

PM meets BJP CMs

Agency
New Delhi, Aug 21: Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP Chief Minister Shah met Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers of all BJP ruled states in New Delhi today evening and took stock of development and social welfare work being done.

Sources said, besides Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers, a few Cabinet Ministers are also attending the meeting. Issues regarding the implementation of the Centre's flagship schemes in the states and development works being done are discussed.

The meeting is being organised just days after Mr Shah unfolded the blue print for 2019 elections. He had asked party leaders to focus on about 120 winnable seats which party lost in 2014 elections and is aiming for more than 350 in the next general elections.

Manipur Chief Minister N. Biren Singh is also attending the meeting. Details of the meeting could not be known at the time of filing this report.

Liquor seized



IT News
Imphal, Aug 21: A team of Khongjom Police seized around 200 litres of illicit liquors from a person identified as Moirangthem Somen Singh (47 yrs s/o (L) M. Chandramani Singh of Tentha Marangban at around 4.30 am from Samaram crossing.

The arrested person along with seized articles will be handed over to Excise Dept for further necessary action.

Northeast's insurgency reduced by 75 per cent with NIA's efficiency: Union Minister Rajnath Singh

Courtesy: Zee News
Lucknow Aug 21: Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said that with the National Investigation Agency (NIA) probing the terror funding issues and naxalism, the Northeast region has witnessed 75% and 40% fall respectively in both the areas.

"The NIA has successfully emerged as a credible agency since its inception in 2009. This is India's first NIA's residential complex in Lucknow. In Northeast area, the rate of terrorism and naxalism has gone down by

75% and 40% respectively," Singh said at the inauguration ceremony of NIA's residential office here.

He added that the way NIA probes the matter is tremendous as the conviction rate goes up to 95 per cent.

"There is no investigating agency in India whose conviction rate is that high. With this residential complex, we will get to see improvement in the functioning of NIA. For a qualitative outcome from an organization there has to be a quality infrastructure as well," he asserted.

Singh further said that in

Jammu and Kashmir stone pelting issue was growing day by day and with NIA's efficient performance a reduction has been witnessed in such matters.

"Fake currency plays vital role in fuelling naxalism and terrorism. The NIA is curbing this and is investigating 165 such cases of terror funding in the entire country. If we are able to destroy the main source of terror funding then I am sure it will lead to an end of terrorism," he added.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was also present in the program.

2700 year-old artefacts recovered in Northeast

Agencies

Guwahati, Aug 21: With rapid advancement in technology, the use of OSL or optically stimulated luminescence dating has filled the gap between the discovered artefacts that could previously only be assumed of being a particular age. But now, for the first time, the age of artefacts from the Neolithic era-recovered from two important sites in Northeast India-has been unravelled.

Indian scientists have found the age of the artefacts using the latest technique of optically stimulated luminescence dating.

"It is now confirmed that the corded pottery and polished stone tools which were recovered during excavations in Daojali Hading in Dima Hasao district of Assam in 1961 are 2,700 years-old and those recovered from Gawak Abri in Garo Hills of Meghalaya in 1999 are 2,300 years old," said Dr Sukanya Sharma of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati. She and her colleague, Pankaj Singh had conducted the study.

The study was conducted on an experimental basis using a



new technique of optically simulated luminescence dating. The age of the sites were found to be well-matched with the radio-carbon dates from other Neolithic sites of the region. The excavation site at Daojali Hading occupies an important place in the archaeological history of India as the first evidence of an Eastern Asiatic Neolithic complex of double-storied Celts and cord-marked pottery in India was reported from there. The discovery had put Northeast India on the Neolithic map of the world for the first time. However, the precise age of the artefacts were not known.

Antiquity of the site was hypothetically stated to be of the "late Neolithic phase". Now with the dating of the artefacts, this hypothesis has been proved and its antiquity has been established.

