

2 IEDs detected

IT News
Imphal, May 29: Two improvised explosive devices were discovered at Litan, along Imphal-Ukhul road yesterday evening at around 9.30 pm. Each of the IED weighed around seven kilograms. The devices were disposed safely by a combined team of state police's bomb disposal squad and 17 Assam Rifles today morning.

SSA teachers storm Education (S) office

IT News
Imphal, May 29: Hundreds of teachers of Sarva Siksha Abhiyan (SSA) stormed the office of directorate of education (S) at Lamphelpat today demanding payment of eight months due salaries. The teachers squatted inside the office compound pressing for concrete assurances from officials on clearing their pending salaries. It may be mentioned that SSA teachers had engaged in targeting education offices in other districts as well.

KYKL nabbed

IT News
Imphal, May 29: A combined team of 39 Assam Rifles and Thoubal district police commandos arrested the Thoubal district area commander of KYKL from his own village. Assam Rifles identified the individual as self styled sergeant major Rocky Thoudam, 32, from Thounajam in Wagagai. He confirmed to have crossed over to India from Tanam Camp in Myanmar on May 6, 2017, a press release from AR stated. It further claimed that he was directed to carry out IED blasts targeting security forces and was accompanied by five CORCOM cadres. They were suspected to be behind the IED attack on personnel of 15 Inf Bn (TA) on May 8, 2017 in which two personnel were killed, the release added.

Manipur yet to decide, Assam Govt. bans private tuition or engagement by Govt. college teachers

IT News
Imphal, May 29: Even as the Manipur government still is searching for a way to discourage private tuition culture by government schools or college teachers, Assam government has banned private tuition or engagement to private educational institutions of government college teachers. In an office memorandum issued by Ajay Tiwari, (IAS), Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher

Education department, it is stated that the department has received information about who are substantively holding post in Provincialised and government degree colleges are engaging in private tuition centers / coaching centers hampering classroom attendance. This trend spreads a sense of insecurity amongst college students where they tend to believe that they will not be able to do well unless they too take private tuition.

The trend make the student attend in private tuition or coaching class by even skipping normal classes. The office memorandum further stated that engagement of private tuitions or at private coaching center by any regular and teachers of provincialised and government degree college has been banned. However, government teachers are encourage in calling students to their home for remedial teaching but the number of students should not be more than 4.

It may be mentioned that the state of Manipur has been facing serious problem of tuition culture by either govt. school or college teachers, but as of now the government is still yet to announce any such move.

Mao to get subdivisonal district hospital

Northeast News Agency
Imphal, May 29: Health Minister L Jayentakumar today visited Senapati district where he inspected health centres including Senapati District Hospital and assured upgradation of some of them soon.

The minister accompanied by two other ministers and state health officials during the inspection visit announced that staff doctors and nurses will be provided for all Community Health Centres, Primary Health Centres and Primary Health Sub-centres which are in need in the district. Jayentakumar also assured that a trauma centre would be opened at the district hospital under financial support from the NEC. "The existing Mao Community

Health Centre will be upgraded into a subdivisonal district hospital," the minister further announced.

He said Mao being a border area the proposed hospital will benefit not only the Mao residents, but also people from Nagaland.

The minister also said all health centres in Senapati will be refurbished soon. During the tour the minister and his team also inspected Kanglatongbi PHSC and health centres at Khurkhum and Sekma. He also announced during the visit that the present Kanglatongbi PHSC will be upgraded into a Primary Health Centre (PHC). Jayentakumar said such inspection visits will be carried out further in other parts of the state.

Illegal Bangladeshi immigrant held

Northeast News Agency
Guwahati, May 29: A Bangladeshi immigrant illegally residing in Amlokhi village under Batadrava Police Station of Nagaon district was arrested on Sunday midnight, according to a police official. Around 12.15 am, a police team led by Rajib Baruah,

officer-in-command of Batadrava Police Station arrested the Bangladeshi who was declared as foreigner by the Nagaon District Foreigners Tribunal on 2007.

Sarif Uddin who migrated to Assam after 1971 was sent later to the Foreigners Detention Camp in Tezpur, the official said.

ULFA (I) vows to continue more strike

Northeast News Agency
Guwahati, May 29: The United Liberation Front of Asom (I) claimed responsibility for the explosion at an ONGC pipeline in Sonari on Saturday.

The rebel outfit in a statement issued to media yesterday said that they will continue such strikes until and unless 'sovereignty' is restored on the indigenous people. An ONGC pipeline was partially damaged in the explosion that took place at Teok Ghat in Sonari district in the last evening.

Security forces and senior ONGC officials initially could not ascertain ULFA's role in the blast that occurred two days after an ULFA rebel died in Dikom as he was believed to have been planting a bomb at an oil pipeline which exploded immediately.

