

2 State legislators pledge to give up cigarette on World No Tobacco Day

CM announces free diagnosis for all patients at government hospitals

IT News
Imphal, May 31: Two legislators of the state - Health and Family Welfare Minister L. Jyentakumar Singh and Parliamentary Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) S. Subashchandra Singh today pledged to give up cigarette in the presence of Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Smt. Anu

Priya Patel and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh while speaking on the World No Tobacco Day function held at JNIMS Auditorium today. This year theme on the observance is "Tobacco - a threat to development" and is jointly organised by the Directorate of Health Services Manipur and SHS, National Health Mission Manipur in collaboration with District Health Society Imphal East and Imphal West.

Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh and Union Minister for State for Health and Family Welfare Minister Anu Priya Patel while appreciating the bold decision of both the Health Minister L. Jyentakumar and Parliamentary Secretary S. Subashchandra said that along with the decision of the two legislators every one should follow the decision as it is to save life and money. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that his government will try everything to save the youths of the society from the menace of tobacco. He said the concern government department has been seizing chewing tobacco product as it has been already enforced in the state since 2003 by the

government. On the other hand N Biren also said that he will try to ban use of cigarette by enacting legislation under COTPA.

The Chief Minister also stated that from July 1 this year, the state government will introduce free diagnosis and treatment for all patients in all government hospitals including JNIMS and RIMS. He said that patient and the patient party will be provided medicines free of cost.

"This is a programme taken up under the initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the state government will make the dream of Prime Minister Narendra Modi come true in the state of Manipur", Biren said.

N. Biren further said that equipments required for treatment will be made available on partnership model with companies. But the charges for treatment will not be from the patient but will be from the hospitals which will be reimbursed later.

Dr. L. Swasti Charan, Chief Medical Officer, National Tobacco Control Programme while delivering key note speech pictured the danger

ahead due to use of tobacco products particularly in the state of Manipur. He said modalities for prevention on the use of Tobacco need to be implemented.

North East News Agency added
The World No Tobacco Day 2017 was widely observed across the state on Wednesday.

A cycle rally was held here on Wednesday to mark the day. Organised by the Directorate of Health and SHS, National Health Mission, Manipur, the rally was flagged off from the JNIMS auditorium.

RIMS Dental College also observed the World No Tobacco Day, as part of the observance.

India India, tobacco consumption is the highest in the six north-eastern states of Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Assam, as per an official data. WNTD 2017 was held under the theme "Tobacco a threat to development." It proposed measures that governments and public should take to promote health and development by confronting the global tobacco crisis.

Flash flood leaves many parts of Imphal valley submerged

IT News
Imphal/Thoubal May 31: Heavy rainfall in the past three days in Manipur spread panic among residents after water bodies including rivers and lakes were swollen, causing flash flooding in many parts of Imphal valley.

It has been reported that several houses were damaged in different parts of the state due to continuous rainfall. Official sources said that Imphal river had crossed danger level and that other major rivers were swollen due to heavy showers.

Many places in Khurai and Wangkhei of Imphal East have remained inundated with flood waters. Localities like Khurai Puthiba, Khurai Chingabam, Khurai Tellipati and Lainingthou Luwanga Laishang (temple) and a community hall have been submerged under several feet of flood waters. Water loggings in several parts of the capital were also reported.

Meanwhile, the front portion of Sekmai Dam over Sekmai river under Lamshang constituency was breached after heavy rainfall. Water level in Sekmai river was flowing above danger level, sources said.

Local MLA Salam Rajen accompanied by an official team that included Chief Engineer of Minor Irrigation took stock of the Sekmai Dam.

Officials said, "The damage portion of Sekmai Dam does not pose any threat to the dam itself."

The cyclonic storm Mora reached Northeast on Tuesday. The storm reached neighbouring Mizoram on Tuesday after it hit Bangladesh's Chittagong.

Due to the cyclonic storm, many parts of Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh received heavy to very heavy rainfall on Tuesday.

At least 80 houses were damaged in Mizoram's Saihah district after heavy rains accompanied by strong winds lashed the state yesterday. Incessant rains during the last couple of days have caused flooding in many areas of Thoubal and Kakching districts has left people there in a state of extreme worry as buildings, fish farms and agricultural fields were covered with water.

