to alarming situations. Chungkham Joyraj also said that MTM is not just a political party but it is a movement, a struggle for the people of the state against the corruption and economic deprivation of the mass. MTM strive for social equality and economic prosperity of Manipur, he added. Chungkham Joyraj further said that MTM believe and think that there is a need of a political trend in the present situation of the state which can act as a bargaining power to meet the rightful requirements of the people as endowed by the Constitution of India. Mohen Naorem, member of MTM lamented that the vision that Lamyamba Hijam Irabot had during his time for a better society and welfare of the people, it is now the duty of today's generation and youth to follow his path and make his dream comes true.

When there is a need to raise our voice and marched along with our brothers and sisters in issues regarding the future of our generations, they are always forbidden from joining the struggles and issues even though they could see with their very own eye, he added. Disappointed Mohen Naorem asked, is this the benefit given to them for being a member of National Political Party? Regional parties are more nationalist than the National parties and they are needed in the conflict state like Manipur where National Parties are not interested in local issues, he added.

Mohen Naorem further said that MTM are looking for some political party which is by the people of Manipur, of the people of land for the people. MTM appealed to the youths of the State that Manipur need a reformation which must began with politics and today's youths should come forward to take part in politics as this is vital for the reformation of our present society, he added. On the other hand, Rajivkumar, member of the MTM said that inequality and discrimination is still so deep-rooted that lots of works are need to be done and an active participation by our today's youth in politics is the option to wipe out the various issues of the society. It can be mention that Convenor of the adhoc Committee, Chungkham Joyraj was a member of BJP Manipur Pradesh since 2013 and 3 days back he left the party and formed the new party named MEEYAMGI THOUGALLOI MANIPUR (MTM). The main aim of MTM is to establish a long term political party for the people of the state for better society, for better future of the coming generations. MTM will mainly focus on issues related with the people of the society like ST/ SC, ILPS, etc.

## Assam govt to recruit over 3,000 police personnel to strengthen force

**AIR**  
**Guwahati, Sept 30:** The Assam government will recruit over three thousand police personnel to strengthen the force. Director General of Police Mukesh Sahay told AIR that government decided to recruit new cops writing this financial year. He said that intelligence gathering network has been tightened following the arrest of 3 Jamat-Ul-Mujahidin Bangladesh terrorists recently. Mr. Sahay said that around 42 JMB terrorists have been apprehended by security forces in Assam so far. He said that security agencies are

## Fitting tribute paid to Lamyamba Hijam Irabot on 120th Birth Anniversary

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 30:** People of the state today paid fitting tribute to Lamyamba Hijam irabot on his 120th birth Anniversary. The day is observed at various places by different organisation of the state including CPI. Main observance was held at MDU with Chief Minister Okram Ibobi Singh as the Chief Guest, the function was organised by the Hijam Irabot Birthday celebration Committee.

Floral tribute was paid to the portrait of the pioneer leader as a mark of respect. Speakin on the occasion Chief Minister Okram Ibobi assure to erect a statue of the pioneer leader Hijam Irabot a an appropriate place. He said Hijam irabot was not only a social activist but also a political activist who had wanted to bring about a change in the society. Irabot is being remembered today by not only the people of the state but also by the people of India. His idea of socialism was to bring equality among the people of the state and people of today need to strive hard to fulfill the dream of this great leader, Chief Minister said. Socialist Students' Union Manipur (SSUM) and Manipur Proletariat Peoples' Democratic Union (MPPDU) also jointly organised the day



at THAU ground Thangmeiband. 6 March Pass Contingent from various schools of Imphal area including Imphal Public School and Mekola Higher Secondary School paid salute to the portrait of Irabot. A memorial function was also organised on the occasion with Salam Indubhusan as the Chief Guest. In his speech Indubhusan said Hijam Irabot was a utopian socialist who wanted to bring change in the society base on equality. He said Irabot was borne a socialist and later become a

communist as he knew that communist is the only tool to fight social inequality. On the occasion prizes of the song and painting competition organised by SSUM on September 26 were also distributed. Commun ist Party of India (CPI) Manipur also observed the 120th Birth Anniversary of Hijam Irabot at lamyamba Sanglen. Handicapped Development Foundation also observed the day by organising 3rd Integrated Literary meets on the theme - "To Minimise the Social Imbalance at Kebol High School.

