

Polling personnel and security dispatch for Tamenglong district

DIPR Imphal, March 6: Despite heavy rain and thunderstorm, first phase of polling personnel and police security was sent for the Tamei Assembly Constituency and Nungba Assembly Constituency for the upcoming General Assembly Election from the Tamenglong Headquarter. Out of the 82 polling stations in Tamei A/C, 52/1-Makuilong, 52/2-Lemta, 52/22-Katiang, 52/23-Katangam & 52/62-Puram was dispatched today. For Nungba A/C, out of 42 polling stations, four (4) polling stations that is 54/39-Sempat Gange, 54/40-Tuiphai, 54/41-Gallen and 54/42-Chongmun was also dispatched. Total 50 polling personnel left Tamenglong Headquarter in their assigned polling stations.

2 men assaulted; CCpur shut down

IT News Imphal, March 6: Normal life was put to a complete halt in Churachandpur town today as people of the area called a total shut down in protest against the assault of two persons late yesterday night by unknown persons. Report said that the two persons were kidnapped by unknown armed persons suspected to be Underground group from YPA General Head Quarters late yesterday night at around 11 pm. Both year severely beaten black and blues and released. Condemning the assault YPA today called total shut down in CCpur town from 7 am to 5 pm today.

MPCC President hit back to BJP; says eco-blockade instigated by them

IT News Imphal, March 6: President of the Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee (MPCC), TN Haokip today hit back to BJP calling it as a communal and divisive force which has been trying to distort communal harmony in the region. Talking to media persons at Congress Bhavan today afternoon the MPCC president said that the ongoing economic blockade which has been giving tremendous hardship to the people of the state has been instigated by the BJP. "In his statement the Prime Minister of India, Mr. Narendra Modi had stated that if BJP comes to power, they will lift the economic blockade in 3 days", TN Haokip said and questioned the rationale behind saying such statement. The state Congress president further said that when the prime Minister said that he could lift the blockade in 3 days if BJP comes to power it does mean that the party is having nexus with the UNC which is giving all sort of hardship to the people of Manipur. Assuring that the congress party will return to power, TN Haokip said that the party has been working hard for the development of the state under tremendous pressure and obstacles for 15 years. "In the last 15 years, we have



gone through so many sunny days, so many cloudy days and rainy days, yet we have been doing everything for the development of the state", TN Haokip said. The MPCC president further added that BJP has been breeding hardship to the people, bring tears to many with its policy like demonetization, economic blockades in Manipur and

many others. Most of the so called developmental works being done by the BJP are started during the time of UPA government and the BJP government only change its name, Haokip added. "On March 11, everything will be clear", the state congress president said while thanking the people of the state for the support to congress party.

BJP will form govt. – Hemanta Biswa

IT News Imphal, March 6: BJP will form a new government with absolute majority in the ongoing 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election, 2017 said Assam Finance Minister, Hemanta Biswa Sharma of Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). Speaking to the media persons at a press conference held at the office of BJP Manipur Pradesh, Nitaipat Chithek, today, Hemanta Biswa Sharma said that there is no alliance

between BJP and Naga People's Front (NPF), BJP want to defeat NPF and will definitely defeat NPF in the second phase of poll in the hill areas. Hemanta Biswa Sharma also said that NPF are same like CM Ibobi Government, BJP will ensure that NPF does not win even a single seat in these 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly Election. BJP will defeat the ruling government under the dictator CM Ibobi and also NPF as they

HC says UNC's economic blockade illegal; order SF to deal with blockade supporters

IT News Imphal, March 6: Full bench of Manipur High Court comprising of Chief Justice R.R. Prasade, Justice N. Kotiswar Singh and Justice N. Nobin Singh on March 3, declared the ongoing economic blockade imposed by the United Naga Council (UNC) as "illegal" and order all security force to deal with those supporters of the economic blockade as per law of the land. The high court has been hearing a Public Interest Litigation, filed by RK Joysana, expressing concern over the situation arising as a result of the blockade. Gaidon Kamei, president, and Stephen Lamkang, publicity secretary, of the United Naga Council (UNC) which is imposing the indefinite economic blockade appeared before the high court.

