

‘Govt. working out for eviction of encroachers to RF area; High way Protection Force in the pipeline’

IT News
Imphal, July 24: Churachandpur district has the largest Reserved Forest (RF) area in the state which has total of 37 RF covering an area of 984.25 sq km. The district has five reserved forest (5 RF) covering 338.32 sq km while Bishnupur district has the smallest RF area in the state with three (3) RF covering an area of 0.90 sq km. Among the hill districts, Senapati has 8 RFs and is the second largest with an 253.89 sq km while Chandel has 3 RF and is the least with just 141.86 sq km. This was stated by Forest and Environment Minister Th. Shyamkumar while replying to a question asked by K Meghachandra Singh during question hour in the ongoing state assembly session today. Replying to another question, the minister said that people

cannot construct houses and settle in the reserved forest areas. Stating that eviction notices have been served to the encroachers, the Minister informed that a total of 85 encroachers, 53 from Heingang reserved forest and 32 from Langol reserve forest have been evicted. “Revenue department has been requested to cancel the Dag Chittas issued by them inside RFs to avoid legal complication”, the Minister said. He further said that wide publicity has also been done to make the encroachers leave the RF area voluntarily. Appeal against the eviction notices by the encroachers have also been processing for cancellation as per law of the land. Shyamkumar also said that regular patrolling by staffs are done as measure to identify any new encroachment in Reserve Forest area.

Highway Security: Replying to a question asked by opposition MLA Kh. Joykishan regarding security of the National Highways of Manipur, Chief Minister N Biren, who is also the leader of the house informed that the state govt. is all set to establish a ‘Highway Protection Force’ by raising the Indian Reserve Battalion. However the government is waiting for

approval from the Union Government, he added. **State Transport:** N Biren Singh informed the house that the state govt. is actively working for re-introduction of the state transport services in the remaining hill districts. Responding to a question on the state transport services, the Chief Minister informed that the state transport department has earmarked around Rs. 11 cr. for regular transport services under Manipur State Transport (MST) in the state. However, as of now as immediate measure the government had sanctioned a sum of Rs. 5 crore for revival of the MST. Clarifying to a query by Congress MLA Okram Henry, N Biren said that the MST is exclusively run by state govt. and at present there are fifteen buses in service; 1) Ring Round City Bus Service (4 buses) and 2) Inter-District Bus Service (11 buses) connecting Imphal to Kakching (2 buses), Imphal to Yairipok (2 buses), Imphal to Moirang (2 buses), Imphal to Moreh (2 buses), Imphal to Noney (2 buses) and Imphal to Pherzawl (2 buses). He further added that efforts are being made to invite and involve participation of private operators at a later stage when acceptable modality gets finalized.

No fund for Nambul River released due to inappropriate project submitted

IT News
Imphal, July 24: The lone Rajya Sabha MP from Manipur K. Bhabananda today asked the Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan whether the National River Conservation Directorate (NRCD) has any programmes for the rivers in Manipur and if so questions the programme being taken for the Nambul river which is highly polluted. Replying to the MP, Harsh Vardhan said that the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in association with respective State Pollution Control Board is regularly monitoring the surface water quality and has drawn up list of 302 polluted rivers stretches in the country based on Bio-chemical, Oxygen Demand (BOB) levels, a key indicator of

organic pollution. Among the rivers include Nambul River from Singda Dam to Bishnupur in Manipur which is polluted due to discharge of untreated sewage from Imphal and other towns, with BOD levels ranging from 4.3-23.7 mg/l in this stretch. The Minister however said that a conceptual project report for “Water Treatment & Clean-up in Nambul and Waishel Maril Basins, Manipur amounting to Rs. 452.44 crore was received from the government of Manipur in May 2015 but the project was return back to the state government in the month itself as it was not prepared as per the guidelines of NRCP. No fund has been released for cleaning Nambul River.

