

CEO Manipur makes history Over 700 join painting competition in longest frame

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Chief Election Officer, Manipur in association with Editors' Guild Manipur and NEO GENE Contemporary Artist of Manipur today create history by organizing a painting competition in 1.5 Km long panting frame which stretch from Classic Hotel Imphal till Nupi Lal Memorial Complex around historic Kangla Fort. The painting completion was organised in 5 categories under the theme "Free, Fair & Peaceful Election, and Ethical voting". Over 700 participants took part in the competition.

Category 1 is for students between Kg to class 5, category 2 is for Class 5 to 10, category 3 is for class 11 and 12, category 4 is for college students and category 5 is open for all. Earlier, there were only 4 category but later with the presence of lower class children, organizers decided to make it 5.

The painting competition is being organized as a part of the Systematic Voter's Education & Electoral Participation (SVEEP) Campaign. Partner organizer Editors' Guild Manipur and NEO GENE Contemporary



Artist Manipur expressed hope that not only present day voters but voters of tomorrow will be able to understand how important is for each and every one of us for a free and

fair election. EGM President A Mobi while talking to this reporter said that not only the participants but those who are passing the route will ponder on how eager

are our younger generation in conducting a free and fair election.

The painting competition which is a record in the history of painting competition here in Manipur attracts thousands of by passers along the road. A by-passer while speaking to this reporters said that if the kind of event is organized frequently then the real taste of democracy will be felt by all.

Nodal officer, and Joint CEO, Chandrakumar, while speaking to a newperson said that the competition is being organized too educate voters.

2nd phase BJP candidates list may include 2 Congress Cabinet Ministers

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Even as the BJP had completed preparation of the list of candidates for 32 Assembly constituencies for the upcoming Assembly poll, list of the rest is yet to be finalized as some Congress MLAs including 2 cabinet Ministers are likely to be included in the list.

A highly reliable source said that the list of candidates for 32 Assembly constituencies has been finalized but due to minor problems that might cause unnecessary trouble to the BJP functionaries, the state party leaders are waiting for the right moment to

announce the name of the candidates.

Meanwhile, list of candidates for the remaining seats could not be finalized as some hard core Congress MLAs including 2 cabinet ministers are likely to be included in the list of BJP candidates. However, as a cabinet Minister is bargaining for Chief Ministerial candidate for the BJP the central leadership are consulting the development with the state BJP leaders.

The source further added that Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu is the architect behind the induction of Congress MLAs to the BJP.

Police combs Palace compound

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Police continue to comb various places in Imphal to flush out anti social elements ahead of the Republic Day ceremony.

At around 5 am today a team of Imphal East Police led by Imphal east DSP (Ops) RK Sakhlamba and DSP CDO, Robinson today conducted search operation at Palace compound inbetween Bhramapur Guraaribam Leikai and BOAT in Imphal east. A total of 350 persons were verified. However no one were arrested. The search operation lasted till 6.30 am.

Image Photography

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: The images of Manipur will be hosting the mega 29th National Photography Convention 2018 of Federation of Indian Photography. The said convention will be held at Imphal in the month of October or November next year.

As a part of the ongoing one year Diploma course conducted series of photography contest and assignment result out today.

Supporters of candidates whose name has not been included in candidate lists reported in newspaper stage protest

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Even as state BJP is yet to announce the lists of candidates for the upcoming assembly poll, many workers alleged state BJP leaders of favouring candidates of their choice without taking into consideration about the opinion of the grass root level BJP workers.

News report appeared at some of the local newspaper here in Imphal which suggest the name of the BJP candidate which are yet to be announced by the BJP Manipur Pradesh as their candidates in the upcoming Assembly poll has added fuel to the anger of some BJP workers which favoured candidates whose name was not in the published lists. Some workers staged protest in front of the state BJP office.

At around 11 am today some workers from Hiyanglam, Thoubal and Wangkhem Assembly constituencies today staged protest in front

of BJP Manipur Pradesh Office at Nityapat Chuthek. Placards with slogans decrying corruption in the allotment of party tickets

Talking to reporters, a protestor from Hiyanglam assembly constituency said that if Dr. Yumnam Radheshyam, has been allotted the party ticket all the grass root workers will tender resignation from the BJP. Same way protestors from Wangkhem Assembly constituencies favour one kadamjit as the right candidate for the constituency and protestors from Thoubal Assembly constituency claiming as BJP workers said that the party leaders are not doing justice by not providing ticket to one Suresh .

The number of protestors is around 100.

