

## Newly elected representatives of 11<sup>th</sup> Manipur Legislative Assembly administered oath as MLAs

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** The newly elected representatives of the 11<sup>th</sup> Manipur Legislative Assembly were administered oath of office as members of the legislative assembly by protom speaker V. Hangkhalian today morning at around 11 am.

V. Hangkhalian is a BJP candidate who defeated former cabinet Minister Phungzathang Tonsing who contested as NPP candidate at Churachandpur assembly constituency this election. Before administering oath to the MLAs, Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla administered him oath of office for the post protom speaker at



Raj Bhavan at 10 am today. Chief Minister N. Biren, other elected representatives, top officials of the Manipur government attended the swearing ceremony.

Of the 21 BJP representatives elected in the recent election, 18 have been camping at Guwahati. All the 18 members came back to Imphal today morning in an Indigo flight (6E-

222) to attend the swearing in ceremony as well as to take oath as MLAs.

BJP's top player Dr. Himanta Biswas Sharma, who is credited for his skills in bringing a BJP government at Assam also came along with the Manipur BJP MLAs in the same flight.

The BJP-led Government in the state will seek vote of confidence tomorrow on the floor of the state assembly.

Stage is set for tomorrow's vote of confidence of the BJP-led Government in the state. The fate of the first BJP-led government in the state under the Chief Ministership of Nongthombam Biren Singh will be decided tomorrow.

## New hopes for the new government: Senapati talk positive says Satyendra Garg



**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** Tripartite talk between the representatives of the government of India, Govt. of Manipur and the representatives of the United Naga Council today begins at DRDA hall, at Senapati district head quarter. Govt. of Manipur is represented by Addl. Chief Secretary, Suresh Babu and Commissioner (Home) Radha Kumar while the government of India is represented by Joint Secretary, Ministry of

Home Affairs (MHA) North East incharge, Satyendra Garg. From the side of the United Naga Council (UNC) former presidents Paul Leo, Samson Remei, Lohri Adani, General Secy. of UNC S. Milan, ANSAM President Seth Shatsang and NWU President LM Tabitha attended the triangular talk. The talk begins at 1.35 pm and took a break at 2:30 pm and resumed after 10 minutes. The 1st round talk concluded at 4.10 pm Talking to reporters after the meeting

Joint Secy. to MHA, NE incharge Satyendra Garg said that the result is positive. However, the UNC representatives said that details will only be spell out after consultation with the other members of the UNC which is presently staying at the UNC head quarter. A member of the UNC said that they will only tell the details after the meeting of the UNC. Till the filing of this story (4.20 pm) the UNC continue their meeting and no concrete decision has been spell out.

### Camp continues

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** Fearing horse trading game the Congress party still continued to shelter its 27 MLAs in the house of one of its legislators here in Imphal. The 17 BJP MLAs which has been camping at Guwahati return back today and are likely to camp at a safer place until tomorrow. "We have kept our legislators in Guwahati in response to the Congress keeping their MLAs in a house in Imphal. Our legislators thought we must also stand united," said Himanta Biswa Sarma, while talking to a journalist yesterday.

### UG arrested

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** A team of Imphal West district police Commando arrested one cadre of KCP (Kesho Meitei Group) yesterday evening. The arrested person has been identified as Irengbam Mangoljao Singh (age 63), son of I. Apabi Singh of Chirai Mayai Leikai. Police source said that the cadre is involved in various anti-social activities like extortion of money for fund drive for the outfit under the command of Kesho Meitei.

## 26,440 students to appear in COHSEM exam

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** A total of 26,440 students are appearing in the class XII examination conducted by the Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur which is set to begin tomorrow. COHSEM Chairman Lamabam Mahendra said that the council has taken up all measures to conduct the exam in a free and fair way and the result of the examination

will be declared on merit basis so that there will be more competition among the students. "We will declare the result of this examination on merit basis with rank holder's name", said Mahendra to a local TV channel. Last year, the result of the examination was declared on grading system. The Chairman further said that of the 26,440 students appearing in Arts, Science and Commerce

streams, 13,603 are male candidates while the remaining 12,837 students are female candidates. The students will appear the examination in 92 centers and to conduct the examination in a free and fair way the council had set up 66 flying squads. Chief Minister of Manipur, N. Biren extended his wish to the students appearing in the examination for their grand success.

## Delhi Manipuri Society revived; get-together cum general body meeting held

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** After almost a decade, a get-together meet followed by a general body meeting of the Delhi Manipuri Society (DEMAS) was held at MPs Club, North Avenue, New Delhi yesterday evening. The meeting drew huge crowds of Delhi Manipuri residents from every walk of life. Veteran singer Laishram Mema also came all the way from Mumbai to join the gathering, and the most anticipated programme of the day was the joining of Laishram Mema, the sensational and veteran singer of Manipur, who enthralled the crowds with her mesmerizing songs. She presented her evergreen songs - "Melei Charong Satloubra, Chingnung Tamna



Khonghouba, Lamdamdugi Kolodi Sanaleibak Manipur....", "Manja nangbu keidno, Nungshi Napao tadba, Loidam Thabum pharackle". Eight-year-old Tiluk Keisham also performed the world famous Limbo skating. The gathering was concluded by electing a new Executive

Committee of the Delhi Manipuri Society. S. Bishwajit has been elected as President, Hemam Sarjubala as Vice President, N. Shyamkishor Singh as Secretary, A. Lokhon Singh as Treasurer, K. Birjit Singh as Assistant Secretary, L. Kullajit and H. Athouba as Members.