The biggest threat to life and

properties in Kakching district was received from the swelling Sekmai river which runs across Kakching, Keirak and Wabagai and its continuous overflowing has submerged vast spans of land, including residential areas and cultivated fields. The water level of the rivers ascended suddenly this morning and breached the banks at Wabagai Thingel Leikai creating a massive opening 70 metres long. The stream of flood water submerged around 50 houses, 60 pairs of agricultural land, homesteads and fish ponds.

On the other hand, in Thoubal district, the Wangjing river burst at the banks in two places namely Wanjing Sorokhaibam Leikai and Khundrakpam Leikai at around 6.30 pm in the evening inundating around 300 houses in the localities. However, there is no reports received about loss of human lives due to the floods.

MSF concedes death of volunteer

IT News
Imphal, May 31: The Manipuri Students' Federation has conceded the death of its volunteer Lairenjam Christopher, son of Kunjabihari, of Sagolband Nepra Menjor Leirak in a tragic accident on

May 29. The students' organization while expressing profound grief at the passing away pledged unflinching support to the programmes that his family members have in mind and prayed for tranquility at the heavenly abode.

'Will not implement beef ban'

Kohima: The Centre is examining representations given by states and some other organizations on the recent ban on sale and purchase of cattle at animal markets for slaughter. Union Minister Venkaiah Naidu talking to media in New Delhi yesterday said, the rules were notified in the backdrop of some observations made by the Supreme Court on preventing cruelty to animals and breaking nexus in animal markets including smuggling. He said, some issues were raised by a few state governments and other trade organizations and these are being examined by the government.

The new rules prohibit slaughter of cattle and establishment of animal market and slaughter houses. Meanwhile, Nagaland is not going to implement the Centre-imposed-ban on the sale of cattle for slaughter, Minister of Forest and Environment of Nagaland Imkong L. Inchen, informed media persons. The minister was of the view that the new rules affect the traditional food habit in Nagaland, where beef is a staple food. The Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee has also slammed the Centre for imposing the nation wide ban on sale of cattle for slaughter under the shelter of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960.

Prepak (P) sends warm regards on eve of Progressive Day

IT News
Imphal, May 31: The People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (Progressive) has sent warm regards to revolutionary organizations sharing the concepts and objectives of WESEA and the common masses on the occasion of seventh anniversary of Progressive Day.

In his statement, the chairman of the party L. Paliba has invited the fellow people for a discussion about their common faith at the time when the vulnerable and small community are sandwiched by the waves of globalization and anti-globalization. Even a developed country like

USA has adopted economics nationalism and is raising the slogan of USA first and promoting local products. The United Kingdom has exited from the European Union and many other EU countries are likely to follow in the footsteps of the United Kingdom. However in India, intense campaigns are being waged for securing socio-economy and cultural hegemony in the line of globalization, targeting to wipe out the economy, traditions, religious practices, ancient laws and governance methods of small communities, he said. Let us try to visualize the detrimental effects that will be falling on vulnerable small

communities from commencement of railway service, Asian highway, cultural university, Sports University, film and TV institution and other projects. Contrary to claims by Indian government of safeguarding human rights of individuals stone pelting strikers in Kashmir and a vocal supporter of human rights activist and writer Arundhati Roy were humiliated and made fun of. If the Indian government has serious objections in accommodation of other countries in discussion on Kashmir issue why is that it is approaching the International Court of Justice for saving Kulbushan Jadhav, he questioned.

KCP (MC-P) cracks down on decadent hotels

IT News
Imphal, May 31: The KCP (MC-Progressive) has stated that continuing its practice of overseeing various social issues occurring on a daily basis in the state, it will be giving extra attention on prevention of activities that have the potential to tarnish our society.

A press statement issued by the chairman of KCP (MC-Progressive) stated that during drives conducted by comrades of Operation Mangal in association with civilians at hotels in the heart of Imphal and others in its nooks and corners during the last few days, it was discovered that the owners of

the hotels have converted them to places for licentious acts and drinking orgies.

These hotels were found to be having detrimental influence on the marital relationship of husband and wife. The public will no longer feel shocked to hear the truth that these dissolute hotels are not just potent agents to destroy the dreams of young family members but they are also the breeding ground for perverse and violent activities against women and child.

