

AFSPA to be continued in various part of North East India including Manipur

IT News

Imphal, Nov 29: Election time promises by leaders of political parties assuring removal of disturb area status from the state of Manipur turn out to be another political gimmick to capture vote bank as no move is seen to be taken up for withdrawing of disturb

area status from the state. Controversial Arm Forces Special Powers Act 1958, is enforced in the state of Manipur and other part of North eastern states except in the 7 Assembly constituencies of Greater Imphal area.

Source said, that the Union Ministry of Home Affairs opines AFSPA as a useful act for the armed forces to control anti social element in the region.

Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba and senior officials of the Assam Rifles had stated the the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, headed by senior Congress leader P Chidambaram about the security situation of the North East states on Tuesday. During the meeting the Rajiv Gauba was quoted as saying that security situation improve in the north east states because of the imposition of AFSPA.

Mentioned may be made that, the then leaders of the BJP Manipur Pradesh had stated that once the party came to power in the state then the imposition of AFSPA will be removed by lifting the disturb area tag.

However, even after nearly 8 months in government, the BJP led government in the state has not initiated any proceeding to remove the disturb area status from the state of Manipur, a source said. It further added that the idea of lifting disturbed area status from the whole of the state is not advice from the Ministry of Home Affairs government of India.

On the other hand, with state assembly election knocking at the door for Nagaland, similar political gimmick is seen on the political theatre. Political parties of the state now showed serious concerns on AFSPA. Ruling NPF had taken up the issue of AFSPA with extra seriousness and now the Nagaland Pradesh Congress Committee, NPCC has extended support to the demand for removal of 'disturbed area' tag on Nagaland.

In a release, the NPCC stated that the proposal for extension of the existing disturbed area act in Nagaland is not necessary as the situation is largely peaceful and the centre is engaged in peaceful and inclusive negotiations with Naga political groups.

SBI donates Tipper Truck to IMC; Soft loans for street vendors in the pipeline: CM

IT News

Imphal, Nov 29: Chief Minister N. Biren has said that the State Government is considering to provide soft loans to the street vendors of Khwairamband Bazaar.

He was speaking as the Chief Guest at the occasion of donating a tipper truck to IMC by the Chief General Manager of SBI North East Circle at Khwairamband Bazaar today.

In his speech, the Chief Minister asked the officials of Municipal Administration Housing and Urban Development (MAHUD), Imphal Municipal Corporation (IMC) and women vendors of Khwairamband Bazaar to jointly study whether it is possible to provide an alternative livelihood to street vendors by arranging loans for them.

The Chief Minister informed the gathering that the State Bank of India (SBI) had agreed in principle to provide soft loans to street vendors of Khwairamband Bazaar. Stating that this arrangement is being considered to help the street vendors start their chosen livelihoods at their respective localities, homes and nearby markets, Shri N. Biren expressed hope that the said initiative would reduce traffic congestion and



improve cleanliness in the city considerably.

Maintaining that there has been remarkable improvement in the hill-valley relation in the recent past, the Chief Minister urged the people of valley districts to take proactive role in restoring the age-old hill-valley bonding. On the other hand, N. Biren also expressed pleasure on learning that the number of visitors to Keibul Lamjao National Park had increased manifold after a venue of Manipur Sangai Festival had been allotted to Keibul village this year.

Regarding various developmental projects

declared by the new Government, the Chief Minister said that all these projects would be executed without fail as the current Government understands that they would be rejected by the people if their promises are not translated into action.

The function was also attended by MAHUD Minister Th. Shyamkumar as president and IMC Mayor L. Lokeshwor, Commissioner (MAHUD) Dr. Prem Singh, Chief General Manager of SBI NE Circle PVSLN Murty and General Manager of Network-21 SBI NE Circle Dignanu Gupta as the guests of

honour. Speaking on the occasion, Th. Shyamkumar said that different works would be taken up as part of Imphal Smart City project soon.