People protection Committee Manipur (PPCM) also organised the 120th Birth Anniversary of Hijam Irabot at Rup Mahal Theater. Floral tribute were paid to the portrait of Hijam Irabot as a mark of respect to the pioneer leader. A Play called Hijam Orabot was also staged as a part of the Birth Anniversary celebration. The day is observed at Moreh, Jiri, Chachar, Hojai and Agartala apart from various locality of the state. Patriotic song competition recitation on Lamyamba Irabot were also organised at various places.

## Ningel Villagers still safeguarding traditional Salt Well

**By: Laishram Ranbir**

**Imphal, Sept 30:** "Many private and government department officials have come and go giving promising words to help in preserving the production of Manipuri local Salt but those promises never turn into reality which made me give up to seek help from the State Government" said Khujam Ongbi Maipakpi. Khumujam Ongbi Maipakpi, residence of Ningel Mayai Leikai of Yairipok under who is now 66 years old, has been working for than 40 years producing the only local salt of Manipur known as "NINGEL THUM" and it is the only work she had been working on till now. In the village of Ningel, there were more than 30 salt producers but now only 6/7 local salt manufacturers are

left, struggling to preserve the very old tradition of salt production which has been going on since ancient history of Manipur as most of the villagers have now shifted their occupation on agricultural work as their primary occupation while manufacturing salt as their secondary occupation. "Demands of Meitei Thum (Salt) are high mostly during ritual and wedding seasons. During these seasons, they struggle to meet the needs of the customers. Sometimes they had to travel through nearby hills to get firewood's, even if they had to go through bad weather, they cannot stop manufacturing salt" said Khujam Ongbi Maipakpi. Meitei Salt In olden days in Manipur,

indigenous salt was considered as an item of reward given by the Maharaja to the brave persons for their heroic deeds. The word thum (salt) in itself is powerful to indicate the name of place, area, status of a person, economy etc. It has been divinely placed to reckon the name of the presiding goddess of Salt well or Thum Latrembi and Thumrungha represents the person appointed by the Maharaja to look after the salt wells (thumkhong). The combination of thum (salt) and Khong (well) indicates the place of salt well. Thus, the word thum had been a cultural element that projects the socio-religious and economic strength of the people of Manipur. (Contd. on page 4)

## After world premiere of Loktak Lairembi at Busan; India premiere in Mumbai

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Sept. 30:** After world premiere at Busan International Film festival in the competition section of New Currents from October 6 to 15, 2016; India premiere of Haobam Paban Kumar's debut Manipuri feature film-Loktak Lairembi (Lady of the Lake) will take place in Mumbai at the Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival with Star scheduled to be held from October 20 to 27, 2016. Loktak Lairembi will vie with other 10 films in the Jio MAMI 18th Mumbai Film Festival for the best film which carries the Golden Gateway trophy with Rs 25 lakhs. Haobam Paban Kumar has created a new chapter in the history of Manipuri cinema by making his first feature film the world premiere in a major international film festival held in South Korea and India Premiere in Mumbai, the capital of Indian cinema. Seventy one minute long Loktak Lairembi tells about the story of Tomba who is sick and depressed since the authorities burnt his huts after blaming his community for the pollution of the Loktak Lake. He has confined himself at home and lies idle the entire day, terrified of the possibility that the authorities may return to take whatever he has left.



One fine morning, Tomba accidentally finds a gun within the biomass. At first he is confused, but slowly, starts enjoying his newfound toy. He becomes aggressive and starts looking for opportunities to use the gun. One day an old lady knocks at his door in the middle of the night. About the film, Paban Kumar states that decades of insurgency and socio-political uncertainty have thrown my society into disarray leaving the people to recede into a cocooned existence devoid of any space for free and visible self-expression that evokes compassion and concern for others.

He said, "Today when I look at my birthplace Manipur, I see guns all around. Gun - a symbol of authority and ownership regimen others... be it the insurgents or the state authorities. We forgot that fear and anxiety instil further worries resulting in cross violence!" "I sincerely believe in resumption of our cultural values that propagates an inclusive society imbued with love, trust and tolerance and my film symbolically delves into the 'fear psychosis' that leads to mistrust and irresponsible conflicts," he added. Haobam Paban Kumar is one of the leading documentary filmmakers in the country. He has a three-year postgraduate Diploma in Direction & Screenplay writing from Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute (SRFTI), Kolkata. Paban Kumar came to limelight with AFSPA 1958, which won the International Jury and FIPRESCI awards at the 9th Mumbai International Film Festival 2006. The film also won the Swarna Kamal for the Best Documentary at the 56th National Film Awards 2008. His documentary- Phum Shang which bagged Golden Conch in Mumbai International Film Festival 2016 toured around the world with flying colours. Loktak Lairembi is his debut fiction feature film.