One dies in Imphal East, swine flu suspected

NENA
Imphal, July 24: One suspected swine flu (H1N1) death has been reported at a private hospital here today. The patient, hailing from Imphal East, suffered from symptoms similar to that of pandemic swine flu, officials said. The patient died at Rajmedicity, North AOC around 9 am. The suspected deadly swine flu patient admitted to the hospital on July 21. Officials said the patient had been put on ventilator support in the isolation ward of the hospital where his condition deteriorated. The death came amidst result of the swab sample of the patient sent for test was awaited. On July 15, Health Minister L

Jayantakumar Singh officially confirmed that a 45-year-old man in the state tested positive for swine flu following which an alert was issued in the state. Following detection of a swine flu positive case, Isolation wards were kept at Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS) and Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS) in Imphal for treatment of swine flu if there is an outbreak. Manipur has also been witnessing increasing number of cases of epidemic dengue and Japanese Encephalitis this summer. Churachandpur district has been the worst affected by dengue and JE outbreak. The Health Department has taken up various measures to check the outbreak.

Bangladeshi prisoner died in Imphal

IT News
Imphal, July 24: An under trial woman prisoner who has been lodged at Manipur Central Jail died on July 19 evening. The deceased Sakala Bibi (40), wife of late Munbi @ Abumunshi of Goptoli, Bangladesh had been undergoing treatment at RIMS here in Imphal after having complaints of some illness until she succumbed at around 7.15pm of July 19. The deceased Bangladeshi woman has been detained in judicial custody since February 2015. She was allegedly arrested along with some other for entering the state without proper valid documents. Source said no relatives had turn up to claim the body. The body is still lying at RIMS morgue. Informing this in a statement, officer in-charge of Lamphel Police Station said the police are waiting for the family members to claim the body of Sakala Bibi by July 26. If none comes to claim it, then the body will be disposed as per law of the land.

Mild tremor hits Manipur

NENA
Guwahati, July 23: A 3.6 magnitude earthquake jolted Manipur in the wee hours on Sunday triggering the fear of the 2015 like one which caused huge damage to the northeastern state. The earthquake, which originated in Ukhrul district struck the state at around 1.36am forced many people to wake up and the panic stricken people in the high rise buildings started coming down to the open space. There is, however, no report of any casualty or loss of property.

KSO calls off total shutdown in Moreh

NENA
Tengnoupal, July 23: The Kuki Students Organisation (KSO), Moreh has called off the 24-hour total shutdown in Moreh town protesting against the brutal murder of a teenage girl. The student body had imposed the strike from 6:00 pm of July 23 to 6:00 pm of July 24 but it was called off late in the evening Sunday following an appeal from the Khongsai Inpi, Tengnoupal district. Sources in KSO-Moreh informed that the shutdown had been called off. Earlier, an agreement was reached between the Khongsai Inpi, Tengnoupal district and KNO/KNA over the killing of the girl, they said. The student body vehemently

condemned the brutal killing of a Class IX girl student by one Seikhosat Haokip at her residence on Sunday morning. A student of Mt Moreh High School, Nengneingah Khongsai, 18, was shot dead at point blank by Seikhosat Haokip, 21, at around 5:00 am. Nengneingah was with her younger sister when Seikhosat intruded the house and shot her dead inside her room. The KSO-M said it is outraged by the horrendous crime committed on an innocent girl student and termed it as a barbaric and dastardly act. Condemning the incident the KSO-M in a statement said that such an inhuman act is beyond belief and completely intolerable. “It is a complete disregard to

student community. The heinous crime has brought a tsunami of shock among the public in general and in student community in particular,” the statement said. KSO-Moreh had imposed the 24-hour total shutdown in and around Moreh town from 6:00 pm of July 23 to 6:00 pm of July 24 to protest the incident. The KSO Moreh urged the government to award fitting punishment to the culprit. It also appealed to the general public to support the strike. It said the KSO-Moreh deeply mourns the untimely death of the student and prays for her heavenly solace and extends deepest condolences and sympathies to the bereaved family.

Relay hunger strike of Home Guards enters fifth day, 5 more picked by police

IT News
Imphal, July 24: The relay hunger strike by the home-guard personnel demanding wages as par with police personnel has entered fifth day today. One home-guard personnel was picked up today by police personnel after her health deteriorated. Speaking to the media persons, H Ibeiyama, member of Manipur Home-guard Employees Welfare Association (MHEWA) said that they will continue their agitation until their demands to implement the order of Supreme Court and High Court of Manipur to increase

the salary of the home-guard personnel are met by the government. Mention may be that the Supreme Court on March 15, 2015 in WPC order no. 2760 directed the state government to give the home-guard personnel salary same as par with the police constable. High Court of Manipur also directed the Home Department, Government of Manipur to follow the order of Supreme Court within a period of three months. The MHEWA has been staging sit-in-protest at different places since June 22, 2017. Five home-guard personnel

began the rally hunger strike from July 20, 2017, they were replaced by another five home-guard personnel after they were picked up by police. One more hunger striker L Surlaba (34 yrs) was picked up today after as her health deteriorated. The MHEWA is undergoing their rally hunger strike at the Manipur Home-guard Complex site in Lamphel Pat.