Stating that women vendors and shopkeepers should not forget their responsibility in keeping the city neat and clean, Th. Shyamkumar contended that all the efforts of the Government would go in vain without their cooperation.

PVSLN Murty handed over the key of the tipper truck to N. Biren and L. Lokeshwor. The truck was gifted to IMC as part of SBI's Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojna

Imphal, Nov 29:

Department of Posts has launched a philately scholarship scheme "Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojna" on 03/11/2017 for generating interest regarding philately amongst Students of class VI to IX from a recognized School within India. The selection process will be consisting of two level I Level 1-Philately Quiz competition to be held on 20/12/17 at Divisional Office, Imphal at 11 am & Level-2-Philately Project J . Amount of Scholarship is to be Rs.6000/- per annum @ Rs.500/- per month. For further details kindly contact office of the Supdt. Of Post Offices, Imphal and contact no.03 B5-2450652

NPF (S) explained their position, stand on Naga issue

NEPS

Kohima, Nov 28: NPF (S), while signing Officials of Election Commission of India (ECI), told that the Naga people did not participate in the 1st General Elections of 1952 and the 2nd General Elections of 1957. ECI Officials are here at Kohima and holding a meeting with representatives of various political parties in Nagaland at Hotel Japfu on Monday. Senior NPF MLA Yitachu and Party Spokesperson Achumbemo Kikon represented NPF (S) in the meeting. They further reminded about the sequence of Naga political developments. They told the ECI as to how all Members elected on Cock Party tickets

resigned when Government of India and NNC for the first time signed ceasefire agreement in 1964 to facilitate a permanent solution to the Naga issue. When the Shillong Accord was signed in 1975, there was no popular Government, and under the President's Rule, violence spread all over the Naga area. In 1997, when the ceasefire was signed between Government of India and NSCN (IM), the Naga people wanted a solution and not election. This Cock Party as desired by the people did not participate in the 1998 Assembly Elections and for which the Party was derecognized and the Cock Symbol was frozen, the NPF(S) narrated. It further informed

their Party's Cock Symbol was restored when Dr. Shurhozelie contested the Lok Sabha elections in 1999. They asserted that now, the Party had taken a stand to pave way any day be it one day, one week, one month, one year or anytime in the event solution to the Naga issue was arrived at. Unconstitutional activities in the Party and in the Government should not be allowed to take refuge in the ECI by raising a Party dispute which would not be good for the country and more so in a sensitive State like Nagaland, they also cautioned. "Our priority as a party is a solution but in the event, a solution is not coming, then the

electoral process should not be hampered," the duo of NPF (S) stated.

With much difficulty, democracy and electoral politics have attained this status in the past 54 years and there should be a popular government at the time of solution so that the popular Government shall be the linkage between the people and the solution, they pointed out. "The party dispute should be resolved within one week time when the General Convention reports are submitted. The Party President is in Delhi with the General Convention reports as per your office order dated 17.10.2017," they informed the ECI Officials.

Varun Gandhi May Ditch BJP To Join Cousin Rahul's Congress: Reports

Source Outlook

New Delhi, Nov 29: If reports are to be believed, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP and late Sanjay Gandhi's son Varun Gandhi could join the Congress soon. Varun, who represents Sultanpur in the Lok Sabha, is not getting his due in the BJP and is being completely ignored despite his potential to become a major contender for the chief minister's post in the state, reported *India Today*, citing Congress leaders in Agra. Agra city Congress ex-president and UPPC member Ram Tandon told *India Today* that with his cousin, Rahul Gandhi, becoming the president of the party, it is

likely that Varun may join the Congress. Senior Muslim leader Haji Jameeluddin said Varun was being ignored in the BJP and that no other leader other than Narendra Modi is allowed to say his or her 'Mann Ki Baat' on public forums. According to *Zee News*, Varun, son of Union woman and child development Maneka Gandhi, has a notable following in Pilibhit-Sultanpur-Lakhimpur Khiri areas. On November 11, 2017, Varun

had said his surname Gandhi had helped him become a parliamentarian at the age of 29. Varun is seen making comments away from the party line in the recent time. Recently, he had said that Rohingya Muslims should be allowed entry in India after security vetting, evoking a sharp reaction from his party. Reacting to his remarks, Union minister Hansraj Ahir said those who have national interest in mind should not make such statements.

