

48 hours bandh called against the mysterious dead of missing youth affects Imphal

IT News

Imphal, May 30: The 48 hours bandh called by the JAC formed against the missing of Huiem Priyokumar @ Yaima of Heingang Panthoibi Leikai has severely affected normal life in the state.

Huiem Priyokumar, a salesman by profession, was reported missing since May 17 after he went to State Bank of India, MG Avenue. Later, he was found hanging at Tangjeng Ching near Wathou junction on May 26 mornings. Following the report about the death a sit-in-protest was staged demanding punishment of those involved in the murder of the youth.

Later the JAC formed against the missing and consequent murder of the youth thronged to the Chief Minister bungalow and meet the Principal Secretary Home as the Chief Minister was out of station. The JAC gave ultimatum of 3 days to find those involved in the killing of Priyokumar and threatened to launch severe form of administration if fails to do so. As the deadline ends yesterday, the JAC called the 48 hours bandh from midnight yesterday.

Large number of bandh supporters came out at the National Highway at Sangakham, Khabam, keirang and Heingang area and stopped all shorts of vehicular movements on the highway. The protestors also burnt tyres and placed woods and cut of trees to prevent vehicular movement along the route. Schools and colleges in Heingang area in Imphal east remain closed. Large number of bandh supporters came out at the National Highway at Sangakham, Khabam, keirang and heingang area and stopped all shorts of vehicular movements on the highway. The protestors also burnt tyres and placed woods and cut of trees to prevent vehicular

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Later, at around evening members of the JAC meet the government authority at the Chief Minister's office but details of the talk could not be known at the time of



submitting this report.

It may be mentioned that H Priyokumar went missing after he deposited money to the bank. Source said that CCTV footage showed him going out

of the bank but by not taking his vehicle he brought along. Police are investigating over the matter on how he got lost and how he was found dead at Wathou area.

Edible items, snacks from banned Bakery seized; burnt in public

IT News

Imphal, May 30: Large number of Snacks and other edible bakery items produced by a Bakery banned by the Food Safety and Standard Enforcement Wing, Imphal East which were found selling at Yairipok area were seized by local club members of Yairipok Bamol Leikai and burnt today morning in front of public. The said items were seized

while the hawkers of the bakery were trying to sell to the shops of Yairipok area. The said bakery were banned after the staffs of the Food Safety and Standard Enforcement Wing, Imphal East found those not fit for human consumption. The bakery banned are New Fast food bakery owned by one Md.Hussain located at Yairipok Laimanai Shantidan.

The bakery was sealed by the staffs of the food safety department after it was found violating the guidelines provided by the department on May 29. The other two are Husaain bakery and Afren bakery located at the same area. The three bakery has been banned by the food safety authority over failure to follow guidelines provided by the government.

ICAR seed processing unit inaugurated

DIIPR

Imphal, May 30: The Seed Processing Unit of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Complex, North East Hill Region (NEH) was inaugurated today by Secretary DARE and Director General, ICAR, Dr. Trilochan Mohapatra in the presence of Shri Chhabildendra Roul, I.A.S. Additional Secretary DARE & Secretary ICAR; Dr. A.K.Singh, Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension) ICAR; Dr. K.Alagusundaram, Deputy Director General (NRM & Agricultural Engineering)



ICAR and Dr. S.V.Ngachan, Director ICAR-RC-NEH Region Meghalaya at ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Manipur Centre, Lamphelpat. The foundation stone of the

Farmers' Hostel for ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region was also laid. ICAR scientists, staffs of KVK and other concerned officials were also present at today's inaugural function.