Meghalaya BJP leader promises cheaper beef, debate rages over cattle trade ban

Courtesy: Hindustan Times
Guwahati, May 29: A BJP leader from Meghalaya has said the party would make beef cheaper if voted to power in the northeastern state which is a due for assembly election next year.

Bernard Marak's promise comes at the time when the BJP-led union government is facing severe criticism for its recent directive banning sale and purchase of cattle from animal markets for slaughter. "Consumption of beef is a routine thing among Garo people, most of who are Christians. But the prices are very high as there is no regularisation. If elected, our party will regularise sale, which will bring prices down," Marak told HT on Sunday.

Meghalaya is predominantly Christian, with the community accounting for 74.59% of the state's population in the 2011 census.

Beef is widely consumed in Meghalaya. The state unit has written to Nalin Kohli, the BJP in-charge for Meghalaya, to ensure the state was spared the ban, reflecting uneas within the party over the cattle-trade directive.

There would be no ban on consumption of beef in the state, said Marak, who is the president of the party's Tura city unit in Garo Hills.

Marak's views on bringing down the price were his own and not those of the party, state BJP chief Shibun Lyngdoh said.

"As a party we haven't made any promise of bringing down prices of beef if elected to power in the state next year. But there won't be a ban on beef in Meghalaya," he told HT.

Defending the Centre's move, Lyngdoh told mediapersons in Shillong on Sunday the latest ban would curb smuggling of cows to neighbouring

Bangladesh. Cow smuggling is rampant along the Bangladesh border. According to reports, more than 8,000 cows were seized by border authorities in Meghalaya in the last five years.

The Centre's trade ban, which will hit poor farmers and squeeze supplies to the country's Rs 1 lakh-crore meat industry, is being seen as a move to push the BJP's alleged Hindutva agenda.

Cows are considered holy by many Hindus and have gained in importance since Prime Minister Narendra Modi stormed to power in 2014 with several BJP-ruled states enacting strict laws to punish cow slaughter.

Beef festivals are being organised in protest in Kerala. Chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying the southern state wouldn't adhere to the ban.

Cyclone Mora forms in Bay of Bengal, heavy rains in Northeast India

New Delhi, May 29: After sustaining strength of deep depression for a very short duration, the system over east-central Bay of Bengal has finally intensified into cyclonic storm Mora. Not only this, conditions are still favourable for Mora to further strengthen into a severe cyclonic storm during the next 12 hours. Moving in north-northeast direction at a speed of 13 kmph, the system is presently centered at Latitude 17°N and Longitude 91.3°E, around 685 km south-southeast of Kolkata and 585 km south-southwest of Chittagong, Bangladesh. Mora will also be responsible for Southwest Monsoon to progress further into some parts of southeast Arabian Sea and Bay of Bengal during next 24 hours and subsequently in Kerala in

another 24 hours. According to Skymet Weather, Mora will continue to move north-northeastwards and cross Bangladesh coast between 91°E and 92°E near Chittagong by May 30.

As Mora advances further, it will start lashing most parts of Northeast India with moderate to heavy rains today. Rains will be intensifying significantly. Rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy rainfall lashing the region by May 30. In fact, few parts Assam and Meghalaya may see some isolated extremely heavy rainfall. Parts of West Bengal including Kolkata would also start recording light to moderate rain and thundershowers during the next 24 hours.

Also, squally winds with the

speed of 45 kmph -55 kmph gusting to 65 kmph would be prevailing along and off West Bengal Coast. For next 48 hours. By May 30, these high velocity winds will also prevail over South Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur and Tripura. Squally winds with the speed of 40 kmph-50 kmph gusting up to 60 kmph would also prevail along and off Andaman Islands and adjoining Sea areas during next 48 hours. In wake of this, sea conditions would be rough to very rough along and off Andaman Islands and West Bengal during next 48 hours. Fishermen are advised not to venture into sea along and off the coast on May 29-30. Those out on sea are advised to return to the coast.

Courtesy: Skymetweather.com

“Kukis” as recorded in the Royal Chronicles of Meitei and Tripura Kings

By Pu Ngulminthang.

The word “Kuki” finds a respected position in both of the Chronicles of Meitei and Tripura Kings. In the Royal Chronicles of Tripura, Shiva has been quoted as falling in love with a Kuki Women in around 32 AD. Again in the same Chronicles, we find mention of Tripura Prince marrying a Kuki Princess in 1415 AD. (Basumaty 1920). The Kukis were the single largest tribes inhabiting the Tripura Hills before the rise of the Debbarmas. (Basumaty, 1920). King Dhanya Manikya who ruled Tripura between 1490 - 1520 AD brought home a Gong presented by Kuki Chiefs on one of his friendly visits. (Roy, 1965)

In the Chetharol Kumbaba, we find that a Kuki by the name Taotingmang became the King of Manipur in 186 Skadba (264 AD). Again in 33 CE, two Kukis by the name Kuki Ahongba and Kuki Achouba were allies to the Nongba Lairen Pakhangba. King Irengha who reigned Manipur between 1107-1127 AD had contacts with Kuki Villages North of Imphal Valley. (Asim Roy, 1997).

