

Flood destroys one-third of crops, kills over 3000 livestock

IT News

Imphal, July 6: Nearly one third of the total area of paddy sown or transplanted in the state for this year's Kharif crop was partially or completely destroyed by the recent flood caused by torrential rain.

Minister of agriculture V Hangkhalian told media persons at a press conference conducted at Chief Minister's Bungalow today that the total area in the state where crops (paddy, other crops are negligible) were already sown or transferred is 1,26,750 ha while the total targeted area for paddy for the kharif 2017 was 1,95,000 ha. Due to destruction caused to the crops by flood and water inundation arising out of heavy rain in the last few months 40,000 ha or 20.51% of the targeted area of 31.56% of



the sown/transplanted area was affected, the minister informed. The valley districts were the worst hit areas and among them Imphal East district stood out at the top losing 14,079 ha out of the total 33,090 ha targeted. Imphal west district followed with 7,700 ha out of 29,580 targeted, followed by Thoubal district (9,000ha out of 21,650ha); Bishnupur district (9,201ha out 21860); and Ukhrul district (20ha out of 10,120ha).

To counter the losses brought about from the inundation of paddy fields the administration will be taking up corrective measures like transplantation of paddy in the month of August with plans to adopt short duration paddy varieties and system of rice intensification. Another move will be raising of community nurseries for rice seedlings. For this project a total of 3998ha will be used in Imphal East, Imphal West, Thoubal and Bishnupur districts.

With a vision to assist the affected farmers the authorities will also be conducting cropping system training, organise mobile plant health camps and consider alternate crops like black gram and maize if required. On the other hand informing about the casualty of reared animals from the rain Hangkhalian said according to the latest official record available 3 cows, 8 dogs, 39 goats, 96 pigs, 1894 poultry animals, 1311 ducks had perished.

RMSA teachers lock director office

IT News

Imphal, July 6: Teachers of RMSA today executed their pledge to lock the doors of the director of education office and squatted at the office complex as part of their ongoing agitation to demand the release of their salaries for the last seven months.

The RMSA Graduate Teachers' Association which is spearheading the agitation had kept itself low for a while after the administration gave them assurances that their remuneration will be cleared within June. A few days ago a delegation of the teachers' association went to meet the director of RMSA but their trip ended in disappointment as they found his office locked and the director absent on account of heavy inundation of the complex. The teachers also commenced pen down strike from today as their renewed act of aggression against the administration protesting the latter's inability to clear their pending salaries from the month of November last year.

Yesterday, during a press meeting representatives of the RMSA Graduate Teachers' Association said they have met the chief ministers and concerned over the issue. However, despite repeated assurances to release their pending salaries within June end the authorities has not shown any positive move meant for fulfillment of their demands, said N Pakasana, the president of the association

RR Rashmi is new Chief Secretary

IT News

Imphal, July 6: Senior member of Indian Administrative Service of 1983 batch Rajani Ranjan Rashmi has been appointed as the new chief secretary of Manipur. The official order to this effect was issued today by the department of personnel. He will be replacing Oinam Nabakishore who is under order of transfer.

RR Rashmi Rashmi is a graduate in Economics from



Patna University and holds a degree in MBA from the Free University (Vriet Universitet) of Brussels.

He has served as an able administrator in Manipur for

many years. In recognition of his services to the state, he received, in 2008, the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration.

Meanwhile, his predecessor O Nabakishore was appointed as the director general of State Academy of Training (SAT). MH Khan who is now the principal secretary of AR/Relief and DM/Sciences and Technology/Fisheries was relieved of the charge DG of SAT.

Flood still affect various part of Imphal valley, state highway remains under threat of landslide

IT News

Imphal, July 6: Various part of the valley areas are still facing grievances inconveniences due to the flash flood from the recent non-stop rain.

In Imphal valley, people of Nongmeibung, Imphal-East under Porompat Police Station is one of the areas which is facing huge issues due to the flood which seems to getting worst day by day. Locals of the Nongmeibung claims that the flood has been caused by the water flowed in from the culvert after the water from the drainage overflowed due to the raising water level of the nearby rivers from the recent non-stop rains in the state including Nongmeibung

and its surrounding areas.

Due to the flood people are taking shelter at relief camps opened for the flood affected people in the surrounding areas where around 250 people from more than 40 families are taking shelter at the camp.

Ayush medical team for flood affected areas have also organised medical camp at the relief camp open at Thamchet High School, Wangkhei Angom Leikai in Impha East since July 2, 2017.

More than 100 people have taken the benefit of the medical camp till the filing of this report.

More than 20/30 families are still unable to reach the camp due to the flood.

Meanwhile, civil societies, NGOs, clubs and organisations have distributed edible items to the flood affected families and household at various part of the flood affected areas in the state.

HDFC Bank also distributed relief materials to the flood affected people of Porompat Muslim and Porompat Thawanthaba Leikai. Rice, pulses, grains, edible oils and salt package were among the distributed relief materials.