Six other office bearers of the United Naga Council who failed to appear before the court were given a last chance to do so on 23 March. Both Kamei and Lamkang were remanded in judicial custody till then. The high court ruling said that the persons and organisation imposing the economic blockade are "violating the fundamental rights of the citizens". "This is done to achieve some political wishes at the misery of the people," it said adding that the state works are obstructed. "The blockade imposed by the UNC is hereby declared illegal as per directives of the honourable Supreme Court," the bench ruled. Tension has been simmering in Manipur due to an economic blockade called by the UNC in

the state starting from 1 November. National Highways (NH) 37 and NH 2 have been badly affected due to the blockade. Although the blockade started on 1 November when the state government was planning to create new districts by bifurcating the existing Naga-dominated areas, it intensified after the government ignored the agitation and went ahead to declare Jirbam as a full-fledged district. The state government also created new districts of Kangpokpi, Tengoupal, Phazol, Kakching, Noney and Kamjong. According to the UNC, the creation of new districts out of Naga territory without their consent is a deliberate act to suppress the rights of Nagas in the state.

Letter to the editor

Don't divide Hill and Plain

Sir,
I have come across an advertisement on Imphal Free Press yesterday (05/03/2017), the copy of which is enclosed herewith. The second line of the content in English reads "Let's stand together both hills and plain".

I am expressing my sincere concern over the use of the term "Hills and Plain" instead of "Hills and Valley". I hope it was only a mistake in corrigendum which doesn't carry any intentions whatsoever. If it were I suspect a sinister design to create a disconnect between the Hills and Valley. 'Manipur is a hill state' according to official reports of the Ministry of Forest & Environment. If it was a deliberate geopolitical design to disconnect the hills and valley then it must be clarified.

There are far reaching consequences of using the word PLAIN instead of valley while terming the hill-valley relationship in the geopolitical aspect of Manipur. While the valley is inseparable from the hills in the geological construct of Manipur the word PLAIN is a sinister design to disconnect both the hills and valley in the ecological, economic and cultural perspective of Manipur. There is already a dent in the hill-valley relationship created by a larger political aspirant that seeks its goal through disintegration of Manipur. We must then stand politically correct and acknowledge corrections from different quarters now and then while working for an integrated Manipur in spirit and body. We must also make sure that no interest of our neighbours are harmed while we work for our own good so that states like Nagaland and Manipur stay as good neighbours as before and forever for eternity. As you are aware "Imphal valley" has official denotation for administrative and general purposes. Likewise Hill-valley should have the same purpose.

It is my sincere request to correct the content of the advertisement from "Hill Plain" to "Hill Valley" and in all literature published. Your wisdom and fair judgement will be highly appreciated especially by the youths who will eventually follow the political path to a resurgent Manipur.

Sincerely
Mayengbam
James Mc General Secretary
(People Resurgence & Justice Alliance)

Fake account user in Facebook who defame a girl arrested

IT News Imphal, March 6: Cyber Crime Unit of Imphal West cracked down a fake account user in social networking site facebook who has been uploading photoshopped obscene picture of a girl. The fake account user identified as Paokai Haokip (24 years S/O(Late) Khaihao Haokip of N. Zalenphai Village, Churachandpur was arrested

yesterday. Report from the police said that, after receiving a complaint about the matter on February 23 this year the Cyber Crime Unit of Imphal west took up a case under IPS U/S 354-D/506/500 IPC & 67-A IT Act and started the investigation. During investigation, it has been learnt that the accused person created the fake

Facebook account by using his IDEA no and uploaded the vulgarly comments. He also sent various nos. of vulgar Messages to the complainant mobile number from his AIRTEL no.

