

Incompetent administration takes out thousands on Chandel streets; cry for justice fills the air; submits memorandum to CM

IT News
Chandel, Aug 7: Non-availability of drinking water, non-maintenance of roads, transfer of lecturers from United College Lambung without any replacement and other negligence by the state government in taking up developmental works of Chandel districts today takes out thousands of students and civil society leaders on the road of the Chandel district head quarter carrying banner and placards drawing attention of the state government.

The memorandum drew the attention of the Chief Minister over the issue of non-availability of drinking water in Chandel district. It said the matter has been grave to the Deputy Commissioner many a times but no means to provide drinking water is initiated by



the department concerned this far. After the flood in 2015, people have been facing water scarcity literally, and with numerous memorandums submitted to the Government, yet all pleas & grievances were ignored. The Union has appealed for a sitting with

PHED Chandel to sort out the matter however the district administrator is adamant to arrange such meeting. The memorandum also urged for immediate attention to the sorry state of the Chandel district hospital. It said the hospital administration is

plague with the absence of Medical Superintendent and Nursing matron or Sister-in-charge besides the pathetic equipment being installed with Zero result eg Ultra sound & X-ray machine, etc.

The memorandum also terms the transfer of 26 teachers from The United College Lambung Chandel as abrupt deprivation of the 626 students who are currently enrolled in the college.

It also denounced granting of non residence students to JNV Chandel.

The memorandum also drew the attention of the government to reorganize police jurisdictions in the aftermath of the new district creation. Besides, it also urged for construction of the FCI godown at Liwa Khullen which was already approved in 2013.

GST Council authorises Centre to hike cess on SUVs, luxury cars from 15% to 25%

AIR
New Delhi, Aug 7: GST Council has authorised Centre to hike cess on SUVs, luxury and large cars to 25 percent from 15 percent. Finance Ministry today said, GST Council in its meeting last Saturday considered the issue that total tax incidence on motor vehicles after GST has come down. It recommended that Central Government may move legislative amendments to increase maximum ceiling of cess on motor vehicles to 25 percent from present 15 percent. However, the decision on when to raise the actual cess leviable on the motor vehicles will be taken by the GST Council in due course.

Silchar Based CSOs Decry Militant's threat to AAMSU, MSPA functionaries

IT News
Silchar, Aug. 7: Various Civil Society Organisations, Meira Paibi organizations have strongly condemned the threat allegedly served by an outlaw body to some functionaries of All Assam Manipuri Students Union, (AAMSU) Central Committee and Manipuri Sahitya Parishad Assam (MSPA).

A joint meeting of various organizations held on Sunday at Silchar Ithkhol under the aegis of AAMSU took serious note of the threat served by the Manipur based militant outfit. On August 4, one unidentified person claiming himself to be a man of KCP outfit called up AAMSU general secretary Khangrakpam Krishnamohan through WhatsApp and alleged him of disturbing the activities of the outfit and working against the party. The outfit warned Krishnamohan to come to Nepal and clarify his mistakes by August 10 failing of which the latter would face dire consequence. The outfit also threatened AAMSU president Pangabam Nilkanta, Manipuri Sahitya

Parishad, Assam General Secretary Prof. Ngangom Basanta kumar on phone. The outfit allegedly threatened Manipuri Sahitya Parishad, Assam General Secretary prof. Ngangom Basanta not to allow holding of AAMSU related meetings at Parishad office failing of which he too would face the music. The meeting graced by AAMSU president Pangabam Nilkanta, AAMSU Advisor H. Babu, COCPIN chairman Saikhom Kamlakanta, Manipuri Benevolent Society Assam president IS Thingom

while taking serious note of the threat resolved that the interference by a Manipur based militant outfit in a conflict between All Assam Manipuri youths Association, AAMYA and some volunteers of AAMSU is unreasonable. AAMSU, MSPA, Manipuri youths Front Assam (MYFA), COCPIN, Athouba Ningsing lup, All Assam Manipuri Meira Paibi Apunba Lup, Barak valley apunba meira paibi lup have sought support from various Manipur based organizations in connection with the militant threat.

