

Youngest candidate



IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: Nationalist People's Party (NPP) candidate Laishram Thanil Meetei, who is contesting at Wangkehm Assembly Constituency is the youngest candidate of the upcoming 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly till today. The young candidate today launched his election campaign today. Laishram Thanil Meetei was born on February 28, 1990. He is a BBA degree holder from Sikkim Manipal University, Shillong. He joined NPP in 2016 and become the Secretary organization of the party. It may be mention that K Meghachandra, the Parliamentary Minister is the congress candidate from Wangkehm Assembly Constituency. Other candidate who are contesting are Y Nabachandra of NEIDP and Jadumani of BJP are contesting the election.

2 thieves held

IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: Locals of Thangmeiband Polem Leikai today rounded up two thieves while trying to steal some parts of a JCB vehicle at around 9:30 am. today. The two thieves have been identified as Akai, aged 35, s/o Lusei of Saikul and Naorem Boy, aged 30, s/o N Priyobarta of Lamgol. Both the thieves were thrashed by the angry locals for stealing in the Polem Leikai area. Later, the thieves were handed over to Lamphel Police.

JCC and NTAC call for Nagaland bandh today

Kohima, Feb 13: The Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) and the Nagaland Tribes Action Committee (NTAC) have called for a total bandh in the entire Nagaland starting from 6 this morning, demanding resignation of Chief Minister T R Zeliang. NTAC President K T Villie informed the press persons that the bandh is called only for a day today considering the various annual examinations for students starting from tomorrow. NTAC however said that after today's bandh, the JCC and the NTAC will decide on the next course of agitation.

BJP launches Rath campaign Union HRD Minister blames Congress Govt for the economic blockade

IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Prakash Javedkar, who is also incharge of Manipur Election today, launched Rath Campaign at its party office at Nityapat Chuthek, Imphal. The Union Minister also released a 17 minute video film which highlights the miseries of the people of the state. Speaking on the occasion, the Union HRD Minister blames the Okram Ibobi Singh led Congress government for failure to contain the ongoing economic blockade on the National Highways of Manipur saying that the center has given 175 companies of central forces and the government of Manipur is not using it. He further added that 8 more battalions of the AR have been already permitted for utilization besides assuring all possible help to clear the Highways. The Union Home Minister also stated that instead of advising the Union government the state

government should act as the law and order is a state subject. The Union Minister launched 20 vehicles with the slogan "Vote for Change, Vote for BJP". The vehicles have Audio -Visual Record Loud Speaker for publicity purpose. The audio- visual will highlight the plight of the people in the 15 yrs old congress rule in the state. The vehicles will be on wheels in the interior parts of the state and address the various problems and issues in the state. The 17 minute video shows the discrepancies in the expenditure utilisation in the construction of Bishnupur Mini-Secretariat by the ruling Congress government. It also shows the various incomplete Multipurpose Dam and Projects, Fake encounter cases suppressed by the ruling government, and the improper disposal of the facilities provided under Food Security Act of India to the people of Manipur. The video record highlights the various indiscrepancies in the management of public

expenditure by the ruling Congress government since the past 15 yrs. Speaking on the occasion Union Minister, Prakash Javedkar said Bharatiya Janata Party has taken up the steps with authorisation from the right officials for bringing about change and development and harmony for the people of Manipur. Earlier, speaking during the election campaign at the residence of Thounaojam Chaoba, minutes before filing nomination paper at Bishnupur district DC office, The Union HRD Minister Prakash Javedkar said that those involved at various scams will not be spared if BJP comes to power in the next election. "Those responsible in any scams, be it the chief minister of Manipur or any other top official, no one will be spared if found guilty", Javedkar said. He further added that with the support of the people of the state the BJP now is hoping absolute majority in the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly.

Manipur's Loktak Lake is now home to country's first-ever floating elementary school

ANI
Imphal, Feb. 13: Loktak lake, the largest freshwater lake in the country, has now become home to first of its kind loktak floating elementary school. Situated about 50 km from Imphal, the school has been inaugurated at Langolsabi Leikai of Champo Khangpok village in Manipur. The Loktak Lake is referred as the "lifeline of Manipur" as it is highly productive and many lives depend on the lake for endurance. The lake is also an Important Bird Area as it's a potential breeding site for waterfowl and is a staging site for migratory birds. This ancient lake plays an important role in the economy of Manipur. It serves as a source of water for hydropower generation, irrigation and drinking water supply. The lake is also a source of livelihood for the rural fisherman who lives in the surrounding areas and on phumdis, also known as "phumshongs". However, adding another feather to its cap, now the Loktak Lake has the first of its

kind Floating Elementary School. It was recently inaugurated at Langolsabi Leikai of Champo Khangpok village in Manipur. The floating elementary school aims to provide education to drop outs students, who were rendered homeless due to the recent evacuation of phumdis. "As most of us are uneducated and mostly depend upon on fishing as a meagre source of income, we are unable to send our children to school to another place. So, looking at the current scenario, we decided to set up a primary school here initiated by All Loktak Lake Fishermen's Union in collaboration with People Resources Development Association," said Oinam Rajen Singh, a local. "Once the programme is successful and provides quality education to students, we will expand our project and increase the classes as well. Based on India govt. drive on free education to all, we will

increase the class up to 8th standard so that opportunities are also given to the drop-out students," he added. The school has been opened under the initiative undertaken by All Loktak Lake Fisherman's Union with the support of an NGO - People Resources Development Association (PRDA). The school will not only cater to the need of the children but for the illiterate adults as well. The school will be accommodating around 25 students and two teachers from the community. The honorarium of the volunteers will be sanction by the PRDA, under the project called 'Empowering vulnerable local communities for sustainable development', which is funded by Action Aid India. It is worth mentioning that the Loktak Development Authority had removed more than 700 floating huts as part of clearing the lake after the introduction of Loktak Lake (Protection) Act 2006.

