

Donation to Chief Minister's relief fund

DIPR

Imphal, Dec. 1: Two different groups donated a total sum of Rs. 1,21,500 to Chief Minister's Relief Fund to help the people affected by spates of flood that occurred this year. Manipur Government Higher Secondary Lecturers' Welfare Association donated Rs. 1,10,000 while a group of visually-impaired persons contributed Rs. 11,500. The amounts were handed over to Chief Minister N. Biren Singh by the representatives of these two groups at Chief Minister's Secretariat today. The Chief Minister thanked the two groups for their generosity.

3 NNC cadres apprehends at Silchar

Silchar, Dec.1: Three cadres of Naga National Council, NNC have been apprehended by Silchar police on Thursday night from Silchar's Meherpur area. From the police sources, it has been revealed that on the basis of secret information, raid was conducted at several places of Silchar by a Special Operation wing of Silchar police. The apprehended members of NNC are Sumgaing Gomy, 19, s/o-Semroi of Lamdailong, Keirijin Kamai, 35, s/o-Gusuang of Lamdailong of Jirghat and Thujiang Kamai, 26, s/o-Gagoiyang of Singfonglong under Nungba police station of Tamenglong.

CM calls on for joint effort to tackle HIV/AIDS menace

DIPR

Imphal, Dec. 1: Chief Minister N. Biren has urged the people of the State, NGOs, doctors, health workers and all the stakeholders to collectively fight HIV/AIDS menace in the State. He was speaking at the World AIDS Day - 2017 observance held under theme 'Right to Health' at 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles ground today. Stating that Government agencies like Manipur State AIDS Control Society (MACS) together with NGOs have been trying hard to achieve 'Zero Infection' rate, the Chief Minister expressed pleasure that the HIV prevalence rate of the State has reduced considerably due to their dedicated efforts. Informing that the State Government will acquire equipments for Hepatitis-C testing in January next year, the Chief Minister expressed hope that this would bring lots of relief to the persons, who have HIV/HCV co-infection. As drug addiction is one of the factors for spread of HIV



virus, N. Biren said that the Government had launched mass drives against drugs and other intoxicants. He also said that the State Government is all set to implement different social security schemes to support needy people, differently-abled persons and widows. Stating that the Government had announced free diagnosis for 57 different items in Government medical facilities, the Chief Minister further said that this noble initiative will never fructify without doctors' co-operation.

The Chief Minister further contended that the officials concerned should ensure to the public that quality of diagnosis is not inferior to that of the test done by private institutes. Urging the public to immediately lodge complaints at Grievance Cell and Anti-Corruption Cell opened at CM's secretariat if they come across any irregularity on the part of Government employees including doctors and other health workers, N.

Biren informed the gathering that all the reasonable and logical complaints/grievances reach his table the next day. Speaking at the function as the president, Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jayantakumar observed that a strong and collective determination is required to tackle the menace of HIV/AIDS. Among others, Forest and Environment Minister Th. Shyamkumar, Manipur Industrial Development

Corporation (MANIDCO) Chairman Yumnam Radheshyam, Manipur Pollution Control Board (MPCB) Chairman Laishram Radhakishore, Tamenglong AC MLA Samuel Jendai, Naoriya Pakhanglakpa AC MLA S Subhaschandra, Chief Secretary R.R. Rashmi, Administrative Secretaries and Heads of Departments were also present at the occasion. Apart from releasing a book entitled, 'The Pink Book: Your Guide for Safe and Nutritious Food at Home', the Chief Minister also launched a Mobile Food Testing Laboratory vehicle at the function. Later, the Chief Minister along with the dignitaries also inspected the stalls of different NGOs and SHGs put up at the function venue. Prizes for different competitions held in connection with the observance were also distributed at the occasion. The observance was organised by Manipur State AIDS Control Society.

World AIDS Day at Moreh

Moreh, Dec. 1: Medicines Sans Frontiers (MSF) organised 30th World AIDS Day observance in front of Moreh Post Office. A street show to spread awareness about the menace of HIV and AIDS was also staged at around 2 pm. A two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to those victims of HIV and AIDS. A street play to spread awareness on HIV and AIDS was also staged.

Kumbi College observes World AIDS Day

Imphal, Dec 1: Principal and programme officer of NSS of Kumbi College launched a campaign in connection with the World AIDS Day observance in front of the college gate. Volunteers of NSS distributed leaflets and sweets to the passengers coming by auto, magic, bus, car etc.

Mary Kom resigns as boxing's national observer

PTI

New Delhi, Dec 1: Five-time world champion M C Mary Kom has resigned as the national observer for Indian boxing after Sports Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore made it clear that active sportspersons will not be considered for the position. "Resigned as national observer 10 days ago after having a word with Mr Rathore. I had been requested to take up the position, it was not something I had asked for," Mary Kom, who claimed her fifth Asian Championships gold medal last month, told PTI today. "I had inquired about the role on not having active athletes as observers with the then Sports Secretary Injeti Srinivas when it was offered to me," she explained, reacting to

insinuation that her appointment smacked of conflict of interest given that she is still an active national camper. "But at that time, I was told that I should nonetheless accept the position. I did so on insistence of the Ministry and I don't want unnecessary controversies about something that I had not asked for." The 35-year-old Olympic bronze-medallist was among 12 national observers appointed by the then Sports Minister Vijay Goel in March. The list also includes the likes of Olympic-gold medallist shooter Abhinav Bindra, double Olympic-medallist Sushil Kumar and former Commonwealth Games gold-medallist Akhil Kumar among

others. Of these, Sushil and Mary Kom are still active in their respective sports. Akhil, on the other hand, is no longer a part of the national camp after giving up amateur boxing. He has already rejected the conflict of interest charge, saying that he is neither a beneficiary of government schemes nor a part of the national camp. "I was never interested in this but accepted the position because I had been requested. I have my hands full with a lot of things. I am happy to let it go and have no complaints," said Mary Kom. The decorated boxer is also a Rajya Sabha MP and is in contention for the Commonwealth and Asian Games next year.

