

MHRC to induct 2 members

IT News
Imphal, July 4: The law and legislative affairs department has informed that two new members of the Manipur Human Rights Commission will be inducted in accordance with the established rules. The duration of a term of the member is five years and each will be eligible to serve two terms. One of the members will be appointed from judiciary who is a judge of the High Court or District Court in the state with a minimum experience of seven years as district judge. The other member will be appointed from among persons having knowledge or practical experience in matter relating to human rights.

Yairipok excise destroys liquor

IT News
Imphal, July 4: Excise Station Yairipok seized IMFL, country liquor and ingredients used in wine distillation worth around Rs 62,000. According to a statement issued by the officer-in-charge, Excise Station, Yairipok, the consignment of alcohol recovered was disposed by setting it on fire. The contraband items were confiscated from different locations falling under the jurisdiction of Nongpok Sekmai police station, Heirok police station, and Khoirom Heitroiopki police. OC of the station S Nilakumar along with his staffs conducted the drives under the guidance of deputy superintendent of Excise Thoubal L Raghu.

IMD predicts less rain leading to weekend

IT News
Imphal, July 4: Rain occurred in most places in Manipur during the last 24 hours, according to records provided by the Indian Meteorological Department. Other states of north-eastern regions like Nagaland, Mizoram and Tripura also witnessed similar rainfall while in the states of Assam and Meghalaya the rainfall happened in isolated places. The sources from IMD stated that Manipur will receive heavy rain at isolated place throughout July 5, 2017. However, the welcomed news is that the department has predicted very little or no rain in the state for the next three days beginning July 6, 2017. During the last few days, the intensity of rain was highest at Tengnoupal and Chandel districts where it was clubbed among the very heavy rain bracket which fall in the 115.6 to 204.5 mm range. The remaining districts fared a bit better receiving rainfall between 64.5 to 115.5 mm

qualifying them in the group of districts with heavy rain. Churachandpur town received 2 mm rain yesterday. Due to the incessant rain and dense cloud formation the temperature of Imphal has dipped after a short hot spell encountered in May and early June. The minimum and maximum temperatures recorded in the city on July 4 last was 23 degree C and 28 degree C and both are predicted to climb by only 1-3 units by the end of the week. On the other hand, the current situation of flood water inundation reveals that scores of villages and localities are struggling to cope with it as the retention of water remains more or less the same. The water level in most rivers have descended slightly after reduction in volume of rain but the threat of fresh flood still persists. However, in some parts of Thoubal and Imphal East districts the trend is the other way round as rivers overflowed again worsening the situation.

Lawmaker Urges Govt Crackdown of Insurgents on Myanmar-India Border

By Htet Naing Zaw
Naypyitaw, July 4: Insurgents of The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), a Separatist group based in India and seeking to establish a sovereign territory, is threatening the security of Tamu Township in Sagaing Division, according to an Upper House lawmaker. Parliamentarian U Maung Maung Latt, from Sagaing Division, asked the Union government at the Upper House on Monday to crack down on insurgents of Meitei descent—a majority ethnic group of the north-eastern Indian state of Manipur—who are active in Tamu. He blamed the Myanmar Army and security forces for “failing to protect” locals of Tamu, which shares a 78-mile land border with Manipur. “The Tatmadaw knows their existence and the deputy minister said that it would take action only when people report it. I assume this is the failure of Tatmadaw and police to protect the lives and property of

people,” U Maung Maung Latt told the reporters after the parliamentary session. The lawmaker said he was aware the local authorities had surveyed the population of Meitei, known as Kathe in Myanmar, in Tamu. He cited a recent confrontation between locals and insurgents who allegedly extorted money at Tamu’s Nan Pha Lon Market, adding that he filed complaints with the district administrator, police, and military officials, but the authorities had not taken action. Deputy defense minister Maj-Gen Myint Nwe acknowledged the army is responsible for security and police are responsible for the rule of law but said public cooperation is necessary to protect civilians along the whole 1,016 mile-long border with India. He urged the public to inform authorities about news of insurgent acts. The deputy minister said it is difficult to differentiate civilians from rebels at the border, adding that people on both sides of the border cross

