

Call for justice of rape victims fills the air of Imphal Over 1000s staged protest rally, demands punishment of rapists, compensation for victims

IT News
Imphal, April 27: For the first time in the history of Manipur, mass protest rally took out in Imphal city against the April 14 Phaknung Gangrape, here today.

Large number of peoples from both valley and hill areas, various Civil Society Organisations, Student's Body, Clubs took part in the rally which is organised by Core Committee Against Phaknung Gangrape of Two Minor Girls.

All the women of Manipur irrespective of caste and religions and all the communities and its representatives have come together with the decision to stand against the unfortunate incident of April 14 where two minor girls were gangrape said Rose Mangshi Haokip, Advisor of Kuki Women

Union Manipur. Speaking to the media persons, Rose Mangshi Haokip said that being known as Sanaleipak Manipur, we are not accustomed to witness such crimes in Manipur for the last many decades. With the coming of 21st century frequent crime rates one after another have increased numerously. Women of Manipur are against such crimes with strong condemnation and recent incident of April 14, 2017 is the very much example to say, she added.

Rose Mangshi Haokip also said solidarity, peace, integrity of both the Valleys and Hills (Ching-Tam) are all united and have decided that took out the mass rally today throughout Manipur so that in future such kind of crime never happen again. To fight such crimes in the future we will stand together as one, she added. Rose Mangshi Haokip further



said that as the case is genuine, their demand to the authority concern is the culprit should be given befitting punishment and if possible life imprisonment and the two minor girls who were the victims should be rehabilitated. Expect the new BJP led government will support and

fulfill their demands as of now, she added. The mass rally against the Phaknung Gangrape began from Ima Khunthokhanbi Community Hall, DM College Gate, Thangmeiband where public meeting was also held. Signature campaign was also organised by the organisers as part of today's mass rally.

Road, Khurai-Lamlong, Tillipati, Minuthong which wind up at the Ima Khunthokhanbi Community Hall, DM College Gate, Thangmeiband where public meeting was also held. Signature campaign was also organised by the organisers as part of today's mass rally.

SC rejects curative petition filed by Center on Extra Judicial killing verdict

IT News
Imphal, April 27: The Curative Bench of Supreme Court today rejects the curative petition filed by the center which sought to recall the July 2016 judgment. The curative petition was filed by the central government on April 12. The center moved the SC seeking recall of its July 2016 judgment directing the Indian Army and other Paramilitary forces cannot use excessive and retaliatory force in Manipur and all

such complaints should be probed. The Curative petition was heard and a division of 5 judges rejected the petition referring to Rupa Ashok Hurra Vs. Ashok Hurra and another (2002). The court verdict announced that no case is made out within the parameters indicated in the decision of this court in the Rupa Ashok Hurra Vs. Ashok Hurra and another (2002).

KNA cadres nabbed with weapons

IT News
Imphal, April 27: A combined team of Imphal West commando and 6 Assam Rifles arrested two cadres of KNA along with three AK rifles and 500 rounds of ammunition from their possession during an operation conducted at Kamu Tamnong village of Senapati district at around 12.40 am today. The arrested militants were identified as Thoilen Vaiphei, 32, and Lelin Vaiphei, 30. Security personnels also recovered two AK rifles, one M3 rifle, one pistol, six magazine of AK rifle and 215 rounds of ammunition.

Amamba Numit observed

IT News
Imphal, April 27: In continuation with the past tradition Thoubal Apunba Lup (TAL) and International Peace and Social Advancement, (IPSA) Kangleipak Manipur today observed Amamba Numit (Dark Day) in remembrance of the event in 1891 when Manipur lost its independence after the defeat at the Anglo-Manipur battle. The function was held at Thoubal Melaground Community Hall and marked the 19th edition of the observation. Titular King of Manipur Leishemba Sanajaoba was the chief guest at the observation, while president of TAL Samom Raghunani was the functional president, and national awardee Kh Ibotombi and social scientist Dr Dhanabir Laishram were the special guests.

Repair of Kakching Lamkhai-Wabagai road to commence soon

IT News
Imphal, April 27: Kakching MLA Y Surchandra inspected the dilapidated Kakching Lamkhai to Wabagai road today along with chairperson and councilors of Kakching Municipal Council, engineers of National Highway Division 1 and a team of members of Kha Maikeli Light Vehicle (Passenger) Association. The NHD1 was represented by executive engineer K Premkumar and assistant engineer K Arunkumar during the tour. After getting an assurance from the legislator that repair of the road will be taken up immediately the passenger service association has decided to temporarily cancel all its proposed agitations including disruption of service of ferrying passengers on this route. MLA Surchandra stated that repair of the 15-km road, which



is a segment of national highway 137 (A), will be taken up promptly and the central government has allotted a sum of Rs 18 crore for the purpose. The work will commence as soon as there is an improvement in the weather, he added. As an interim measure leveling of road by topping it with a layer of stones will be taken up initially, he said.

