

Manipur Govt., UNC to leave for tripartite talks in Delhi

ANI Imphal, Feb. 2: The representatives of the Manipur Government and agitating United Naga Council (UNC) had left Imphal for New Delhi today to take part in tripartite talks called by the Centre tomorrow. UNC president Gaidon Kamei and information secretary Shangkhel Stephen are among the UNC representatives. Before departure Shangkhel Stephen told media persons that the talk will decide whether the blockade will be lifted or not. Replying to a media query, Stephen said UNC's demands have already been presented on the table of the Govt. He also said UNC is against the creation of 7 new districts and that the Govt should repeal the same. Revenue commissioner K Radhakumar and additional secretary home, Dr. Suresh Babu will represent the Manipur Govt. Speaking to

media persons at the Imphal international airport, Suresh Babu said how to find a solution to the problem will be discussed at the tripartite talk. It may be mentioned that a team of 7 members of the UNC led by its General Secretary, S Milan had already reached Delhi last night to take part in the Tripartite talk. Meanwhile, source from the center said that the aim of the talk is to find a solution to the three-month indefinite economic blockade by UNC in the state. The tripartite meeting has been convened by the Union Home Ministry considering the miseries being faced by the people of Manipur due to the blockade which began on first of November last year. The economic blockade has led to extreme shortage of essential commodities including food items, lifesaving drugs and motor fuel.

5 persons injured, 4 vehicle vandalized as workers of two rival candidates clashed at Thoubal Kiyam

IT News Thoubal, Feb 2: At least 5 persons including 2 women workers of rival candidates were injured and as many as 4 vehicles including a Bollero were vandalized in a deadly clash between the workers of two rival candidates of Wangkhem Assembly constituency at Thoubal Kiyam today morning. Police team which rushed the site, fired several rounds of tear gas shell and picked up two women workers to contain the situation. The clash between the workers of the two rival candidates of Wangkhem Assembly Constituency occurred at around 9 am. Report reaching here said that the clash occurred as Ex-Councilor, Yumnam Umakanta, a worker of sitting MLA K. Meghachandra who is also the congress candidate organized a flag hoisting function at his residence at Thoubal Kiyam of Wangkhem Assembly constituency. Workers of

another candidate Yumnam Nabachandra tried allegedly disrupted the flag hoisting function as their candidate happened to be from their locality. Among those injured in the clash, 2 have been identified as Takhellambam Memicha (35 years) of Kiyam Wangmataba and Yumnam Bino (36 years), wife of Y Basanta of Kiyam Awang Leikai. At least 5 workers were also reported to have been injured in police action. Among them Loukrakpam Loidangcha was reported hit by a tear gas shell at her head. The police team which rushed the site picked up two women workers of Nabachandra identified as L.Thaja and L.Soniya of Thoubal Kiyam Siphai. Speaking to media persons Ex-Councilor Umakanta said that as per scheduled a flag hoisting programme of the Wangkhem Block Congress Committee was held at his resident with the committee's



president Mubarak as the chief guest. He added that as Yumnam Nabachandra happened to be from his locality he did not invite MLA K Meghachandra in the flag hoisting programme. He alleged the workers of Nabachandra to have committed excess to the supporters of K Meghachandra.

However, a local of Thoubal Kiyam while speaking to media persons said that the locals of the area attacked the residence of the Ex-councilor as his residence has been utilized as a drug den which spoils several youths of the area. He added that the locals of the area went to check if any illegal intoxicants were

being used in the area and as some among them started confrontation, the locals too having no means also confronted them and as a result the clash took place. Some of the locals alleged that the police team only attack the locals of the area but had been protecting the Congress workers.

AR jawan caught with 2 bullets at Imphal airport

IT News Imphal, Feb 2: A personnel of the 25 Assam Rifles battalion stationed at Churachandpur, identified as Shyam Shunder was caught today with 2 live bullet of 5.56 mm calibre at Imphal Tuliha airport at around 9.30 am. Shyamsunder was trying to board Indigo Flight No. 6 E-202, Imphal Kolkata when security at the airport found the live bullet. He was however allowed to board the flight after an officer of 12 Bihar regiment submitted an undertaking note. He hailed from Chatisgarh

Good Will Mission appeals to find a positive solution to the propose tripartite talk

IT News Imphal, Feb 2: Good Will Mission for Peaceful Co-existence Manipur (GWMPCM) has appealed the Government of India (GOI), State Government (SG) and United Naga Council (UNC) to

find a positive solution in the proposed tripartite talk scheduled to hold from tomorrow at New Delhi. Speaking to media persons, Convenor of GWMPCM, Ningthouja Lancha said that the mission appreciated the initiative taken by the GOI to the host the first round table talk between SG and UNC at North Block, New Delhi which

can be describe as the long awaited decision by the people of the Manipur state where they expect for a positive vibe from both the parties to overcome the hurdle being faced so far. Lancha further said that the mission weren't unable to put

up all the process of the tripartite talk to the general public as they feared that there might be a negative outcome during the process while contacting the concerns and due to some confidential reasons but today the mission shared the process.

300 loaded trucks escorted towards Imphal

IT News Imphal, Feb 2: Around 300 loaded trucks including 42 oil tanker trucks and 22 LPG cylinder loaded trucks were today escorted towards Imphal from Jiribam along NH 37 today morning. Among the trucks 16 are petrol

tanker trucks, 22 are Diesel tanker trucks, 4 ATF trucks, 42 goods trucks on FCI duty, 4 medicine loaded trucks, 49 cement loaded trucks and 141 other goods ferrying trucks. Reports from Jiribam said that over 600 loaded trucks are still stranded at Jiribam.