daily for business and have a similar culture. “In such an area, we can do nothing except cooperate on the ground and exchange information,” the deputy minister told The Irrawaddy. He told the Parliament it was the “long-held policy” of the Tatmadaw to reject any rebel organization rising against neighboring countries or any group helping rebels harbor in Myanmar. Based on collected intelligence, the Tatmadaw takes action against groups battling the Indian government that exploit the mountainous terrain, sparse population, and poor transportation in the area, said the deputy minister. U Maung Maung Latt told Parliament he had received information on Monday morning that about 70 male and female rebels were staying at 12 houses in a village just one mile from Tamu. Maj-Gen Myint Nwe responded that the home affairs ministry would take action “wherever possible”

and the Tatmadaw would “always help if necessary.” The lawmaker said he would collect signatures from locals and submit the petition to the president, the State Counselor and concerned ministries. He was concerned the region would become “the second Rakhine State” if the number of rebels increased. He said there were frequent killings of civilians in Tamu because of the rebels, as well as arson attacks and the seizures of arms. The armies of India and Myanmar hold border committee meetings every six months. The 10th national level border committee was held in Sagaing Division’s Kale and Monywa in May, with the commanders of the Myanmar Army’s North-West Command and the Indian Army’s No. 57 Mountain Division in attendance. The meeting discussed matters related to cross-border crimes, counter-insurgency, border security and development. (Courtesy Irrawaddy)

Manipur CM’s apology had ‘surrendered’ ILP movement to Churachandpur civil society: Congress

NENA
Imphal, July 4: The war of words between the ruling BJP and opposition Congress in Manipur on Tuesday continued over who has fared better. The Congress which has ruled the state for three decades has been pitching its credentials with regard to policies, especially development programmes. The party has accused BJP of trying to take credit of its development efforts. “Tendering apology to the Churachandpur civil society leaders by the Manipur Chief Minister for what he had said mistakes committed by the previous government was the biggest political sell-out,” Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC) spokesperson Kh Joykishan told the press at Congress Bhavan. Shortly after taking office, the

BJP government reached an agreement with civil society in Churachandpur district recently ending a 600-day stalemate. “The entire historic ILP movement of Manipur backed by the Congress was surrendered to the Churachandpur civil society,” Joykishan claimed. He said the Congress sought clarification from the BJP government over the CM’s remarks but they are still unable to clarify it. Joykishan had on July 2 criticised the Nonthongbam Biren Singh headed BJP-led coalition government for allegedly taking credit of the previous Congress government’s development programmes. Joykishan said the BJP government was only promoting developmental initiatives launched by the Congress in the state in the last 15 years.

He said the state government was using renamed versions of programmes taken up by the Congress government by incorporating them in the 100 days programme. Works Minister Th Biswajit Singh yesterday said the 100-day programme of the BJP-led government in Manipur was to ensure completion of all projects, which were lying incomplete so that the projects can be handed over to the general public. Biswajit, who is also the spokesperson of BJP, said lifting the prolonged economic blockade from the two major National Highways, considered lifelines of the state, is the biggest achievement of the present government in its first 100 days. He said ending the Churachandpur turmoil was another major feat of the present government.

One year diploma course in media & journalism inaugurated at N.G. College

Imphal, July 4: Director, Information & Public Relations Shri Meghachandra Kongbam, today, inaugurated a One Year Diploma Course in Media & Journalism at N. G. College. The Diploma Course is undertaken by the N. G. College, RUSA Unit in partnership with Free Press School of Journalism. In his speech as Chief Guest, Shri Meghachandra Kongbam said that Journalism is the study of art of communication through writing and media is the study of different kinds of mass communication media through which communication messages are transmitted to reach the diversified audience. The importance of Journalism and media has increased more and more in the modern age to establish a cordial human civilisation. Besides, it has a good job prospects in different fields like teaching profession in media, working in press, radio, television, film,

advertising agencies, and as Public Relations Officer in companies, he added. The Vice Principal and Nodal Officer, RUSA of N. G. College narrated the journey of how the vocational course on journalism has been brought to the college. He thanked the support of the Chief Editor of Imphal Free Press Shri Pradip Phanjoubam for realisation of the dream project. The Chief Editor of Imphal Free Press and Nodal Officer of Free Press School of Journalism Shri Pradip Phanjoubam stated that the journalism course would be of more practical than theory so that the students could join any media related organisations after completion of the course. After the inaugural session, Shri Meghachandra Kongbam, who completed P.G. Degree in Journalism from the Benaras Hindu University in 1979, conducted the maiden class of the course by presenting a

