

CSOs continue campaign; meets Sena Chief



IT News
Imphal, Dec 20: Continuing its campaign for the protection of the territorial integrity of the state as well as demanding disclosure of the Framework Agreement signed between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India, the Civil Society organization presently camping at New Delhi meet various other leaders of different political parties at New Delhi. The CSO team which comprise of Elangbam Johnson, President, United Committee Manipur (UCM), Ph. Deven, President, All Manipur United Club Organisation (AMUCO), Jeetendra Ningomba Vice President of the CCSK, YK Dhiren General Secy UCM and Sunil Karam of NIPCO today met Anil Desai MP & National Secretary General of Sivasena. During the meeting the General Secretary all called on the President of Siva Sena Uddhav Thackeray and allow the CSO leaders to talk with him. The Siva Sena Chief assured all support to the people of the State. The Sena Chief also assured to bring up the matter at the Parliament.

House unanimously reiterate stands for protection of Manipur Unity

Resolved to sent resolution by adding a clause for disclosure of the content of the Framework Agreement

IT News
Imphal, Dec 21: Ongoing winter session of the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly today re-iterated the earlier resolution for protection of the territorial integrity of the state and resolve to intimate the centre another resolution adopted today in addition with a clause for disclosure of the contents of the Framework Agreement signed between the Government of India and the NSCN-IM.

A calling attention motion moved by Congress MLA Kh. Joykishan urging the Chief Minister of Manipur also in-charge of Home to spell out the details of the Framework Agreement between the GoI and the NSCN-IM has been converted into a short duration discussion after 10 opposition MLAs submitted

proposal for converting the calling attention to short discussion in the interest of the people of the state. Opposition leader Okram Ibobi and Congress MLA Gaikhangam too joined the other 10 opposition MLA urging the speaker to accept the proposal of the fellow opposition MLAs.

The proposal was accepted by the leader of the house Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and discussion over the issue begins.

Interesting, every member of the house including NPF member Awangbou Newmai expressed his opinion that the solution which is likely to brought between the two entity should not distort the communal harmony of the region.

"The agreement should be amicable solution and that

should not hurt the sentiment of others". Awangbou Newmai who is in the treasury bench said.

Opp Leader of the house Okram Ibobi, who had served the state as Chief Minister for three consecutive term narrated on how the Congress Party he belongs to negate the signing of the framework agreement without revealing the contents.

"A group of Nagland MLAs had met AICC president Sonia Gandhi soon after the signing of the FA on August 3, 2015 seeking support from the congress Party", Ibobi said and added that during the meeting Sonia Gandhi had rejected the proposal for support of the Framework agreement on the ground that she being a leader of the opposition had not been informed about the FA neither

the matter was brought to the notice of the Congress Party nor reveal the details of the contents.

"The FA was signed in a hurried manner without informing none of the neighbouring state of Nagaland including Manipur, I am not informed about it", Ibobi added.

He further said as soon as the news about the Framework Agreement was signed, Okram Ibobi said that he rushed to new Delhi and met the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh and asked why the state government has not been consulted before the signing of the agreement.

Ibobi said that the Home Minister did give any details of the agreement even though he was the Chief Minister of the state that time.

"Not only me even the legislatures and the civil society leaders of the Nagaland state were not let known what was there in the Framework Agreement",

Okram Ibobi said. He also added that he believed that the Framework Agreement might not have been disclosed even to the present Chief Minister N. Biren Singh. Leader of the House, N. Biren Singh who is also the Chief Minister of Manipur said that his government is very much concern about the development after the signing of the Framework Agreement. He said time and again the Manipur Legislative Assembly had adopted resolution for protection of the Integrity of the state.

However, the matter about demanding for disclosure of the content of the Framework agreement. He said as there has been already resolution adopted the house need to reiterate the resolution in addition to the clause for disclosure of the contents of the Framework Agreement.

All MLAs in both the treasury and the Opposition bench were unanimous in taking decision on the matter

MLA Dr. Chaltolien Amo says that health Minister lied while answering his question

Imphal, Dec. 21: MLA Dr. Chaltolien Amo today said that Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jyentakumar had lied to him while answering to the question he seek.

The question was supposed to be answered by the Minister during the question hours however as the question hour was over Chaltolien Amo during Zero Hour put up the matter. He said that he asked the Minister on whether the construction of the CHC Parbung has been started and the answer is yes and the work agency is stated to be Manipur Tribal Development Corporation. However, when he enquired about it to the MTDC it has been learnt that there has been no such deposit for the said work to the office.