Kim Gangte appointed as state spokesperson of BJP Manipur Pradesh

IT News Imphal, Feb 2: Former MP Kim Gangte who joined the BJP recently has been appointed as the state spokesperson of the BJP Manipur Pradesh. Besides the former MP has also been appointed as in charge of election of the BJP for Hill districts.

UGs arrested

IT News Imphal, Feb 2: Troops of 25 Assam Rifles apprehended two suspected cadres of UTLA from Koite Village along with large number of ammunitions. The suspected cadre has been identified as T. Seiminlun (41 yrs) S/O. T. Sithou and Lanchungmang Singson (22yrs) S/O Liankhon Singson of Koite Village. The arms and ammunitions seized from them are 2DBBL, 3SBBL, 35 live round of cartridges + one 9mm pistol along with 2 rounds, & M-16 live round 28 nos.

Govt looks to raise Rs. 11,000 crore from listing of insurers

PTI New Delhi, Feb. 02: Government plans to divest Rs. 11,000 crore worth of stake in PSU general insurance companies to meet the steep disinvestment target of Rs. 72,500 crore next fiscal. Of the total target, Rs. 46,500 crore will be mobilised through minority stake sale and Rs. 15,000 crore from strategic disinvestment. The goal of Rs. 72,500 crore is higher than Rs. 45,500 crore the government has estimated to raise in the current fiscal. "Besides strategic and minority stake sale, Rs. 11,000 crore has been budgeted from listing of general insurance companies. The department

will make best endeavour to meet the overall Budget target," Disinvestment Secretary Neeraj Gupta told PTI. Recently, the Cabinet approved reduction of stake in five state-owned general insurance companies to 75 per cent by listing them on the bourses. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, gave nod to listing five government-owned general insurance companies — New India Assurance Company, United India Insurance, Oriental Insurance Company, National Insurance Company and General Insurance

Corporation of India (GIC). The government shareholding in these companies will be reduced from 100 per cent to 75 per cent in one or more tranches over a period of time. As for strategic disinvestment, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) has already identified companies and initiated process in some cases. The government has invited bids for consultants and legal advisor for strategic sale of PDIL and NPCC, besides Pawan Hans.

As for the National Projects Construction Corporation (NPCC), the government has decided to disinvest 100 per cent of its shareholding through merger with a similarly-placed CPSE. Similarly, the government has sought applications for engagement of an advisor and a legal advisor for 100 per cent strategic disinvestment of Project Development India Ltd (PDIL) and Hindustan Prefab Ltd (HPL). The last date for sending in application for PDIL and NPCC is February 3 while for HPL, it is February 6.

Open Competition for Musicians & Lyricists

Shillong, Feb. 02: To attract youth, tourists and visitors to India's North East, Don Bosco Museum Shillong is holding a competition for musicians and lyricists to compose a lively theme song with an indigenous cultural touch of the North East for a 10 minute music video. The selected best will be awarded Rs. 20,000 and a certificate. Last date for submission is 25 February 2017. For more info, contact Director, Don Bosco Museum (9436118732; jputhen@gmail.com).

Nagaland continues to remain tense over ULB polls, Section 144 imposed

ANI Dimapur, Feb. 2: Curfew and Section 144 continues to remain imposed in Dimapur and Kohima districts after a clash between the state police and a mob broke out against the state government's decision to hold an election to urban local bodies (ULBs). Angry with the state government for deciding to hold polls on February 1 despite an earlier deal to postpone the election by two months, youths armed with spears and machetes had come out to the streets in protest. However, tribal organisations

in Nagaland were demanding the resignation of the TR Zeliang-led government after two people were killed and two others were injured in the state's commercial hub of Dimapur when police fired on a mob comprising hundreds of armed youths trying to enter the private residence of the chief minister on Tuesday night. On Wednesday, elections to urban local bodies in 12 towns across the state were conducted amidst a shut-down called by tribal bodies opposing the polls. Polls for ULBs in Nagaland

haven't been held for more than 10 years due to opposition from traditional tribal bodies who are against reservation for women in local administration. The tribal groups have been opposing the state government's decision of granting 33 per cent reservation to women in the local bodies. However, women's groups in the state have long been campaigning for greater participation in public bodies. But tribal groups oppose it saying that such reservation will disrupt the traditional division of responsibilities

between men and women in accordance to existing customary laws. "The whole thing is that we have to go back to the history. The agitation is to protect our right. We are all born equal, I feel women reservation is not necessary in our state," said a local. Meanwhile, shops and government offices, educational institutions remained closed due to the indefinite bandh called by the JCC, since Tuesday night. In Dimapur, angry protesters set ablaze a government vehicle for defying the bandh call.

Political parties to file audited returns by Dec every year to avail tax benefit: Govt

New Delhi, Feb. 02: Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia today said, political parties have to file audited returns by December every year or risk losing tax exemptions. Mr Adhia said donations to political parties via electoral bonds will be confidential and donor's identity will not be disclosed. He said, Finance Bill will amend Representation of People Act to keep identity of donors using electoral bonds confidential. In an interview to PTI, Revenue Secretary Hasmukh Adhia said, political parties under law enjoy exemption from payment of income tax,

but half of them do not file income tax returns on time. These political parties will lose the exemption status if they do not file ITR by December-end. They will be given a notice and afterwards their exemption status will be cancelled. He said, strictest discipline will come through this effort. Mr Adhya said, government will amend the Representation of Peoples Act to ensure secrecy of the electoral bond buyers. He said, banks eligible for issuing such bonds will soon be notified. Guidelines for the scheme shall be issued by this March, he said.