FA shall not disturb and interfere into the Unity and territorial integrity of Manipur under any conditions – CSOs

IT News

Imphal, Dec 1: Three major civil societies of the state – United Committee Manipur (UCM), All Manipur United Clubs Organisation (AMUCO) and Committee of Civil Society Kangleipak (CCSK) had submitted a memorandum to the prime Minister of India reminding its earlier stand on the issue of the territorial integrity of Manipur. The memorandum was handed over to the national General Secretary of BJP Ram Madhav yesterday evening. It was submitted as per resolution of the One Day

Public Dialogue held on November 18, 2017 at Lamyamba Sanglen Palace Compound here in Imphal. In the memorandum it is stated that the Framework Agreement shall not disturb and interfere into the unity and territorial integrity of Manipur under any condition. It further stated that even if the government of India assures that the geographical boundary of the North Eastern states will remain intact, anything which subsequently relates to the ongoing Framework Agreement cannot be taken up inside Manipur without the prior sanction

and approval of the State Government and the People of Manipur. The memorandum also stated its strong opposition to any steps that might directly or indirectly disintegrate the state to endorse the long standing demand of the NSCN-IM to integrate naga inhabited area such as arrangement of Pan Naga Cultural Provincial/Territorial Council or any other arrangement for financial autonomy or similar type. The memorandum also demanded amendment of Article 3 of the constitution of India and also to amend the Article 371.

Renovation for State legislative Assembly Guest House underway

No officials stayed during their visit in State Assembly

IT News

Imphal, Dec 1: Renovation works for the Guest House of State Legislative Assembly, located at Major Khul in Imphal, at the southern side of Manipur Press Club is being underway. The Guest House was earlier a hang out zone for friends of VVIPs and VIPs. With Assembly authority understanding the need for repairment of the Guest House, renovation works has been underway at present. Earlier, no government authority – either it may be committee members from state assemblies of other state visited the Manipur Legislative Assembly stayed in the guest house which is being built for the accommodation of such visit. A view of the guest house from the Manipur Press Club tells



the story of why the official visitors will not like to stay in the rooms of the guest house. Now that renovation works is seen being taken up but no details of how the renovation is being carried out is being let known to the public. During the conference of the North East Region

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association inaugurated by the Speaker of the Parliament Sumitra Mahajan at Manipur Legislative Assembly complex in June this year none of the delegates or their associates were accommodated at the State Assembly Guest House. A former MLA while talking

to this writer said earlier condition of the rooms at state assembly guest house was not suited for the MLAs to stay. But as renovation works is being taken up may be the quality of the rooms may be improved, the ex MLA added. He however said any ex-MLAs or MLAs can stay in the Guest house with payment of nominal fees. Meanwhile, a source close to the Imphal Times said a high class officer of the Manipur Legislative Assembly who had even took charge as secretary in charge, now demoted as additional secy have constructed a house for his own inside the premises of the State Assembly Guest House. The source did not disclose on how the house is being constructed under what agreement.

Supreme Court directs Delhi, other states to set up road safety policy by January 31

Agency

New Delhi, Dec 1: The Supreme Court on Thursday directed all states and union territories that have not already framed a road safety policy to do so by January 31, and implement it. Delhi, Assam, Nagaland, Tripura, Lakshadweep, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have not yet set up this policy. The court passed a slew of other directives in an effort to prevent road accidents. All states must set up a road safety committee in every district by January, it said. These committees would include the superintendent of police, the health officer and representatives from Public Works Department, National Highways Authority of India and road transport besides a member of civil society. The court also told the states

to set up a trauma centre in each district with necessary facilities and an ambulance. "The state governments and union territories should take up this recommendation at the earliest since it is on record that treatment soon after a road accident is crucial for saving the life of the victim," the bench said. The Supreme Court bench, comprising Justices MB Lokur and Deepak Gupta, was hearing a public interest litigation filed by an orthopaedic surgeon from Coimbatore, S Rajasekaran. The doctor had submitted that 90% of road accident deaths occur because safety rules are not strictly enforced and the punishment is also not severe. The court noted that the number of deaths due to road accidents in the country is more than 1 lakh a year, which translates to about one death

every three minutes. The judges then told the states to create a lead agency which would "coordinate activities such as licensing issues, including driving licences, registration of vehicles, road safety and features of vehicles, along with allied matters such as emission norms." The court has made it mandatory for States and Union Territories to establish a Road Safety Fund, frame the Road Safety Action Plan by March 31 and set up a universal accidental helpline number, among other directives. The Union Ministry of Transport has been directed to frame a protocol for road design, road quality and to identify black spots, as well as implement "traffic calming" measures at accident spots. The court said it would review the situation in February 2018.