The dating of the Gawak Abri

site in Garo Hills is also significant as Garo Hills has the highest density of prehistoric sites in Northeast India. With the new finding of the age of the two sites, it is confirmed that human beings, with the capacity to make pottery and polished stone tools were present in the Northeast India over 2,000 years ago.

OSL is an acronym for Optically Stimulated Luminescence. Optically-Stimulated Luminescence is a late Quaternary dating technique used to date the last time quartz sediment was exposed to light.

As sediment is transported by wind, water, or ice, it is exposed to sunlight and zeroed of any previous luminescence signal.

The researchers have published their study in the latest issue of Current Science.

PM Modi reviews progress of Soil Health Cards Scheme & Fasal Bima Yojana

AIR
New Delhi, Aug 21: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today reviewed the progress of two agriculture sector related schemes, Soil Health Cards and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana in New Delhi.

Mr Modi said, appropriate checks should be undertaken for variation, both within a sampling grid and across different soil testing labs which will help ensure quality in the reports. The Prime Minister also emphasized that soil health cards should be printed in the local dialect of the area, so that the farmers are able to read and

understand them easily.

Encouraging the rapid adoption of latest technology, Mr Modi said that soil testing should eventually be possible through hand-held devices. He urged officials to explore the possibility of involving start-ups and entrepreneurs in the exercise.

During the review, the Prime Minister was informed that 16 States and Union Territories have completed the first cycle of Soil Health Cards distribution and the remaining states are likely to complete it within weeks.

On Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima

Yojana, the Prime Minister was informed that in the Kharif season of 2016 and Rabi season of 2016-17, claims of over 7700 crore rupees have already been paid and over 90 lakh farmers have been benefited. Officials also said that latest technology including smartphones, remote sensing, satellite data and drones are being used for speedy data collection with regard to crop insurance claims.

Senior officials from Ministry of Agriculture, NITI Aayog and Prime Minister's Office were present during the review meeting.

LPG distributed to 47 family under UJJWALA scheme at Jiribam

IT News

Jiribam Aug 21: ADC of Jiribam District, Sivasdas and Manager of M/S Emoinu Gas Agency, K. Gobadhon today distributed LPG at free of cost to 47 family under BPL under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana Scheme today. Speaking on the occasion Sivasdas said that

the LPGs along with stoves are being distributed to the BPL family to improve the condition of women. He said using LPG will prevent them from facing difficulties of facing smokes while cooking. Manager K Gobadhon demonstrated on how to use the LPG to the beneficiaries.

Rio blames Shürhozelie for the fiasco in NPF

IT News

Kohima, Aug 21: Lone Member of Lok Sabha from Nagaland, Neiphu Rio has alleged that the dictatorial, autocratic and undemocratic actions of Dr. Shürhozelie have destroyed the party and the state.

A release issued by NPF press and information cell said during a meeting with delegates of NPF Dimapur division comprising of the division office bearers, and its frontals on Saturday, Rio said that after he left the state for

Delhi as Member of Lok Sabha in 2014, infighting began and has continued since then. Rio also explained on the present crisis in the NPF party and gave a detailed background on how the impasse came to its present stage while also asking the delegation to judge for themselves as the numerous petitions and appeals filed by the minority group with Dr Shürhozelie have been rejected in the courts of law from the Kohima Bench to the Supreme Court.

2 Day Workshop on Youth leadership concludes

IT News

Kohima, Aug 21: 2-Day workshop on the theme Young Volunteers of Manipur Constructive Work and Social Leadership organised by Society for Human Welfare and Education Kshetri Chandam Leikai under the supervision of Gandhi Smriti & Darshan Samiti, New Delhi, which began yesterday at Manipur Press Club concludes today.

The inaugural session of the workshop was attended by Dr. K. Sobita Devi, Chairperson, Manipur State Commission for Women, Md. Badrur Rahman, Adhyakshya, Imphal East Zilla Parishad, Dr. Farida Shah, Member, Manipur State Commission for Women, Rafique Ahmed, manager, Manipur Rural Bank and Sitara Begum, President All Manipur Muslim Women Development Organisation as dignitaries.