He appealed the people to cooperate and immediately clear houses, shops and other structures built along the road by encroaching upon government land and also to remove sand, stone and earth piled adjacent to the road for private uses. He warned of the possible use of force to clear the presence of private belongings along the road if the request is not heeded.

Tapta to perform in River Bank music festival

IT News
Imphal, April 27: The Leipung Wah Entertainment is organising its fourth edition of its River Bank Music Festival for this year carrying a strong message to stop contamination of rivers in Manipur for the sake of the generations to come. This time the venue of the festival is Nongmaishang at Bhagyabati Leikai in Imphal East district near by the river bank of Imphal Turel on April 29 and 30. Tapta will be performing the theme song to open the festival. Director of Leipungwah Entertainment and Co-ordinator of the festival, Tom Maisnam talking to the media persons at Manipur Press Club said that sadly people are interested to understand the

conditions of Manipur rivers running through Imphal and while people are responsible for the havoc of the rivers through encroachments and making them as waste dumping place. The question now is - what will be the future of the environment and the rivers. So we have been organising this music festival to spread awareness to keep the rivers clean for a better environment, added the festival coordinator. The music festival will also

have exhibitions of local crafts items, food stalls above the awareness campaign programmes like poster campaign and campaign through various media platforms. Organiser of the event also carried out one day cycle rally awareness campaign under the theme cycle for change as part of the river festival on April 16 which was flagged off by Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly Yumnam Khemchand

Suresh Prabhu rules out privatization of railways

New Delhi, April 27: Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu has ruled out privatisation of the Railways and said the railways is a mode of last resort for common people for transportation and the Government will have to bear

the burden as well as the responsibility. Highlighting the issue of the public service obligation, the Minister said, somebody must pay for that as it happens globally. He said, each country has a

different system of accounting public service and the Government cannot ignore the common man's interest. He said Indian Railways has asked the NITI Aayog to look into the public service obligation aspect.

Not justifiable to keep Lokpal Act's operation pending: SC

PTI
New Delhi, April 27: The Supreme Court today said the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act of 2013 is a "workable piece of legislation" and it was not justifiable to keep its operation pending. As per the Act, the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok

Sabha will be part of the Lokpal selection panel. At present, there is no Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. A bench of Justices Ranjan Gogoi and Naveen Sinha, while referring to an earlier judgement of the apex court, said, "We are holding that it is a workable piece of legislation and it is not justifiable to keep this pending." The apex court had on March 28 reserved its verdict on a batch of pleas seeking the appointment of Lokpal in the country. Earlier, senior advocate Shanti Bhusan, appearing for NGO Common Cause, had said that even though the Lokpal Bill was passed by Parliament in 2013 and came into effect in 2014, the Lokpal is not being appointed by the government deliberately. Attorney General Mukul Rohatgi had said the Lokpal cannot be appointed in the current scenario as amendments regarding the

definition of the Leader of the Opposition in the Lokpal Act was pending in Parliament. The apex court had on November 23 last year pulled up the Centre over the delay in appointment of Lokpal, saying it should not allow the law to become a "dead letter". In the Lok Sabha, the largest opposition party Congress has only 45 members and lacks the requisite 10 per cent of total 545 seats, giving rise to the requirement to amend the present Lokpal Act. The plea by NGO Common Cause had sought a direction to the Centre to make the appointment of chairperson and members of Lokpal as per the amended rules framed under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013. The NGO, in its plea filed through advocate Prashant Bhusan, had also sought a direction to the Centre to ensure that the procedure for selecting the chairperson and members of Lokpal must be transparent as envisaged under the Act.

PM flags off Shimla-New Delhi flight under UDAN scheme

Shimla, April 27: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the maiden Shimla-New Delhi flight under a government scheme to boost regional air connectivity. The flight is being operated by Alliance Air, a subsidiary of Air India. The airline has deployed its 42-seater ATR plane on this sector. The prime minister also simultaneously flagged off regional connectivity scheme (RCS) flights on the Kadapa Hyderabad and Nanded-Hyderabad sectors through video-conferencing. With the RCS scheme, also

called UDAN or "Ude Desh Ka Aam Nagrik", the government aims at connecting 45 unserved and under-served airports and make flying affordable by capping fares at Rs 2500 per seat/ hour. Five airlines were awarded 128 routes under the scheme last month after a bidding process. Under the UDAN scheme, the operators would be extended viability gap funding (VGF). The amount is estimated to be around Rs 205 crore per annum for the operators chosen in the first round of bidding.