How could a work be started when the amount is not deposited the MLA questioned.

Newly constructed Church Building inaugurated at Bunglawn

IT News
Bunglawn, Dec 21: A newly constructed church building of the Evangelical Synod Church was inaugurated and dedicated to the Almighty God today at Bunglawn village in Churachandpur District of Manipur.

The construction for the new Holy House was started in 2012 following the foundation laying ceremony pronounced by Late Elder Kamkhohlen on 30th April 2012.

Amidst solemnity and fervor, the new church building is being inaugurated by Reverend Thangkhoisem, Executive Director of the Evangelical Synod Church (ESC) and dedicated by Elder Letkam Gangete.

The church being inaugurated

today is of 80' long and 40' width with a sitting capacity of about 500 people.

Around One Crore INR has been invested for construction of the new church building.

A souvenir titled "Amazing Grace" is also being released to mark the significance of the occasion.

The inauguration ceremony, which is being attended by hundreds of people, is richer with presentation of gospel numbers from Synod Headquarters Church Choir.

Besides, veteran artists Pu Goukhsioem and Pi Chongmawi also jibed the gospel songs with their numbers.

The church, founded in 1957 has produced four pastors, namely Rev Khaithingh, Rev

Dr Sosen Gangete, Founder Principal, Faith Theological College, Dimapur, Pastor SJ Minthang Gangete and Pro-Pastor Soilal during the last 60 years.

The new church is being constructed following the destruction of the previous building by a strong windstorm on the fateful night of 28th April, 2012.

Once a destination of Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, the then President of India, Bunglawn village was founded by Suktung Thangkhopau Gangete in 1957. His grandson, Pu S Paukholal Gangete is presently the chief of the village.

At the moment, there are about 60 houses with a population of about 400 people.

Guwahati media families maintain good health

Guwahati, Dec. 21: Most of the media persons and their families in the city maintain satisfactory health status.

According to a series of blood tests, conducted recently at Guwahati Press Club (GPC) for the benefit of its members along with their close relatives, nearly 90 percent of the participants showed good result in the tests of thyroid stimulating hormone, haemoglobin, blood sugar, uric acid and creatinine.

Out of 60 participants in the TSH test, conducted by Dispur Hospitals on 25 November and 9 December, ten individuals showed thyroid disorder. Some others

have shown the tendency to cross the limit, but they might manage the disorder with physicians' guidelines," said a GPC statement.

Meanwhile over 65 participants in the 16 December camp, organized by the city based Apollo Hospitals information centre, showed satisfactory result in the haemoglobin test.

However eight out of them were diagnosed with high uric acid, five with blood sugar and two with creatinine, added the statement. All the participants can get their blood reports from the office of the press club. They may also consult with the attending physician

at the weekly Evening with a Doctor program on 23 December for necessary advices. The OPD clinic will start at 3pm and continue till 5 pm at the press club premises.

Till date, the unique healthcare initiative has been supported by Apollo Chennai Hospital, SIMS Hospital Chennai, Manipal Bangalore Hospital, Fortis Hospital Bangalore, Medanta the Medicity Hospital, Down Town Hospital, GNRC Hospitals, Nencare Hospital, Hayat Hospital, Ayursundra Hospital, Sun Valley Hospital, Barthakur Clinic, Wintrobe Hospital, Narayana Hospital etc.

Myanmar army massacred dozens of Rohingya, survivors say

Associated Press

Ukhia, Dec. 21: For six hours Bodru Duza hid in an upstairs room, listening to the screams of people being slaughtered outside his Myanmar home. The 52-year-old man braced for the soldiers to find and kill him, like all the others.

What had started out as a quiet Sunday in northwestern Myanmar had spiraled into an incomprehensible hell — one of the bloodiest massacres reported in the Southeast Asian nation since government forces launched a vicious campaign to drive out the country's Rohingya Muslim minority in late August.

When Duza finally dared to emerge from his hiding place, his wife, daughter, and five young sons were nowhere to be seen.

"Oh Allah!" he thought. "What have they done to us? What have they done to my family?"

The Rohingya Muslims have long been persecuted and denied basic rights in predominantly Buddhist Myanmar, but the latest round of violence was in retaliation for a wave of 30 attacks by Rohingya insurgents in August on security posts. At least 14 people were killed.