Manipur Guv', CM attend the 66th Plenary Meeting of the NEC

IT News

Imphal, May 30: Governor of Manipur Dr. Najma Heptulla and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today attended the 66th Plenary Meeting of the North Eastern Council at New Delhi. The Governor reiterated her suggestion on the 'Flying Doctors' or Air-Dispensary. She emphasised on a joint strategy for tourism for the entire NE region. She also advocated for allocation of funds to various states on the basis of relative backwardness rather than only on the basis of population and area. The latter two criteria do not favour Manipur. She also emphasised on the professional inputs to the handloom and handicraft development in the State. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, stated that insurgency is a problem in the region, but the national media does not report about positive things in Manipur. This affects the perception of the people outside Manipur. He also



emphasised on the direct connectivity between Delhi and Imphal to improve investment climate in Manipur as well as tourism. He stated that one of the reasons for insurgency is that the people have been neglected in the past. If, instead of armed personnel, development machinery is sent, it will instil confidence in the people. He lamented that till today no good roads are existing to connect state capital with district HQs. He emphasised upon the human approach to development. He expressed his view that what is needed is employment and

comprehensive development. He also appealed to the officers of the Government of India to visit the state and brief their Ministers and the Prime Minister about the potentials of the state. He also urged the Chief Ministers and the Governors to meet the Prime Minister jointly so that development rather than security solution to the north east can be re-emphasised. He also exhorted to all present to use their good offices to get the budget of the NEC increased from Rs. 925 crore so that worthwhile development projects could be taken up in the region.

First National Blindness Survey completed in Thoubal

IT News

Imphal, May 30: The first blindness survey conducted in Thoubal district conducted jointly by Dr. Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences (Dr. RP Center) AIIMS New Delhi, Regional Institute of Medical Sciences (RIMS), Imphal and Directorate of Health Services Manipur has successfully

completed.

A statement by Dr. Y. Chingsingamba Meitei, Co-investigator Natl. Blindness Survey said that a team of 24 members including 24 Ophthalmologists, 18 from AIIMS, 2 from RIMS and 4 local volunteers conducted the blindness survey from May 15 till May 27 this year. The survey is being

conducted under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India. The survey aims to cover 50 different clusters or village. Till May 25 50 villages were covered and 3000 were enumerated and 2733 individuals were examined for blindness and cause of blindness, the statement added.

Cyclone Mora in Bangladesh

Dhaka: Cyclone Mora made landfall in Bangladesh on Tuesday damaging several houses and packing winds of up to 117 kilometres per hour after authorities evacuated hundreds of thousands of people from the coastal areas. In a special bulletin, Bangladesh Meteorological

Department said the severe cyclonic storm Mora moved northwards over North Bay and started crossing the Cox's Bazar-Chittagong coast at 6 am (local time). It is likely to move in a northerly direction further, the bulletin said. Under its influence, gusty or squally wind with rain

or thunder showers were continuing over North Bay, and the coastal districts and maritime ports of Bangladesh. *The Daily Star* reported. Maximum sustained wind speed within 64 km of the cyclone centre was about 89 kmph rising to 117 kmph in gusts or squalls, the report said.

Speech presented by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh at the 66th NEC meeting held at New Delhi

Hon'ble Minister of DONER & Chairman of the North Eastern Council, Dr Jitendra Singhji, my Distinguished Colleagues & Members of the Council, Ladies and Gentlemen

It is a privilege for me to participate in this 66th North Eastern Council Plenary meeting and for giving me this opportunity to share our views on the agenda items and discuss issues of our concerns. I am also looking forward to an informative session on the action plan and strategy of line Ministries for faster development of North Eastern States. If there is any intervention and support required from my Government, we are committed to extend the same for a faster socio economic development of the State.

2. CONVERSION OF NEC SCHEMES TO CENTRAL SECTORS SCHEMES:

Sir, we are concerned that from the year 2017-18, all NEC projects and Ministry of DoNER programme having converted to Central Sector project, will now generally be implemented by Central Agencies. Funds will be released directly to State agencies through PFMS only with prior approval of Ministry of Finance till March 2020. We request Chairman Sir, to take up the issue with NITI Ayog and Ministry of Finance for restoration of NEC and NLCPR as Central Sponsored Scheme, so that State Agencies and Department may continue to implement the projects. You will agree with me that NEC and NLCPR have been a major support for bridging infrastructure gap in the North Eastern States. Implementation through Central Agencies only after March 2020 is not desirable for the NER and state Agencies. Central Agencies may not be able to appreciate fully the socio-economic implication of such projects in

the lives of the local people. State Departments like PWD and other agencies may be allowed to continue implementation of the NEC and NLCPR projects. We proposed that NEC and NLCPR schemes be considered as one of the core of CSS schemes, in the interest of people of the backward states of North Eastern Region of India. NITI Ayog's Restructuring Committee on CSS may be asked to re-look into our request in this regard.

