

As 33 MLAs join party, BJP forms govt. in Arunachal Pradesh

Courtesy: The Hindu Itanagar, Jan 2: The high-voltage political drama began late on Thursday after PPA president Kahfa Bengia temporarily suspended Mr. Khandu, his deputy Chowna Mein and five legislators from the primary membership of the party for alleged anti-party activities. The PPA, an alliance partner of the North East Democratic Alliance government in the

state, had on Friday selected Takam Pario as the chief minister. However, the political equation changed when a majority of the PPA MLAs, who initially supported Mr. Pario, shifted their allegiance to Mr. Khandu. Mr. Pema Khandu broke away from the Congress, along with 42 lawmakers, in September. On Saturday, the PPA suspended four other party MLAs—Honchun Ngandam, Bamang Felix, Punji Mara and Pani Taram.

"The lotus has finally bloomed in Arunachal. The people of the state will see a new dawn of development in the new year under the new government," Mr. Khandu told reporters in the Assembly. BJP general secretary Ram Madhav hailed the installation of the BJP government. "Arunachal Pradesh becomes 10th BJP-ruled State and 14th with BJP alliances. Congratulations to CM Pema Khandu and welcome into BJP Parivar," he tweeted. The PPA accused the BJP of

hijacking its MLAs to instal its government in the State. Addressing reporters, PPA president Kahfa Bengia criticised the North East Democratic Alliance (NEDA) convenor and BJP leader Himanta Biswa Sarma for remaining a silent spectator during the political crisis. PPA is a partner of NEDA. "The NEDA convenor, instead of coming to the state, to resolve the ongoing crisis went to Kenya. He should have deputed somebody to sort out the differences between the

MLAs of the party," Mr. Bengia said. "The PPA is not comfortable with NEDA in the State, and we are going to discuss the issue with other constituent members of the alliance soon," PPA central working committee chairman Kamen Ringu said while supporting Mr. Bengia. Elaborating on the decision to merge with the BJP, Mr. Khandu said circumstances had compelled the MLAs to take the decision in the interest of the people and the State.

UNC president Gaidon Kamei and Publicity Secy Stephen Lamkang produced before court; remanded for 15 more days

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: UNC president Gaidon Kamei and Publicity Secretary Stephen Lamkang were produced to the court of Chief Judicial Magistrate Imphal East today. Both were again remanded in police custody for 15 more days. Gaidon Kamei and Stephen Lamkang were arrested by Imphal East police team from Phaidinga on November 25

last year. Mention may be made that the UNC has been demanding their unconditional release to the government of Manipur. However the Manipur Government has been asking the UNC to lift the ongoing economic blockade assuring that the government might consider release of the two leaders if the blockade has been lifted.

Grenade found

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: One hand grenade was found at the Handicrafts shop owned by one Yarnjam Suraj at Nagamapal at around 7.30 am today. A Police team which rushed the spot retrieved the hand grenade at around 8.30 am. Police source suspect the bomb to have been plant by KCP for Monetary demand.

DESAM's foundation day

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: Democratic Students' Alliance of Manipur (DESAM) is celebrating its 15th foundation day at GM Hall Imphal on January 3. Prof. W. Nabakumar, Director Center for Myanmar Studies, MU will grace the occasion as chief guest while DESAM's president M Agamba will preside over the function. President of ANSAM, Seth Shatshang and President of KSO Paotinthang Lukheng will also be attending the function as guests of honour.

Animals' ambulance

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: Lok Sabha MP Dr. T. Meinya today handed over an ambulance for animals to members of the People for Animals Thoubal in a function held at Thoubal Wangma Taba Makha Community hall.