Emfa urges restrain on television reporting

Guwahati, Nov 28: Even though urging the news channels to exercise restrain over reporting on responsive issues, the Electronic Media Forum Assam (Emfa) expressed dismay at the way a State civil service officer slammed the media for a recent reporting. The active television media forum, while observing a video statement posted in Facebook by Ramanuj Hazarika, a 2015 batch Assam civil service officer-where he announced his losing respect for 'Assamese media' (read free-to-air news channels), fervently asked the young officer to rethink over the content of his outburst in the social media. It may be noted that Hazarika, the election officer

and executive magistrate of Dhemaji district in eastern Assam had resigned from his job on 23 November 2017 with an aim to prepare for the Union Public Service Commission examinations and he uploaded his statement after witnessing few news items relating to his resignation. He objected to the content of the news telecast by a section of media outlets saying that Hazarika's resignation at the time of 'cash for job scam' under Assam Public Service Commission run examinations carried significance (read apprehension) as over 25 young ACS, APS and allied services officers (who had cleared the APSC examinations) were behind bars for corruption in the

selection processes. Need not to mention that hundreds of Assam government officials were arrested on corruption charges soon after the Bharatiya Janata Party led government took power at Dispur by May 2016 under the leadership of Sarbananda Sonowal, who maintains in his repeated public statements that the authority would not compromise with the corruption. The news item speculated primarily for two reasons as the public opinion in Assam were in favour of scanning all the answer-scripts of APSC run examinations under the chairmanship of Rakesh Kumar Paul (who is also facing trials after arrest) since 2015 and secondly, why

it emerged necessary for an ACS officer to resign (not applying for longer leaves) from his job to appear in UPSC run examinations. "We agree that an officer can resign and prepare for a better opportunity any time he prefers. But the timing of Hazarika's resignation carries significance as the investigation process to identify all the tainted ACS/APS officers (including his 2015 batch mates) is still on," said a statement issued by the Emfa. The forum appreciates that Hazarika, even after many hurdles in life carried a brilliant academic career to finally complete his M Phil from the Jawaharlal Nehru University after MA from the same university

and graduation from the Hindu College under Delhi University successfully. "However, carrying excellent marks in examinations does not necessarily that the particular student would be good (honest) in his/her life," added the Emfa statement advising Hazarika to wait for the logical (legal) conclusion of APSC cash for job scam before launching a crusade against the media as a whole. The statement was issued by Nava Thakuria (president), Paragmoni Aditya (working president), Chayamoni Bhuyan (vice-president), Bimal Ghosh (general secretary), Bhaskarjyoti Bhuyan (treasurer) for Emfa, Guwahati, Assam

IOA formally recognises Boxing Federation of India

PTI

New Delhi, Nov 29: The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) was today recognised as a national body by the Indian Olympic Association, which removed the terminated Indian Amateur Boxing Federation (IABF) as its affiliate after months of indecision. The BFI, already recognised by the International Boxing Association (AIBA) and the Sports Ministry, finally got the IOA's nod, which had IABF registered as the official body till now. "The Olympic Charter clearly says that the sporting federation must be recognised by the international body. So the just followed that, the BFI has been recognised by the AIBA. Therefore the IOA

has ratified the Olympic charter. It was a unanimous decision," BFI President Ajay Singh told PTI on the sidelines of an IOA meeting here. The IOA's decision is expected to end the IABF's attempts at reviving itself. The body, which was first suspended and then terminated by AIBA for manipulation in elections, has been trying to keep itself afloat by organising a couple of meetings with its former members in the past few months. The Sports Ministry had earlier barred IABF from using India as it was no longer a national federation. The BFI assumed office last year after elections conducted in the presence of observers from the AIBA and the Sports Ministry.