The assaults triggered an army counter-offensive that has left hundreds of villages burned and driven 650,000 refugees into Bangladesh. The aid group Doctors Without Borders estimates 6,700 Rohingya civilians were killed in the first month of reprisals alone, and human rights groups have documented three large-scale massacres.

At least 82 Rohingya are believed to have been murdered in the village of Maung Nu on Aug. 27. The Associated Press has reconstructed the massacre, as told by 37 survivors now scattered across refugee camps in

Bangladesh. Their testimony, combined with exclusive video footage from the massacre site obtained by AP, strengthens a growing body of evidence indicating that Myanmar armed forces have systematically killed civilians.

Myanmar's military did not respond to repeated requests for comment on this story, and did not reply to an AP request for a visit. The army has insisted in the past that not a single innocent was slain.

A few hours after midnight on Aug. 25, gunfire woke the residents of Maung Nu. Rohingya militants had launched a surprise assault on a security post in a village less than one kilometer (one mile) to the north. According to the government, two officers and at least six assailants died. Fearing reprisals, hundreds of residents walked to the homes of friends and relatives in Maung Nu.

But on Aug. 27, bursts of gunfire echoed across Maung Nu again. This time only the army was shooting.

Horde of people were already seeking the closest refuge, the vast hillside compound of Duza and his brother, Zahid Hossain. At 11 a.m., dozens of soldiers poured into the compound, setting set off a panic. A few men in Duza's house locked the main wooden doors and climbed the stairs to a balcony, where most of the males already had gathered.

Before joining them, Duza pulled his wife aside.

"Please take care of our daughter and our sons," he said. Outside, one soldier called on everyone to come out. When nobody did, several bursts of gunfire rang out.

Seconds later, soldiers broke down the doors and dragged shrieking mothers and children outside. The troops ordered them onto their knees, ripped off their headscarves and

tore at their clothes. They snatched cell phones, gold earrings, necklaces and wads of cash.

About 20 or 25 of the women — mostly attractive and young — were taken away. They were never seen again.

Upstairs, soldiers bound the men's hands behind their backs and ordered them to lie face down in the dirt courtyard. Most were blindfolded with masking tape or veils taken from the women. A handful who tried to resist were thrown off the balcony head-first.

Duza's brother, Hossain, begged for the violence to stop. "Why are you doing this?" he cried. "Why are you tying us up?"

There was no answer.

Around noon, a senior officer told a commander on his phone that they had rounded up 87 men.

"What should we do with them?"

The call ended. The officer barked an order.

"Let us begin."

Duza watched through a slit in a closed window as a soldier plunged a long knife into his brother's neck. When two of Hossain's sons tried to run, soldiers opened fire. Duza stepped back in shock. He scrambled upstairs and crawled into the only place he could think of: a foot-high space under a large wooden container normally used to store rice.

Outside, several soldiers hammered four-inch nails into the temples of three men on the ground with the butts of their rifles. Others were decapitated.

As the afternoon wore on, the carnage became methodical. Men and teenage boys were taken away in small groups and killed by firing squads. In some cases, a soldier

blew a whistle beforehand, signaling for them to begin. When the guns finally fell silent, Duza crept slowly downstairs, and slipped away.

For the next two weeks, he traveled to Bangladesh. His family, he thought, was surely dead.

There is no way to independently confirm the death toll in Maung Nu. But one handwritten tally seen by The AP details the names, ages and professions of 82 people, whose family members say were killed. The youngest is seven years old; the oldest, 95.

According to Mohamed Arof, the Maung Nu village administrator, at least 200 more remain missing and are feared dead.

"You have to understand ... they hate us," Arof said. "This didn't only happen in our village, it happened everywhere."

In the end, Duza was one of the luckiest survivors. After weeks on his own, he found a newly-arrived refugee with a Myanmar phone and asked to use it. He dialed his wife's number. A young girl answered. It was his 14-year-old daughter, Taslima.

As tears welled in his eyes, Duza asked about the rest of his family. "Are they with you? Are they alive?"

"Yes papa! Yes!" Taslima replied. "We're here! Everybody is fine."

Weeks later, in a refugee camp, Duza would break down as he hugged his wife and squeezed the children he never thought he'd see again.

"It felt like living in another world," Duza said. "It felt like a new life."