KNLF merged to UKLF

IT News Chandel, Jan. 2: The Kuki National Liberation Front (KNLF), one of the Kuki Armed Outfit under Kuki National Organisation (KNO) umbrella had merged to United Kuki Liberation Front (UKLF). Following the merger KNLF has cease its existence, said Helun Haokip Chairman of KNLF. Speaking to media persons on Sunday at Nazareth Camp, a designated camp of UKLF in Chandel District today, KNLF Chairman Helun Haokip told that KNLF had merged to United Kuki Liberation Front and that the KNLF exist no more. Following the merger all the cadres of the organisation has



been absorbed into UKLF. UKLF assures accommodation to the cadres at the designated camp of UKLF. Helun Haokip further said that no individual (s) is allowed to collect taxes or issuing any press statement in the name of KNLF/KNO.

Stating the reason for the merger, KNLF/KNO's Chief further maintained that the decision was taken for peace in the interest of the Kuki Nation and to stop fratricide killing in the region. Existence of several armed groups does not lead to factional killing only but also creates a lot of difficulties to the general public. So, it is a time for all armed groups to unite and work together to achieve the political goal, said the Chairman. It may be mentioned that KNLF/KNO and UKLF/UPF are both a signatory of Tripartite Suspension of Operation (SoO) Agreement with the State and Central Government.

Militants shot and injured two in CCpur

Source: Chongthu News Service Moreh, Jan.2: Two persons who are said to be a Social leader were shot and injured by unidentified militants in Churachandpur

yesterday evening. According to source the injured person is said to be the President of KSO Gunpi Block and a social worker from New Santal, Sugu area of Chandel district Manipur.

Identity of the two is established as Jangkholam Simte, President KSO Gunpi-Block, and Jamchinthang, social worker. Sources said that Jangkholam and Jamchinthang left Chandel district for Churachandpur following summons by militants. The two remain traceless after reaching Moirang at around afternoon. Their mobile phones remain switch off. In late evening the duo were found shot and injured. Churachandpur police transported the two injured CSO leader to Imphal. The reason behind the shooting and the culprit is yet to ascertain as none of the militant group claims hand till the typing of this report.

Gunfight between UKLF and KNLF

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: Heavy gunfight between cadres of UKLF and KNLF was reported on Dec 31 at New Santal village. There is no report of any casualty on either of the side. The factional clash occurred a day before the KNLF Chairman Helun Haokip announced its merger with UKLF. Source from the KNLF side said that 5 cadres of the

KNLF including its chairman has been kidnapped by the UKLF. Following that the UKLF cadres swung into action and the encounter between the two occurred. Another report added that shooting of the President of the KSO Gunpi Block is also somewhat related with the merger of KNLF chairman Helun Haokip to the UKLF.

Irate mob set ablaze a house after a woman was brutally assaulted by the owner

IT News Imphal, Jan. 2: An irate mob set ablaze a house after a woman identified as Moirangthem Jamuna was brutally assaulted by her neighbour. The incident occurred yesterday morning at around 10 am at Nongren Mamang Leikai under Lamlai police station. The house which was burnt by the mob belongs to Senjam Indrakumar, 37 years, son of Senjam Ibochou. Sources said a party was held on the eve of new year

at the house of Indrakumar yesterday. Son of Moirangthem Jamuna also took part in the party and returned home drunk. When Jamuna learned that her son left his mobile phone at Indrakumar's place, she went out to get the phone from her neighbour's house. However she was heard crying in great pain near the gate and family members rushed out to see what had happened to her. Jamuna was found lying on the ground and with the help of her neighbours she was

immediately rushed at JNIMS. She told them that she was assaulted by Indrakumar. After hearing about the assault, the neighbours collected and set fire to the house of Indrakumar. The fire destroyed furniture, TV set, Kubota, Scooter and paddy kept inside the house. Fire tender rushed at the spot but could not save much. A team of Lamlai police also rushed at the spot. Police registered cases in connection with the assault and fire.