Workshop on National Deworming Day

IT News
Thoubal, Aug. 7: One Day Dissemination Workshop on National Deworming Day held at DC Office Counting Hall, Thoubal today. The inaugural function was attended by L. Nabakishwar Singh, IAS, Deputy Commissioner, Thoubal as Chief Guest and Ng. Bhogendro Singh, MCS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Thoubal as President.

Dr. N. Jayantakumar Singh, CMO Thoubal, N. Shyama Devi, DPO, ICDS, Thoubal and Shri S. Mangi Singh, ZEO, Thoubal were also attended as Guests Honour. Ch. Basanta Singh, DPM, DHS, Thoubal welcomed all the participants. Dr. N. Akendra Singh, DFWO Thoubal explained about the workshop. Dr. Y. Nukul Singh, Senior Medical Officer in charge CHC Heirok was the Resource Person of the day.

Dhaka to open new diplomatic mission in India

By Siam Sarower Jamil, Dhaka, Aug 7: Bangladesh is going to open seven new fully fledged diplomatic missions in Toronto, Sydney, Chennai, Freetown, Bucharest, Kabul and Khartoum in a bid to expand its export market. The missions will also aim to strengthen diplomatic relations with the countries, said officials.

A proposal of the Foreign Ministry on the matter will be placed at the weekly cabinet meeting today with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

According to the proposal,

the Foreign Ministry has decided to set up new embassies or diplomatic missions in Canadian city of Toronto, Australian city of Sydney, Romania's capital Bucharest, Sierra Leone's capital Freetown, Indian city of Chennai, Afghan capital Kabul and Sudanese capital Khartoum.

A senior Foreign Ministry official said the opening of new missions is part of the Awami League government's plan to prioritise economic diplomacy in its foreign policy. Upholding the government's decisions, the official said it

became necessary for Bangladesh to open more embassies to serve the growing number of expatriate Bangladeshis, raise exports and boost diplomatic ties with Europe, Africa and North America.

As per the Foreign Ministry estimates, about 7 million Bangladeshis now live abroad and send home around \$12bn a year as remittance.

Currently, 72 Bangladeshi missions, high commissions, consulates, deputy high commissions, assistant high commissions and visa offices are operating in 56 countries.

Five days national training programme on seed testing Kicks off at ICAR, Manipur Centre

IT News
Imphal, Aug. 7: A five days long Special National Training Programme on "Advancement of Seed Testing" started at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre, Imphal. The training was inaugurated by Y. Joykumar Singh, Deputy Chief Minister of Manipur as Chief Guest; while Dr. Suhel Akhtar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Manipur; Er. M. G. Viswakarma, NSRTC, Varanasi and Dr. S. V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam Meghalaya graced the function as Guests of Honour and President, respectively. In the inaugural function, Dr. N. Prakash, Joint Director, ICAR-Manipur Centre welcomed all the dignitaries and participants.

In his presidential speech, Dr. S. V. Ngachan, Director, ICAR, Meghalaya highlighted the importance of the training programme and achievements of ICAR in seed production in different NE states and acknowledge the contribution of different stakeholders in seed production in NEH region. He also mentioned the contribution of ICAR, Manipur Centre in supplying quality seed to Department of Agriculture, Govt. of Manipur during after months of the current flood. He requested all concerned state departments

to take up seed testing and seed certification programme for ensuring quality seed to the farmers.

The Guest of Honour, Dr. Suhel Akhtar, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Manipur emphasized that due to location disadvantages, Manipur should be self-sufficient in food production including horticulture and without a good seed production programme this can not be achieved. He also requested ICAR to solve the storage problem of Manipuri Black Rice *Chakha*. The other Guest of Honour Er. M. G. Viswakarma, NSRTC, Varanasi expressed that the participants will be highly benefited from the interaction with different resource person in this training.

The Chief Guest of function Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh mentioned his long association with ICAR. He stated that to bring development in the state agriculture sector is the first priority. He also opined that though Manipur has potential in tourism and healthcare, but agriculture should be the main backbone of state's economy. He also emphasized on creation of irrigation facility to make the seed production programme successful. He requested the scientific experts to consider regional condition and agro-climate for devising

agricultural strategy. He also highlighted the need for setting criteria for selection of seed for propagation of tree bean (*Yongchak*).