On the other hand, various part of state which has been affected by the flash flood still waits for help from government side as many have been facing the lack of

Over 90000 Quintal of rice to be distributed under NFSA still not lifted by agents

IT News

Imphal, July 6: Amidst criticism over non-recipients of PDS rice at various part of the state, CAF & PD Minister Karam Shyam today said that agents of PDS rice from various districts of the state are yet to lift 90,550.90 quintal of rice from the FCS godown. Speaking to reporters during press conference held today afternoon at the Chief Minister Bungalow, Karam Shyam said that rice quotas under National Food Security Act for the month of April, May and June has already been procured by the state government however as the agents who are responsible for distribution of the PDS rice to the people still do not claim and lifted their share of rice some beneficiaries are yet to get their allotted share. A beneficiary is entitled to get

5 Kg of rice at the rate of Rs. 3 per kg under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). There are complaints from beneficiaries over not receiving of the allotted share. Some complaints of not getting the PDS rice for even a month.

Karam Shyam said that after the state government had banned the sales of PDS rice in the market there are complaints from sections of people like those running schools, hostels etc. over their difficulties in buying rice from the market. In order to sort out the difficulties the CAF & PD is all set to procure additional 12 matric ton of rice for open sales to the needy at the rate of Rs. 22 per kg. Those wanted to procure can get the rice by applying applications to the concern department, the CAF and PD Minister Karam

Shyam said..

The Minister further said that of the total allotted rice in Thoubal district for the month of April, May and June agents are yet to lift 25,075.95 quintal of rice. For Bishnupur district 20,351.70 quintal of rice remain at the FCS godown , 23,700 quintal for the Imphal East district not lifted by the concern agents, 18,144.05 quintal of rice for Phezerol district and 20,800.3 quintal of rice for Tengnoupal and Chandel district still not lifted by the respective agents.

Karam, Shyam appeals all concerns to lift the rice for distribution to the beneficiaries at the earliest possible time. He further added that state quotas for the month of July is already sanctioned and the state government will procure it soon.

State sets plan to begins plantations at River catchment area

IT News

Imphal, July 6: The recent flash flood due to torrential rain in the state of Manipur has prompted serious concern to the state government. Talking to reporters at the Chief Minister Bungalow during a press conference held today Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that the state

government is working out a plan to plant trees at river catchment area of the state. "The state government is considering taking up some measures for prevention of flood by safeguarding the river catchment area in consultation with various government department", Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said replying to queries from the reporters.

Almost all government authorities related to environment had stated that the recent flash flood in the state of Manipur in few hours rain is due to the massive deforestation being taken place at the catchment area of rivers. Almost all major rivers that are flowing in Imphal Valley have its root at Senapati and newly created Kangpokpi districts. In the year 2010-11 a sum of Rs. 500 crore has

been utilised by the Horticulture and Soil Conservation department under the River valley Project and Flood Prone (RVP & FPR).

The main objective of the programme are Prevention of land degradation by adoption of a multi-disciplinary integrated approach of soil conservation & watershed management in catchment areas; Improvement of land capability and moisture regime in the watersheds; Promotion of land use to match land capability and Prevention of soil loss from the catchments to reduce siltation of multipurpose reservoirs & enhance the in-situ moisture conservation and surface rainwater storages in the catchments to reduce flood peaks & volume of runoff.

Demand for barrier free access raised again

IT News

Imphal, July 6: The Relief Centre for Differently-Abled Persons Manipur while describing the social welfare department as the most likely place for the differently-abled to get succor raised doubt whether the department has been failing to dispense its responsibility of alleviating their lives.

In a press note released by secretary of the organization Ch Lokeshwari today, the department is ignoring the installation of barrier free access intentionally to discourage them for visiting the offices of the social welfare department. The organization has taken serious note of the present state of affairs on the indifference of the minister and officials of the social welfare department and directly appealed to chief minister Nongthombam Biren to peruse into the matter.

On their mouths, the minister and officers keep chanting that barrier free access will be created in offices though even they had failed to install barrier free access in their own

3 held with heroin worth Rs 60 lakh

NENA

Imphal, July 6: The Narcotics and Affairs of Border (NAB) of Manipur police arrested three persons after 500 gm of heroin worth around Rs 60 lakh in the international market was seized from their possession. Nodal Officer of drug related matters IGP (Administration) Dr Soibam Ibomcha said the trio along with the heroin was arrested near a restaurant at Kachhing Lamkhai around 3 pm of July 5. They were carrying the drug in a Maruti 800 car.

Key changes in oil industries post GST implementation discussed

NENA

Imphal, July 6 : Key changes in oil industries after implementation of GST were discussed during a seminar cum awareness programme at Classic Hotel here on Thursday.

Participating in the programme, Oil Industry Manipur state level coordinator SI Singh said kerosene and LPG products

have so far come under the ambit of Goods and Services Tax (GST) while diesel, petrol and aviation fuel have not been brought under the regime.

He rejected a recent a media report that Domestic cooking gas (LPG) price had been hiked by up to Rs 32 per cylinder following GST came into effect.

"News carried by a section

of the press is not correct that LPG price has been hiked post GST implementation," SI Singh said during the programme organised by the Oil Industry Manipur, State Level Coordinator.

GST came into effect from July 1 following which at least 17 state and federal taxes were replaced by the new tax regime.