

Rich tributes paid to martyrs and War Heroes on Khongjom Day

DIPR
Imphal, April 24 : Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Chief Minister Shri N. Biren led the people of the State in paying homage to the martyrs, who laid down their lives in the Battle of Khongjom (1891) on Khongjom Day today.

The Government of Manipur organised the State-level function at Khongjom War Memorial Complex, Khebaching in Thoubal district.

Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren, Manipur Legislative Assembly Speaker Shri Y. Khemchand, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Y. Joykumar, Ministers, legislators, bureaucrats, civil and police officials and large number of people offered floral tributes at the Khongjom War Memorial atop Khebaching.

They also paid floral tributes to the statue of Paona Brajabashi, located at the foothill of Khebaching before they offered *Tarpan* at Khongjom river.

A contingent of Manipur Rifles gave guard of honour, general salute, reverse arms, sounding of last post, two minutes' silence, slope arms and order arms in honour of the martyrs.

Since Chief Minister Shri N. Biren left the memorial complex after paying homage at Khongjom War Memorial, Paona Brajabashi's memorial and Khongjom river as he had to



catch the flight to Delhi to attend an urgent meeting. Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Deputy Chief Minister Yumnam Joykumar graced the main function held at the memorial complex as chief guest and president respectively.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Najma Heptulla urged the people of Manipur to build memorials for the martyrs and freedom fighters in their hearts apart from paying homage to the existing memorials.

She said that paying homage to the war heroes would be meaningful only when people of the current generation collectively take a pledge to fight against poverty, deprivation, illiteracy, underdevelopment, discrimination and other social evils.

Dr Heptulla recalled that brave Manipuri soldiers valiantly faced the mighty colonial British forces although they knew that they would be defeated.

She said that Khongjom war heroes knew that British troops were far better in weaponry and larger in numbers, but they did have the will and desire to protect their motherland.

"While paying homage at the Khongjom War Memorial, we can imagine how the Manipuri war heroes fought the British forces with swords and little shields", she added.

The Governor said, "We are living in a free country today because of the supreme sacrifices made by these martyrs and freedom fighters."

Dr. Heptulla also urged the

people of the current generation to ask themselves everyday whether they had contributed their bit in nation building and bringing development.

In his speech, Deputy Chief Minister Shri Y. Joykumar reminded the gathering that Manipuris had to fight Khongjom War with British forces due to disunity among princes.

He said, "Even today, we will get to see many discords and unwanted happenings if we are divided."

The Deputy Chief Minister further said that while observing Khongjom Day, people need to remember and pay homage to all those unknown soldiers as well.

Apart from Khongjom Parva performance, a play based on the battle of Khongjom was also staged on the occasion.

2 schools in same campus, same entrance gate ?

COHSEM grants affiliation of two schools in one school building at Thoubal district

IT News

Imphal, April 23: Efforts taken up by Education Minister Th. Radheshyam of the BJP led coalition government to improve the quality of education in the state is marred by certain vested interested government servant by intentionally violating the guidelines of which schools should be granted affiliation to the Council of Higher Secondary School (COHSEM).

The matter comes to light after Imphal Times reporter come across sign board of two schools with affiliation approval at a single building having a single playground as well as same entry gate at Thoubal Wangma Taba in Thoubal District.

One of the sign board read as The Francier Higher Secondary School, Thoubal while the other name as New Era Higher Secondary School Thoubal.

When Imphal Times reporter enquired on how two schools can be established and granted permission for affiliation to either the Board of Secondary Education Manipur or the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur, at the same campus and building.

The Francier Higher Secondary School, Thoubal



has been running since 2004 about 13 years under affiliation No. 1/96/96-HSC (Vol.III)-2004/05 to Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur and has taken part of serving in Education Sector in Thoubal District as well as in Manipur and so on, produced many meritorious students. Very surprisingly, in the same campus of The Francier Hr. Sec. School, Thoubal, Govt. of Manipur have given no objection for running a new Hr. Sec. School (namely New Era Hr. Sec. School, Thoubal) and from a reliable source Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur also doing process for giving its affiliation. That newly developed Hr. Sec. School start campaigning to the public and students by giving wrong information and pamphlet for this coming academic session 2017/18.

Now the question is that, under which condition and

criteria, how the Govt. of Manipur have given no objection for running a new Hr. Sec. School and COHSEM doing the process for affiliation in the same campus in which one institution has been running since 2004 till today.

And without prior information and proper investigation including population, feeder schools in the surrounding, how the Govt. of Manipur and COHSEM doing as so mention above. It might be a high level corruption process and beyond the ethics of pure EDUCATION scenario.

Moreover giving of unnecessary recognition and affiliation without proper verification and investigation under some persons/bodies vested interest may lead to mushroom growth of up schools and subsequently that it may lead to development by using any kind of unfair means.

Jirbam MLA assures to take up demands of AJWJU with CM

IT News

Jirbam April 23: Jirbam Assembly Constituency MLA Ad. Ashab Uddin, who is also the Parliamentary Secretary (MOBC) today assured to take up the demands of the All Jirbam Working Journalists' Union (AJWJU).