## Manipur Cabinet discusses budget, approves estimates

**IT News**

**Imphal, March 19:** Manipur Cabinet has approved the Revised Estimates for 2016-17 and Budget Estimates for 2017-18 of the Government. It will be placed in the first session of 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly commencing from March 21, 2017. The Cabinet also approved the draft of Governor's Address to be delivered by the Governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma Heptulla on

the first day of the first session of the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly. The Cabinet meet presided by Chief Minister, N. Biren was held at the Old Secretariat Conference Hall yesterday. It also discussed on the working of government employees in the hill and remote areas of Manipur and decided to frame a new transfer policy of the State government employees so as to make effective functioning of

government offices in the hill and remote areas. The Cabinet approved to appoint Th. Biswajit Singh, Cabinet Minister as the Spokesperson of the Government of Manipur. Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh, Cabinet Ministers- Th. Biswajit Singh, L. Jayantakumar Singh, Karam Shyam Singh, Letpao Haokip, N. Kayisii, Th. Shyamkumar Singh and L. Dikho attended the meeting

## Natl. seminar on "Recent Innovations in Applied sciences"

**Imphal, March 19:**

One day national seminar on "Recent Innovations in Applied sciences" was organized by the applied science and agriculture department of Aryans Group of Colleges, Chandigarh at its campus. Dr. TR Sharma, Executive Director, National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali Punjab was the chief guest on

the occasion while Dr. Yogesh Nangia, Director (R&D), Nangia Nanolab Pvt. Ltd; Dr. BirBikram Singh, Faculty, Sri Guru Granth Sahib World University, Fatehgarh Sahib and Dr. Amit, Faculty, Shaheed Bhagat Singh State Technical Campus were the guests of honour on the occasion. Prof. B.S Sidhu, Registrar, Aryans Group presided on the occasion.

Dr. T.R Sharma as a biotechnologist shared his views on classical genetics and modern DNA world. He discussed about internal rice genome sequencing. He said that researchers are working on if rice would flourish in dry barren soil, mature several times a year and counter threatens from diseases and pests without losing its intrinsic flavor or fragrance.

## Emerging insurgency in Manipur as reflected in Ayekpam Tomchou's Chagi Khuji

By: **Aheibam Koireng Singh**  
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Athokpam Tomchou, a prominent courtyard playwright of yesteryears and later a Dramatist who won multi awards, himself says, he was very much influenced by GC Tongbra, and NK Sanajaoba, who without dispute is the pioneer of investigative journalism in Manipur. I tried conjugating what he said with what he scripted in *Chagi Khuji*. What I could comprehend about the form and content of his narrative technique is that it carries GC Tongbra's legacy in form and that of NK Sanajaoba in content. In the Seminar on Armed Violence and Nationalism: Reflections in Manipuri Literature (6-7 March 2017), organized by Centre for Manipur Studies, Manipur University, Dr. M. Priyobrata, in the opening of the invited speakers session of this seminar stated that creative writers in the state, seemed to engage with the nationalistic theme very casually and lacks commitment, thus responsible for not emerging any

authentic voice from the native creative writer. While saying so, his empirical base for arriving at such conclusion seemed to be limited only to poetry, short stories, novels, and at the most drama. In the last technical session of the said seminar, the moderator, Aribam Kumar Sharma stated very categorically that films and courtyard plays are a departure from the stated theme in the seminar "Literature". I had this naive feeling that if our literary critic embraces, Shumang Lila, in the domain of literature, their search for 'authentic voice' would not be betrayed and unfruitful exercise. NK Sanajaoba was also a founding Central Committee Member of UNLF. Athokpam Tomchou, was imprisoned together with Late N. Pahari (Founder Army Chief, UNLF) and NK Sanajaoba, on the same charge of sedition in the late 1960s. Tomchou was later released unconditionally, as charges against him cannot be proved. 'Chagi Khuji' must perhaps be his first Court Play script, after his release from the prison. It would not be exaggeration to say, 'Chagi Khuji' obviously fits to be taken as the authentic voice from the creative

writers of the state. Chagi Khuji, a very popular play in the early seventies of the late twentieth century, based on the hill-valley emotional unity and integration contextualized with the emerging Pan Manipur revolutionary movement was again staged by the Peace Maker Artist Association in 2014-15 and also marketed it in DVD format. Thougham, the character on whom the play revolves was a rebel leader who carries a reward of Rupees One Lakh in his head. In the opening episode, the police led by Sub-Inspector, Ningheimo, at a hillock, not so far away from the Ukhrul town, came chasing Thougham with gunfire. From the dialogue, between Ningheimo and his subordinate personnel, it informs the audience that, the fugitive rebel leader has in the past resided in Siroi village for quite some time vacationing carpentry works. He went underground after the government started suspecting and investigating about him. Analogize this with the emerging armed resurgence in Manipur in the post Irabot Manipur. UNLF, in its

inception in the year 1964 had a multi-ethnic composition in its founding top rung leadership, with President from the kindred tribe of Zeliangrong Naga community, Vice President from the Kuki community, and General Secretary from the Meitei/Meetei community. And there have been stories that in those contemporary times, Mr. Bob Khathing, the most illustrious Tangkhul leader, was approached by the erstwhile, Naga rebel leader, Phizo, to join the armed Naga movement alongside with him, which the former, is said to have, declined if it was not for a United Northeast. Tangkhul, right from those days have been numerically preponderant and advanced community in Manipur hills. The founding top rung leadership of UNLF must also have wished to have Tangkhul among its ranks and files for the movement to be more inclusive, broad based, and plural. Some of them defected and formed the Revolutionary Government of Manipur (RGM) under the leadership of Oinam Sudhir, the Youth-in-Charge of UNLF, to whom the party leadership had great faith. (Contd. on page 2)