Dy. CM Gaikhangam, BJP leader Th. Chaoba, Speaker Th Lokeshwar among others filed nominations

IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: Election euphoria is once more fielding the air here in the state with more heavy-weight politicians filing nomination papers for contesting the upcoming state assembly polls. Deputy Chief Minister Gaikhangam, who is contesting from Nungba Assembly constituency today filed his nomination paper at Tamenglong DC office. Interestingly, the deputy chief minister faced strong opposition from sections of people from Tamenglong district as shops and all market shut down protesting his visit. Some protestors even burn Gaikhangam's effigy at the market minutes before his arrival at Tamenglong DC office. The protest is being staged against the alleged ignorance to the suffering of the people in Tamenglong district by the Congress



government. Gaikhangam instead of retreating, went to his native village after filing nomination. Security has been beefed up in the district following the protest. Vehicles plying between Tamenglong to Imphal were put to halt for some minutes by security force in view of the development.

Speaker of the Manipur Legislative Assembly, Th. Lokeshwar, who is contesting as congress candidate from Khundrakpam Assembly constituency have also filed nomination paper today at Imphal East DC office. BJP strong man, Th. Chaoba who is contesting from Nambol Assembly constituency also filed his

nomination paper at Bishnupur district DC office. Union Human Resource Minister Prakash Javedkar along with large number of BJP workers and supporters accompanied Th. Chaoba while fielding the nomination paper. Other congress candidates, filed nomination papers are Social Welfare Minister AK Mirabai, M Okendro, Minister for RD & PR who are contesting from Patsoi and Heirok Assembly Constituencies respectively have also submitted their nomination papers. Minister Okendro filed his nomination papers at Thoubal District DC, while AK Mirabai filed his nomination at Imphal West DC Office. LJP Candidate Karam Shyam and MNDF candidate of Andro Assembly constituency Keisham Ningthemjao also filed nomination papers today.

Sharmila stands with her words on BJP's offer

IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: From Chanu Sharmila the one time crusader of Anti AFSPA movement in the state today stated that a BJP worker had approached her saying that the party will offer around 36 crore rupees for contesting the election as BJP candidate. She stated that one Sur Binod, a convenor of the BJP

Manipur Pradesh had come to her before PRJA comes to power. She further said that she is not afraid to face the party if they debied the charges. Yesterday, MLA Bishwajit of the BJP had stated that no such approach to Sharmila. Bishwajit also demanded clarification on the matter from From Chanu Sharmila.

Decision to announced UNC as unlawful organisation is a political gimmick- Maoist

IT News
Imphal, Feb 13: Rebel group Maoist Communist Party Manipur, today said that the decision of the CLP meeting to urge the central government for announcement of UNC as unlawful organisation is nothing but a political gimmick. In a statement the outfit said that if the state government felt it serious on the issue

then it would have already declared the UNC as outlawed as there are provision which stated that taking up action against the organisation is in the purview of the state government. As per the Indian Criminal Law amendment Act, 1908, it has been stated that the state can declare any association as unlawful under section 15 (1) of the section.

RISS: Innovative Park with Recycled Materials

Laishram Ranbir
Imphal, Feb 13: With low budget in hand and few workers, Shagolssem Rabi of Meitram Maning Leikai began the construction of the "RISS, Cafe cum Children Park" in the year 2011 which were once a muddy paddy field filled with water with the dept. of about 5 to 10 ft. Surrounded by paddy field at the three corner and alongside the Tiddim Road one could easily locate "RISS Cafe cum Children Park" at Meitram which is hardly of about 10 km from Imphal, the capital city of Manipur. Most of the park and garden in the state are set up to provide comfort for the people who wish to visit a place where they can relax and enjoy for sometime but RISS, which is yet to complete is especially set up with an idea of how unused things and materials can be used in productive way and here visitors could find almost all the items are decorated with innovative ideas by recycling instead of throwing away. Shagolssem Rabi said "people of the state are generally full of tension of bandh, blockade, unemployment, etc. and with this



tension they have no place to relax. Setting up the cafe cum children park would atleast benefit the people and one could earn the knowledge of how unused materials could be converted into an art by recycling."

"Though the area is quite small compare to other parks and expansion is on the process, hundreds of people visit the park everyday. Even it has become a centre of attraction among locals." P Chaoba Singh, a visitor with family said "people in Manipur want to live in peace and with the current situation of the state it's very hard to find such kind of place to relax. This kind of cafe cum children park set up with recycle materials is very unique and will encourage the people to learn new things and could bring a peaceful atmosphere." Owner Shagolssem Rabi and his younger brother Shagolssem Siddhartha strives to make it a unique model in the state. They also aim to bring the excellent learning and enjoyment of art, craft, and scenic beauties. "RISS" a unique name named by owner Shagolssem Rabi fathers' after taking the first initial name of four brothers namely Rabi, Ibombcha, Sarju and Siddhartha. Shagolssem Siddhartha, last sibling is the man behind all the arts and designs with the recycle materials in the cafe cum children park. (Contd. on page 2)