L Joychandra (Lost Kingdoms 1995:1), noted that Manipuri King Naofanga who reigned between 624 AD and 714 AD had Friendship Treaties with Kuki Chiefs East of Imphal.

From all these above Historical and Linguistic Evidences it is ample clear that Kukis were present in Manipur as far as History is concerned. This fact

contradicts most of our recent Naga Historians depiction of Kukis arriving as late as 1850.

The fact that Col Johnstone recorded Kukis as spotted only around 1850's is not an issue to ponder about. Col Johnstone or any colonial writer never presented or reported that Kukis migrated into Manipur only around 1850. They only spoke about the year when they first came in contact with the Kukis. Had Col Johnstone or Higgins or Mc Culloch, arrived in Manipur in 1600, they would have reported the Kukis as spotted in 1600 AD. Captain Butler who in 1873 was Deputy Commissioner of Naga Hills in his Report to the Revenue Proceedings 1873, Nos. 120 to 132, mentioned Kacha Nagas as first spotted in 1839 as tribes living in the Jungly Hills due south of the Angami Country (Mc Kenzie, NE frontier of India). Col Johnstone in his report on "Aggressions of Chassad Kookies" mentioned "the Tankhools are Manipur subjects and occupy the Hill country East of the Valley. They were first mentioned in Dr Brown's account of the Hill country and tribes under the rule of Manipur in 1867".

From all these above Historical accounts, we find that Kacha Nagas aka Manipuri Nagas too were spotted as late as 1860's.

Colonial Writings clearly reveal the supremacy of Kukis over the Hill Country in Manipur. The whole of Present Ukhul and Tamenglong districts traditionally and historically belongs to Kukis (Mc Kenzie, 1884). The

supremacy of Kukis over the Hills of Manipur have been carefully presented in Capt Brodie's accounts 1842. (Brodie's Tour, 1842, Mc Kenzie).

The Manipuri Nagas who were subjects under Kuki Chieftainship for Centuries do not have any right to question Kuki Ingunity in the Hills of Manipur. Kukis were the sole rulers of the Hill Country and Historical records support this.

There have never been mentions of a Tangkhul or Zeliang Naga dominating Kukis in any of the Colonial Writings. Infact most of the colonial writers depicted Manipuri Nagas as Slaves of Kuki, living under the Mercy of Kuki Lords. (Col Johnstone, Report to the Resident at Mandalay, 1873)

In most of the Colonial Writings, we find limited informations on Manipuri Nagas. The word Naga has common occurrence in any Colonial Writings but whenever we hunt for Informations on Tangkhuls or any other Kacha Nagas, we run out of Pages. This is simple proof that Tangkhuls or any other Kacha Nagas were not known much. Infact the whole of Kacha Naga/ Manipuri Naga populace boomed out only after 1940's (G Dey 1986:809).

History of Manipuri Nagas in context of Manipuri Kings records depicts them as loyal subjects of Meitei Kings at the same time paying an annual tax "Changseu" to their Kuki Lords though their period of Slavery under Kukis is not clear. (History of Manipur, 1998 : 205).

A Tangkhul friend once told me about Tangkhuls in the olden days. He told me that whenever they hear of Kuki Chiefs passing by they use to hide their pigs because if the Chief likes it he simply takes it and his Tangkhul subjects have to watch his actions. Such was the dominance of Kukis over the Hills of Manipur. Summing up all of these points based on Colonial Writings and Local Records, it is more than clear that Kukis were the sole rulers of the Hill Country. Their power mostly due to their neat administrative setup based on the complete authority of Chiefs. On the other hand, Head Hunting Nagas often fought among themselves which led to many Naga villages seeking refuge of Kuki Chiefs. (Mac Culloch, 1878).

The Meitei religion "Sanamahi" is based on the Kuki religion of "Indoi" (Richard M Eaton 1997). Due to the Rich Cultural Heritage and Neat Administrative Setup, Kukis could rule over the Hill Country, unlike the frequently fighting Head Hunting Nagas. (Mills Report 1854). Therefore, we are now left to conclude that the Hills of Manipur except for Mao Dominance were all under the Kuki Chiefs and it belongs to the Kukis traditionally, culturally and historically. The 1993 massacre on innocent Kukis by armed Nagas are ample proof of Kuki dominance in the hills. If the Manipuri Nagas were so dominant they would never have bothered massacring innocent Kukis or someone lower than them that too, in the name of Christ.