During the workshop ideology of Mahatma Gandhi and the role of youth in building a better society was highlighted.

Neglected for more than a decade, villagers built their own bridge, still risk the lives in monsoon season

Laishram Ranbir

Imphal, August 21: Men has reach the moon and with the rapid development growth in every part of the country, states and cities, there still lies places neglected by the so called ruler of the state, the Government. It has been more than a decade, villagers of Luwangsanggol hopes for development and good governance in their villages. "I still nurture hopes that someday our area will be developed with better roads and there will be a proper bridge and we don't have to suffer when crossing the river in monsoon. That's why I keep voting every election," mumble a villager while crossing the temporary suspension bridge over the Sekmai River. Elections do come and go but the situation in this remote part of Saikhu Assembly Constituency, which falls under Kangpokpi district, has remained unchanged, all these years, with no signs of development and not a proper bridge for transportation and travelling. The villagers of Luwangsanggol walk for miles during the rainy season risking their lives on a temporary suspension bridge made of simple iron road, and bamboo stick to cross the Sekmai river before reaching Knglatongbi the nearest market. Adding to their woes is the deplorable condition of the main road, connecting Luwangsanggol and Knglatongbi has not been repaired for the last couple of years. Established in the year 1933 before India got its Independence and

just 22 Km from Imphal and hardly 1 hours to travel the distance, Luwangsanggol village is a home to more than 600 people of over 80 houses. "The only wish of the people in the area is better road communication - a bridge over the Sekmai River - as it will end one of their major problems. It becomes extremely difficult for the people to cross the river, which swells up during the rainy season." The route is the lifeline and the only link for Luwangsanggol villagers. In the year 2001/2002 the villagers constructed a suspension bridge with concrete pillars on both side of the river without any financial support from the government but the bridge is now in unusable condition.



"No government officials as laid their eyes on the villages for development till date except for election campaign," said a villager.

During the monsoon, the villagers use to construct a temporary suspension bamboo bridge, which somewhat makes it easier for them but risky to cross the river as the route which they take crossing the Sekmai river while the water level lies below the ankle use to rise reaching the danger level, even sometimes swap away the edge of the lands.

In winter, the villagers face no problems crossing the river as the water level runs at the lowest level.

"During the monsoon, the area mostly remains cut off

from the rest of the world," added a villager.

"We have to take the temporary suspension bridge but it is risky when it rains in the foothills of the state and the river swells up," said a villager.

"Had there been a proper bridge, many won't be facing any hardship in their lives, only we know how we risk our lives every time we cross the river during the rainy season. There is always the risk of the suspension bridge collapsing. It's the pregnant women and patients who are the worst sufferers, of the Luwangsanggol Village." With no proper health centre, the villagers had to take the sick patients to the Sekmai and Mombung Primary Health Centre

which is the nearest but when the patients is in serious condition they had to admit them in the major hospital in the Imphal city.

While doing so, many have lost their lives before even reaching the treatment centre.

An elderly man said, "Even after 70 years of Independence, our area is underdeveloped on all fronts with no bridge or proper roads. First, we have to travel through the barren, sandy route and then cross the river using the suspension bridge during monsoon to reach Knglatongbi, the nearest market."

"During the election, candidates use to campaign to woo their votes with fake promises but now we have stopped wishing for anything from the leaders who promise big every election. But our hope for a bridge over the river Sekmai doesn't deter us from voting though we know they won't look back to put their promises into action," said a villager (whose name don't want to be mention) of Luwangsanggol village, who now lives in the city.

Almost all the villagers of Luwangsanggol village practice Christianity though some non-locals such as the Nepali resides outskirts to the village and practice Hindu religion.

Most of the people in luwangsanggol village engage themselves mainly in quarrying works and are daily wages labourer.