Premananda encourages farmers

IT News Imphal, Jan 2: S Premananda, Vice-President of BJP, Manipur Pradesh has encouraged farmers of Patsoi Assembly Constituency to work hard and contribute in national building. Speaking at 'One Day Training cum Awareness Programme on Rabi pulses and oilseeds to farmers of Patsoi Assembly held today the 31st December, 2016 at Patsoi Part III, Community Hall, S Premananda said that India is an agrarian

economy and farmers of the country are the national builders. He encouraged the 300 farmers, who have attended at the programme, to adopt modern technologies and make use of Central government sponsored schemes to become a pride farmer of the country. While highlighting various schemes for farmers, Prahlad Singh Patel, MP (Lok Sabha) and In-charge of Manipur Pradesh, BJP, who attended at the Programme said that the NDA-government in the

Center is a pro-farmer. "The hard-earned money and products of farmers wouldn't go waste, the government is with the farmers", said Prahlad Singh Patel. Around 300 progressive farmers from different parts of Patsoi Assembly Constituency were given Rabi pulses and oilseeds. Apart from it, they were given training by experts from ICAR, Lamphelpat. The programme was jointly organized by Saheed Madhumangol Foundation and ICAR, Lamphelpat.

BJP demands apology from opposition for 'insulting national anthem' in J&K assembly

New Delhi, Jan. 2: The BJP today alleged that opposition party members "insulted the national anthem" while disrupting house proceedings on the first day of the Jammu and Kashmir assembly's budget session. Governor NN Vohra was scheduled to address the joint sitting but was

interrupted by members of the opposition parties, who stood up shouting slogans against the PDP-BJP government for the continued unrest in the state. When order could not be restored, the governor left after hastily wrapping up his speech. "The National Conference (NC) and the Congress created a

ruckus in the J&K assembly even when the national anthem was (being) played; even the governor walked away. This is a grave insult," BJP MLA Ravinder Raina said. He added that the NC, the Congress and the governor should apologise for insulting the national anthem.

The J&K assembly's budget session promises to be a stormy one, with the opposition making clear its intention to corner the government on the law and order situation and the months-long unrest in the Valley. "Congress would play the role of vibrant opposition in both the Houses and make the

government accountable on all commitments made by the two coalitions partners, as well as its total failures on almost all fronts," J&K Congress chief Gulam Ahmed Mir said yesterday. "As the opposition, we have every right to ask questions to the government and seek answers on behalf of

the people", he added. However, BJP minister Naeem Akhtar said that shouting slogans is not productive. "Maybe the Opposition believes that shouting slogans in assembly is the only argument they are left with," Akhtar remarked after the disruption of today's session.

NRIs need to show old notes to Customs at airport

PTI New Delhi, Jan 2: NRIs and Indian nationals abroad can deposit up to Rs 25,000 of the demonetised currency during the 3-6 month grace period, but only if they show the junked notes to Customs officials at the airport and get declaration form stamped. The declaration will have to be submitted at specified branches of the Reserve Bank while depositing the junked currency, a finance ministry notification stated. While the 50-day window for such deposits at banks or post offices ended on December 30, the government has offered a grace period for those who were abroad. The window for Indian nationals who were travelling

abroad is till March 31 and for NRIs, it is June 30, 2017. This facility, however, is "subject to the Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2015. As per these regulations, bringing back such currency into the country is restricted to Rs 25,000 per person". Those returning from Nepal and Bhutan are not permitted to carry specified bank notes (SBNs) of old 500 and 1,000 rupee notes. "For the period from up to March 31, 2017 or June 30, 2017, as applicable, a declaration form will need to be filled by resident Indians and non-resident Indians coming to India and carrying SBNs for depositing these SBNs in the specified offices of RBI in India," the notification said.

"At the airport/land Customs stations etc on entry, Customs stamp on the said forms shall be affixed and the same shall be submitted along with other documents to RBI offices." A one-page form has been worked out for the purpose. Since the form to be filled in by the passenger bearing the Customs stamp will be crucial in subsequently facilitating the deposit of SBNs at the specified issue offices of RBI, the finance ministry asked the Customs formations to keep a copy of the same, preferably in a scanned format. "The Customs officer shall strictly count the number of notes and tally the total amount mentioned before stamping the form submitted by the passenger," the notification said.

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