All Jirbam Working Journalists' Union (AJWJU) today submitted a 4 point memorandum to the MLA demanding better communication facilities for the people of the region. The AJWJU demanded to appoint a District Information Officer in Jirbam district, to install a high frequency modulation for DDK Imphal and also a separate Radio Station and to



allot a plot for office of the AJWJU. Speaking to the members of the AJWJU MLA Ashab Uddin said that he will definitely take up the matter with the Chief Minister N Biren and will try everything to fulfill the demand.

President of All Jirbam Working Journalists' Union, Ng. Biswajit Singh, Vice President - A Lukhoi, Asst. Secy. Genstson Romgmei, Finance Secy. Md. Mahin Laskar and Auditor M. Romeo Singh submitted the memorandum.

Arts and Culture Minister Jayentakumar promises memorial site for Anglo Manipuri War heroes at Kakching Manao Ching

IT News

Imphal, April 23: Arts and Culture Minister L. Jayentakumar today assured to establish a memorial site of Manipuri war heroes who had laid down their lives during Anglo Manipuri War in 1891 at Kakching Manao Ching in Kakching district. A Manipur column led by Wangkhei Meiraba had a fierce battle with the well equipped British soldier at the site for protection of the sovereignty of the erstwhile kingdom on April, 1891.

L. Jayentakumar, who is also Minister in charge for Health

and Family Welfare, CADA, Law and Legislative Affairs, while attending the Memorial function of those Manipuri War Heroes at Kakching Manao Ching further said that the sacrifices by our ancestor to protect the freedom and sovereignty of the kingdom is supreme sacrifices. Knowing that the armed and equipments that they were using that time were far inferior to those of the artillery used by the Britishers, our ancestors never retreat but fight till their death, L. Jayentakumar said.

He said Memorial site of

Wangkhei Meiraba will be constructed at the site as well as he will put all his effort to attach a museum at the site.

The memorial function is the 28th function organized at the site.

Mayanglambam Gourachandra Singh, Founder Director of the Peoples' Museum Kakching, member of the museum Mayanglambam Rameshwor Singh, President of the BJP Kakching district Ksh Naran and President of BJP Kakching Mandal Sh. Shyamjai also attended as dignitaries on the dais of the memorial function.

Bomb blast

IT News

Jirbam April 23: Unknown persons today blasted a hand grenade at the residence of Chingelui Kabuimi (52) wife of Changan Kabui of Konthoujam Mamang Kabui Village at around 12 noon today. no human casualty occurred however portion of the gate was damage due to the impact of the blast.

As soon as the blast took place a team of Patsoi Police rushed the spot.

Vision of New India can only be realized through combined effort of all states: PM Modi

New Delhi, April 23: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said the vision of New India can only be realised through the combined effort and cooperation of all States and Chief Ministers.

In his opening remarks at the third meeting of the Governing Council of NITI Aayog in New Delhi, the Prime Minister said Team India has once again assembled today to discuss and reflect on ways to prepare India for changing global trends. He said the meeting is an opportunity to exchange

views on policies and implementation.

Talking about the passage of Goods and Services Tax, the Prime Minister said the consensus on it will go down in history as a great illustration of cooperative federalism. He gave credit to all Chief Ministers for coming on one platform for this cause, keeping aside ideological and political differences.

Mr Modi said the GST reflects the spirit of 'one nation, one aspiration, one determination. He also called for carrying forward the debate and

discussion on simultaneous elections.

During the meeting, the Prime Minister said it is the collective responsibility of this gathering to envision the India of 2022- the 75th anniversary of independence- and see how the country can swiftly move forward to achieve these goals. He urged States to speed up capital expenditure and infrastructure creation. He said the NITI Aayog is working on a 15 year long term vision, 7 year medium term strategy, and 3 year action agenda. He said this

effort needs support of States, and will eventually reflect in benefits to States.

Recalling the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on the occasion of the centenary of the Champaran Satyagraha, the Prime Minister said NITI Aayog has been taking steps to transform India, with fresh vigour. He said the government, private sector and civil society, all need to work in sync.

He noted that NITI Aayog is a collaborative federal body whose strength is in its ideas, rather than in administrative or

financial control. He pointed out that the Chief Ministers did not have to come to the Aayog for approval of budgets or plans. The Prime Minister noted that sub-groups of State Chief Ministers had given vital inputs on subjects such as Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Swachh Bharat, Skill Development and Digital payments.

Speaking of the historic change in budget presentation date, the Prime Minister said this would enable timely availability of funds at the beginning of the financial year.

World Book & Copyright Day being observed today

AIIR

New Delhi, April 23: World Book and Copyright Day (WBCD) is being observed today. The day seeks to raise awareness about importance of reading and promote publishing and the protection of copyright around the globe. It is a yearly event organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). The focus, this year is on the visually impaired to have easy access to printed materials. In 1995, UNESCO at its General Conference held in Paris chose 23rd of April to celebrate World Book Day as it is a highly symbolic date

for world literature.

It is on this date in 1616 that Cervantes, Shakespeare and Inca Garcilaso de la Vega all died. It is also the date of birth or death of other prominent authors, such as Maurice Druon, Haldor K.Laxness, Vladimir Nabokov, Josep Pla and Manuel Mejia Vallejo. In a message, UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova said, there is currently a book famine in the world because people with visual impairments as well as physical and learning disabilities don't have access to a lot of books that are specifically made for them.