‘Fund released but no market’

IT News
Imphal, July 24: Ima Panthoibi Street Vendors Union (IPSVU) today drew the attention of the concern authority to investigate the utilisation of the funds sanction by North-Eastern Council for Construction of Nupi Keithel. Speaking to the media persons during a press conference held at Manipur Press Club today, Y Indrani, Advisor of IPSVU said that as per the publication by local daily Poknapham newspaper published on December 24, 2014, of the total Rs 9.846 crores the first instalment of Rs 3.2809 crores by NEC for the construction of Nupi Keithel around Khuman Laphak, near ISBT. However the market is not yet constructed, she added. The union urged the government to construct the market at the earliest.

Candidates lock Education U gate demanding declaration of result

IT News
Imphal, July 24:irate candidates who had appeared interview for Assistant Professor conducted by MPSC for 2014, today gherao in front of the Education U office and locked the gate at around 11:30 am today. The candidates were demanding the declaration of the examination result conducted by MPSC in 2014 for the recruitment of 280 assistant professors for 28 different colleges of Manipur.

Speaking to the media persons, one of the protestor said that on January 11, 2017, High Court of Manipur has already given verdict and ordered the concern department to declare the result within one month time but unfortunately it has been more than six months but the result remained undecleared. The protestor interview candidate has urged the state government to announce the result after the assembly session.

Chikungunya spreads out in Bangladesh

By: Siam Sarower Jamil Dhaka, July 24: Mosquito-borne Chikungunya is spreading fast in Bangladesh with intermittent rains. Districts outside Dhaka have confirmed cases of chikungunya, raising concerns the outbreak may soon spread to other areas of the country. Aedes albopictus, the mosquito responsible for spreading the disease, has been found in Narsingdi, Gazipur, Savar and Munshiganj, Dr Taubid Uddin Ahmed, former chief scientific

officer at the government’s Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR), told Imphal Times. “Countless people travel back and forth between Dhaka and these areas every day. The disease may spread quickly.” Of the 108 patients in 15 districts who complained of pains and fever since Jul 22, 30 were found infected with chikungunya, according to IEDC. These districts include areas around the capital, Narsingdi, Munshiganj and Gazipur, where 21 of 60 patients tested

were found to be infected with the virus. Narsingdi reported 12 cases, the most in any district outside Dhaka city. Five were reported in the Dhaka district, two in Munshiganj and two in Gazipur. Four cases were reported in Bogra, three in Chittagong and one each in Gopalganj and Rajshahi. All of the patients had recently visited Dhaka, the IEDC said. Most of them also had arthritis. “Those who visit Dhaka regularly have to be careful so as not to spread the disease

to other areas,” IEDC Director Dr Mirzadi Sabrina Flora told Imphal Times. Anyone bitten by a chikungunya-infected mosquito in Dhaka can pass on the virus to other aedes albopictus mosquitos outside the city, she said, raising fears the disease may spread quite far all too quickly. Narsingdi Civil Surgeon Dr Sultana Razia said she was not aware of the 12 cases in her district. The Munshiganj victims were infected while in Dhaka, the district’s civil surgeon Dr Siddiqur Rahman

said. He said that the disease had not spread too far in his district. Health Directorate Inspector General Dr Abul Kalam Azad said that various initiatives had been taken to prevent the spread of chikungunya outside Dhaka. “We have told our officers to move as soon as a case is confirmed. They must take steps to prevent other mosquitos from biting the patient and transmitting the disease further. We have also told local government officials to take the necessary extermination measures.”

NSCN -IM mourns demise of cadre

IT News
Imphal, July 24: NSCN-IM today mourned the demise of its cadres Kaivuk Khaivukyah, (Lance Corporal) s/o (Late) Santi Khaivukyah of Rokho village, Pangmi region in the Eastern Nagaland. A state of the outfit said that the LC died when he was in the line of duty on July 20, 2017. He was attached to the General Field Training Head Quarters (GFTHQ) of the Naga Army.