Police team which rushed the spot timely intervene the protestors and avoided any sort of unwanted incidents. Later some representatives were allowed to enter the BJP Manipur Pradesh head office



Protestors bribe reporters

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Some persons who were organizing the protest demonstration in front of BJP office here in Imphal against non allotment of party tickets to their specific candidates bribed some news-reporters to make sure their news report appeared in front page. This reporter saw a person paying some money to two reporters along with a press statement which alleged BJP of favouring candidates by taking bribe.

The two persons then approached to this writer and paid a sum of Rs.200 along with a press statement. That person told this writer to translate their press statement make sure to publish in Imphal Times.

however they come back empty handed as no responsible leaders of the BJP were available to talk with them.

UNC reiterated stands; for mer presidents said their stand legitimate

IT News

Imphal, Jan 22: Former presidents of the United Naga Council (UNC) had reiterated its stands and said that their agitation is legitimate

In a joint statement signed by former UNC presidents K.S. Paul Leo, Samson Remei and I.Adani, it is stated that there are four Memorandum of Understandings with the Government of Manipur and Naga organizations that creation of New Districts would not be done without consulting the stakeholders. There is also an assurance from the Government of India, based on the declaration

of Shri Ibobi, the Chief Minister of Manipur in the presence of the Union Home Minister, Shri Chidambaram and UNC delegation that such sentiment would be respected. The stakeholders are those whose lives, land, livelihood, situation and opportunities would be affected by such decision. This position is democratic, fair and constitutional. These MOUs and assurance did not emerge from the magnanimity of the Government of Manipur but each of them were extracted with agitations and with self inflicted pains.

"The issue of land is very dear to the tribals and Nagas. Land

gives us our identity. Our culture, way of life and value system evolves from our relationship with the land. Land is our present and land is our future.

"The Chief Minister is on record stating that land belongs to the state and not to any community, going against the very spirit and letter of Article 371 C of the constitution which clearly gives cognizance to the land rights of the tribals in Manipur state. He has from his official throne also gone on to state that there are no Nagas in the State of Manipur, negating, our identity that has evolved through history, land and political consciousness.

35 dead & 115 injured when coaches of Jagdalpur-Bhubaneswar Hirakhand Express derailed at Andhra Pradesh

Vijayawada, Jan.22: Death toll in Jagdalpur-Bhubaneswar Hirakhand Express derailment in Andhra Pradesh's Vizianagaram district has risen to 35. Quoting Railway sources, AIR correspondent reports that around 115 people were also injured in the accident near Kunderu station last night when the train was going to Bhubaneswar from Jagdalpur.

Nine out of 22 coaches of the train travelling with more than 450 passengers rolled off track a little after 11 PM near Kunderu station when most of the passengers were sleeping. The station is 25 kilometre away from Rayagada station in Odisha.

The train was running at high speed while crossing Kunderu station where it had no stoppage. The death toll is likely to go up as several passengers have suffered serious head injuries. Over 100 people are feared trapped and are being rescued from the bogies by cut opening them.

A team of doctors has reached the accident site. Over 10 ambulances have been deployed to take the

injured to Berhampur, Vijayanagaram, Parvatipuram and Rayagada hospitals.

Railways have tied up with Parvatipuram bus depot to arrange for transport of stranded passengers to their respective destinations. Train services were affected on Rayagada and Vijayanagaram route, with at least 4 trains cancelled and 8 others diverted.

The Railway ministry has announced an ex-gratia of 2 lakh rupees each for next of kin of those killed



in the train accident. It has also announced 50,000 rupees for those seriously injured and 25 thousand rupees for minor injuries.

President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have expressed heartfelt condolence on the tragic loss of lives due to the derailment. They prayed for a speedy recovery of all those injured due to the accident. The Prime Minister said,

the Railway Ministry is monitoring the situation very closely and is working to ensure quick rescue and relief operations. Information and Broadcasting Minister M Venkaiah Naidu has also expressed grief over the train accident.

Home Minister Rajnath Singh has said due care and diligence is being taken into consideration by NDRF teams as the victims might be trapped under the mangled bogies. He added the Director General, NDRF is

monitoring the situation round the clock and an NDRF Control Room is in touch with Railway Authorities and local civil administration to render any kind of assistance.

Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu along with the Chairman Railway Board are rushing to train accident site. Mr Prabhu has directed senior officials to reach site and ensure prompt rescue and relief operations. The Railway Minister said, he has ordered an inquiry and strictest possible action will be taken against those who could be responsible.

Railways authorities suspect that tampering of the track near Kunderu station led to the derailment as the area is known to be a Naxal-prone zone. The Commissioner Railway Safety will conduct a thorough inquiry to ascertain the cause of the mishap.

Railway has issued helpline numbers. These are Rayagada 06856-223400, 06856-223500, 09439741181, 09439741071 and 07681878777. Help line nos at Vizianagaram are 08922-221202 and 08922-221206.