3. ANNUAL PLAN FOR 2017-18

We support North Eastern Council's proposal of head wise Budget allocation of Rs.925.00 crores by giving thrust areas to Transport & Communication, Agriculture & Allied and Human Resource Management. Peoples aspirations and expectation from the new government of Manipur is tremendous and availability of fund is not much. However, we agree that there is need to give priority to completion of ongoing projects and take up new projects in core thrust areas of NEC in consultation with the State Governments. My State has already submitted priority list of projects for the Year 2017-18. We request NEC to select new projects from the State Priority List in consultation with State Government.

4. NORMATIVE ALLOCATION OF NEC BUDGET AMONG THE STATES:

We agree that there should be equitable and transparent distribution of fund among member States. NEC proposal to provide 60% of the NEC Budget for funding projects from Annual Priority Lists and to provide 12% of this allocation for Manipur is supported. For the remaining 40% of the NEC Budget being reserved for regional projects, NEC may identify new inter-state projects after detailed consultation with all member States to avoid concentration of resources on one or few states only.

5. DRAFT REGIONAL PLAN OF NORTHEASTERN COUNCIL

I understand that NEC proposal of draft NEC Regional Plan is for three years (2017-18 to 2019-2020) for an amount of Rs7500 crores with Annual Plan of Rs. 2500 crores for 2017-18. Budgeted allocation for 2017-18 is Rs925 crores. We support NEC proposal to request Government of India for providing additional fund of Rs. 1500 crores each year from NLCPR accruals or provide one time grant to complete ongoing projects, so that new projects and programmes of the new Government could be taken up. We support regional projects identified by NEC under NERSDS (North East Roads Sector Development Scheme) to be implemented by NHIDCL. We would like NEC to take up similar feasible inter-state roads, which connects Manipur with neighbouring states like Assam and Nagaland. Tamenglong-Tousem-Halfong Road, Tamei-Tenning Road are few NEC orphan roads in Manipur. My State will be submitting revised proposal under NERSDS. With regards to construction of small foot bridges essential in remote hill areas, I am of the opinion that such small projects should be taken up under other programmes and NEC should focus on large scale infrastructure projects.

6. LIVELIHOOD PROJECTS:

Improving livelihoods for people of Manipur is also a priority area of my Government. Community based sustainable livelihood projects assisted by IFAD and implemented by North Eastern Region Community Resource Management Society has been successfully completed in Ukhrul and Senapati. I am informed that NERCORMP has transformed the lives of the rural women of villages covered under this project. Based on the success of this project, expansion of this project is ongoing

under Phase-III at Chandel and Churachandpur District with funding from NEC. I understand that NEC and M/ oDONER is now proposing to launch Phase-IV project with financial assistance from IFAD. We request M/DoNER to include Tamenglong and Imphal East Districts for upliftment of the poor and weaker section of our Society. I also appeal for clearance of this project.

7. SPORTS & YOUTH ACTIVITIES:

Sir, as you are aware Manipur and other North East States have produced numerous medal winning National and International players, who have brought glory and pride to the Country. Recognising the talent and potential of our youth, a Sports University is being set up in Manipur. We are deeply thankful to Hon'ble Prime Minister for this. We are readying to start the University at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex, till new complex is constructed. This will greatly improve our performance at National and international level and the NE State can produce prominent players in the years to come. Here, I would like to draw your kind attention especially in the field of Football wherein the youths of the State and the North Eastern Region have shown great potential and talent. I strongly feel the need for establishing a Regional Football Academy which will harness and groom the youth from the beginning to specialise in the field of football so that they become world class football players. The youth and players of this academy could be human resource of the University in the field of football in years to come. The funding could be from several sources under the existing schemes of Ministry of Sports & Youth Affairs, Central NLCPR. NEC could provide gap funding.

(To be contd. tomorrow)