lecture on Art of Communication and Communication Process. It may be recalled that the Manipur Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh inaugurated the Vocationalisation of Higher Education under Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan in 29 Government Colleges and 11 Government-Aided Colleges in Manipur on June 29 last at D.M College Multipurpose Hall, Imphal, as a part of 100 Days Programme of the Government.

Hoax bomb

IT News
Imphal, July 4: Unknown miscreants placed a hoax bomb at the residence of Laishram Kunjamani Singh(55) S/O. L.Bir singh r/o. Yairipok Khoirom Mathak Leikai under Yairipok Police station in Thoubal district yesterday evening. A team of 2 Assam Rifle rushed the spot and while checking it found to be a hoax bomb.

Residential Workshop on Holistic Empowerment For Widows Conducted

IT News
Imphal, July 4: A unique and one of its first kinds workshop in Manipur, ‘Healing to Empowerment- A 3-Day Residential Workshop For Women Affected by Conflict in Manipur’, was held from 30 June to 2 July at DSSS, Mantripukhri, organised by Women and Youth For Peace and Development (WYPD) in association with Manipur Voluntary Health Association (MVHA). This workshop is part of the year-long project called ‘Healing to Empowerment: Story of the Manipuri Women’ which won the Alumni Innovation Engagement Fund 2016, an initiative by U.S. Department of State. The main objective of the project is to provide a ‘holistic approach to empowerment to widows and mothers traumatised due to the conflict, through proper psycho-social intervention and sustainable economic empowerment, not just by giving them mere skills but by helping them become well rounded leaders, who can lead their own enterprises, and empower more women.’ The project started with psycho social therapy in August 2016 and then gradually proceeds towards skill and leadership training.

The organiser of the event and founder of WYPD, Monika K h a n g e m b a n said, “Women in conflict zones are deprived of basic mental health care, economic security, and get busy meeting basic needs of life and feeding their children, forget about participating in peace interventions or any decision making roles. We want to create an ecosystem where not only these women explore their skills but also mentor them to be leaders and run sustainable enterprises. This is a special group which needs clinical and



psycho-social therapy and then proceed to economic empowerment. We want increase their coping capacity and resilience.” The 3-Day residential workshop introduced an innovative module by having various speakers, experts from various fields, and included theatre to help them deal with their trauma, providing an all round approach. The workshop had psycho-social therapy by clinical psychologist Pampak Khumukcham, sessions on Participatory Theatre by Victor Thoudam, Artist

Director at Akhoka, Journey to Meditation by Chaoba Thiyam, movie screening of Meena Longjam award winning documentary, Autodriver, on women empowerment, talk by human rights activist Babloo Loitongbam on ‘the present situation of the victim families and the way forward’, Dr K Shantibala, Associate Professor and HOD, JNIMS, on ‘How Can Women Affected by Conflict Take Care of Their Mental Health’, Keisam Pradipkumar child rights activist and member MCPCR, on ‘Educational

and Protection Rights of Children and Emerging Specific Needs in Conflict Areas’ and Chinglemba Ngathem, abundance coach, took a session on motivation. The second half of the workshop saw local entrepreneurs who started from scratch and talked about ‘how we can capitalise on our local produce and skills without having to depend on government jobs or resources from outside the state. Some of the notable speakers were Hanjabam Shubra Devi of Meira Foods, Khumbongmayum Dhanachandra of Romi Bag Industries, Khumujam Jina of Mangal Soaps, Dayanidhi Huidrom of Intellisome Consulting, and Moirangthem Muktamani of Mukta Shoes Industry. One of the participants, Echan, whose husband was killed in an alleged fake encounter and a cancer survivor said, “I thought there was nothing more to life after I lost my husband and then diagnosed with cancer. I had never imagined I would experience something like this in life, meeting so many inspiring speakers, doing theatre, meeting so many people and making new friends. This has opened a new door for me. Now I want to live.”