The inaugural function was ended with vote of thanks by Dr. I. Meghachandra Singh, Principal Scientist (Seed Technology), ICAR, Manipur Centre and the Course Coordinator of the training programme.

The event is being jointly organized by ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre, Imphal and National Seed Research and Training Centre (NSRTC), Varanasi, U.P. and sponsored by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Government of India and Manipur Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium, Dept. of Agriculture, Govt. of Manipur. In this Special National Training Programme more than 60 participants covering scientists, academicians, seed analyst, state officials and extension functionaries from different North Eastern India and also from Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana are participating in the said event. Resource persons from different parts of the country will share their knowledge and experience with the participants in the said programme. The said training is aiming to impart advance knowledge in the field of seed testing to the participants.

Need to bust the racket running inside MPSC

By:- Ch Bikram Singh

There is a racket suspected to be running inside the Manipur Public Service Commission (MPSC) which needs to be busted in no time. It will not also be difficult to bust the racket if the state Govt., has the will to do so as the racket seems to be confined within the examination section only.

Their responsibilities are the conduct of examinations held periodically and carry out evaluation of the answer-scripts thereof, by engaging experts. Instead, they are creating series of room for favoritism and nepotism through manipulation of marks. As also clarified by the spokes-person of the aspirant candidates at the panel discussion of "Impact TV" and "ISTV" held on 3rd Aug' 2017 and 4th Aug' 2017 respectively, the role of the Chairman and Members of the commission over the conduct of an examination are very much limited as they remain quiet aloof from the day to day activities. The main responsibility lies with the controller of examinations and the examination section, under the supervision of the Secretary of the commission.

So, the first step for cleansing up should be hunting out the names of the responsible officers or staff working in the examination section whose family members, friends and relatives got top-most priority in every batch of selection. The 2nd step should be referring of the case to the police Dept., for booking those responsible officers and staff working in the examination section who possess disproportionate assets, as their ill-gotten wealth is presumed to be earned by way of manipulation carried out in the evaluation system. Unless the culprits are booked sooner or later, there is no future for the civil service aspirants of Manipur.

Let us have a glance at the most glaring facts of the ill-fated combined civil services main examination 2016, conducted by the MPSC as detailed below:-

(1) Mr. Shyamal Pooniya, the previous secretary of the commission was acting both as "Secretary" and "Controller of examination" which created ample scope for manipulation in collusion with the officers and staff of the examination section:

(2) The final examination result was declared on 21st

Dec' 2016. Thereafter, the names of the successful candidates were recommended for appointment to the Govt., in the absence of the, Chairmen who has retired. Members whose terms have expired and the Secretary who was transferred to another dept. and

(3) The fact-finding committee constituted by the Hon'ble High Court Okayed their report over such a serious and sensitive matter on the mere plea of random checking, while RTI report of the answer-scripts that also was furnished reluctantly after 7 months on the direction of the State Commission highlighted severe manipulation, under-marking and tempering of marks which is vividly seen in the answer-scripts.

Some vivid examples of manipulation are given below:-
(i) Overwriting and tempering of marks awarded by cutting the marks several times without putting the initials of the examiner, which a proper examiner should never do;

(ii) Marks are awarded on one-time, basis over split questions e.g. Question No. 1 (a) and 1 (b) carrying 30 marks each/- are awarded on one-time basis at the end of

Question No. 1 (b), which a proper examiner should never do;

(iii) Marks are awarded at the middle of the answer but, not at the end e.g. marks for an answer to a particular question covering 5 pages is awarded at the 3rd page, which a proper examiner should never do;

(iv) Marks for answer of questions for brilliant candidates over science subjects which may be compared to maths papers and deserving at least 80% marks are very much under-marked to the extent below 30%, which a proper examiner should never do;

(v) Signature of almost all the examiners are not regular and are suspected to be forged, faked and mis-matched, requiring comparison with the original signature records maintained by the MPSC;

(vi) In some cases, the answer-scripts bear no signature of the examiners and supervisors, needing review; and
(vii) There are gulps of differences in tabulation of marks e.g. the total mark in one particular geography paper of a candidate is shown as 32 only in the tabulation sheet while he actually got 129 marks. (Contd on page 2)