He was arrested yesterday by Cyber Crime Unit, I/W from his residence at 5:00 pm and seized one mobile handset along with SIM Cards at 5:10 pm and handover the case to OC IPS.

Sharmila campaigns

IT News Imphal, March 6: Irom Chanu Sharmila, the anti APSFA crusader, who had given up 16 years of fast unto death protest for repeal of AFSPA and entered politics to continue her fight today conducted door to door campaign in Thoubal Assembly constituency where she has been contesting as PRJA candidate. Sharmila chose Thoubal Ac to contest the election to challenge CM Okram Ibobi Singh.

Curtain Raiser Press Conference on 'Destination North East-2017'

PIB New Delhi, March 6: The Joint Secretary, Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), S. N. Pradhan chaired the curtain raiser press conference on "Destination North East 2017" here today. The Destination North East-2017 is being organized by Ministry of DoNER, with knowledge partner, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh will inaugurate the 3-day festival here tomorrow.

Addressing the media, S. N. Pradhan said that the Ministry of DoNER is the unique Ministry which is based on the geographical area. He said that North East Region (NER) consists of 8% of country's total geographical area and 4% of country's population and the objective of Destination North East, 2017 is to showcase North East as a potential destination for investment and highlight the rich cultural heritage, traditions and customs of the region. He said that the main theme of this year's festival is to highlight the use of appropriate technologies in all sectors of development for NER. The Office of Principal

Scientific Adviser to Government of India and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) are participating this year, he added. S. N. Pradhan said that the '3 H' Mission, that is Horticulture, Handicraft and Handlooms, are the focus of Destination North East 2017. S. N. Pradhan said that 'Destination North East' is held as a calendar event every year and Chandigarh is the first place, outside Delhi, to organise the event. He said that the distinctive nature of North East will be taken to all the corners of India. Senior officers of the Ministry of DoNER were also present on the occasion.

PTI/India Today

Amritsar, March 6: A 360-foot-high (110 metres) flag post, said to be the country's tallest, was inaugurated on Sunday at the Indo-Pak Attari Border. Punjab state minister Anil Joshi inaugurated the flag post, atop which a Tricolour was hoisted. The post is 24 metres wide, and weighs 55 tonnes. Built at an approximate cost of Rs 3.50 crore, the post was a project by the Amritsar Improvement Trust Authority, part of the Punjab government. "With the model code of conduct for the Assembly elections being in place in the state, the minister got

special permission from Election Commission for the inauguration," officials said. The flag post, installed at the border, became an attraction for thousands of tourists who had reached there to watch the daily beating retreat ceremony at sunset. Even visitors from the Pakistan side of the border were seen watching the Indian flag with keen interest. The pole is said to be tall enough to be visible from Lahore, almost 24 kms away. Before the Attari flag post came up, the country's tallest was in Ranchi, Jharkhand. Amritsar already has a 170-foot high flag post, in the Ranjit Avenue

Public Park. The original plan was to hoist the Tricolour at the new Attari post on Republic Day on 26 January, but it was delayed due to technical reasons. Speaking to media persons, Joshi called it his "dream project" and was happy to have it become reality. However, not everybody is happy with this installation. Pakistan has already raised concerns on the issue. *Deccan Herald* on Saturday reported that the Pakistan Rangers, during a recent meeting with the Border Security Force (BSF), expressed concerns over such a tall structure being installed just 200 metres from

such a critical international border. Islamabad's concerns are regarding security and surveillance issues. The BSF, however, is learnt to have discounted the apprehensions as unfounded, according to the report. However, according to *India Today*, Indian authorities had made it clear that the flat was being installed 200 metres before the zero line and thus was not a violation in any manner. "Not to my knowledge. It is our national flag and nobody can stop us from hoisting it on our soil," Joshi was quoted by the report as saying.

India's tallest tricolour hoisted near Indo-Pak border at Attari; Pakistan cries foul