The KCP (MC-P) is giving a chance for the operators of the hotels which had been

blacklisted to surrender and use an opportunity for rectification of their mistakes otherwise the party will be announcing the list of those hotels beyond redemption and they will be uprooted from the face of earth permanently.

The KCP (MC-P) has further accused the secretary of KCP (MJC) faction Sanathoi Singh of collecting money from Bheigyo Hotel in connivance with a hotel staff in its name by using methods outside the norms. The KCP (MC-P) has directed Sanathoi and the assistance manager of the hotel to surrender to the party.

AR personnel involved in Shanti murder: HRA, EEVFAM

IT News
Imphal, May 31: Human Rights Alert (HRA) and Extrajudicial Execution Victim Families Association Manipur (EEVFAM) have expressed suspicion that personnel of Assam Rifles have a role in the killing of Arabam Shanti in Moreh and asked the investigating agencies to probe this angle thoroughly. In a joint press statement released today, the two organizations reportedly conducted a public meeting in connection with the killing of Shanti at Premnagar Mandop, Moreh. The meeting was attended by the family members of the deceased, meira pabis, community elders and youths of Moreh.

The family members including Shanti's husband, her son and her sister described the fateful day in which half a dozen bullets were pumped into her body by two masked men coming in a bike on May 22, 2017 at around 4.00 PM. Her son who drives an auto-rickshaw took her to the hospital only to watch her succumb to her injuries. The Moreh Police station has drawn up a suo motto having FIR no. 25(5)2017 MRH-PS under section 302/34 IPC and 25(1-C) Armed Act dated 22 May 2017.

According to the statement, the killing took place in close proximity to the Assam Rifles (AR) camp and according to eyewitness who does not want to be named, an Assam Rifles

Gypsy was seen parked at a very short distance from spot of the killing. It is also pointed out that soon after the incident, some AR personnel came and picked up the empty cartridges lying at the crime scene.

"EEVFAM and HRA would like point out that if this act, if true, amounts to disturbing the crime scene and tempering valuable evidence, which raises serious questions about the motive of the AR in connection with the killing", the statement said.

This suspicion, it said, is also further corroborated by a report that when police apprehended two men moving in suspicious circumstances in a bike at midnight (intervening night of May 23 and 24) with small unregistered pistols, the

Commanding Officer of the 11 Assam Rifles stationed at Moreh resisted the police taking the duo to Imphal for interrogation. It is not clear how these two suspects were laid off without even recording their statements under section 161 of CrPC or registering FIR against them, it questioned.

Under these circumstances EEVFAM and HRA share the deeply held suspicion of the community that the role of AR in the killing of Shanti cannot be ruled out. The present investigation should thoroughly probe this angle. It is therefore recommended that the investigation should be handed over to the CB-CID and handled by a police officer or no lower rank than a DIG.

"EEVFAM and HRA are also shocked by the atmosphere of insecurity prevailing in the community and the fragile ethnic balance due to divide and rule policy. Even though, the truth is known to the community, no one dares to speak out openly or publicly protest against the killing. It is therefore recommend that the Government should immediately take such action so that the citizens of Moreh are secured and to fully enjoy the right to life, the right to freedom of expression, the right to freedom of association and assembly as guaranteed by the Constitution of India and international human rights instruments" the release stated..

Meritorious girl students get Scooties

North East News Agency Guwahati, May 30: Altogether 26 meritorious girl students from BPL families were given away Scooty by Education Department of BTC at a programme held at Girls' College in Kokrajhar on Tuesday.

Kampa Borgoyary, BTC deputy chief attended as chief guest on the occasion of ceremonially distribution of Scooties. A total 88 Scooties would be distributed among meritorious students of HS passed girl students, those who are from BPL background in four districts of the BTAD. Borgoyary, in his speech said that education department was working to uplift educational environment in the region with

providing educational facilities. He said that students' welfare to bring more integrated through quality education among students was prime vision of education department. He has urged students' community to be dedicated while taking higher careers in the life.

"We must be dedicated and hard work to meet perfect life through perfect career", Borgoyary said. BTC executive members Rajib Brahma, Doneswar Goary, Rabishankhor Borgoyary, BTC Education Director, Dr RN Sinha, Principal of Science College, Kokrajhar were prominent attendees at the event.