

Bomb placed at MLA's residence

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: A Chinese made hand grenade was found today at the residence of Sekmai Assembly Constituency, Heikham Dingo at Khurkhu Awang leikai at around 7.00 am today. The hand grenade was found lying near a Gul Mohar tree at the premises of the MLA's residence. Police bomb disposal squad team which arrived at the spot retrieved the hand grenade. Report said that those placing the bomb might not have wanted to blast it or either they have no idea of how to blast the bomb, as the hand grenade was found without pulling the lever. No organisation or individual has claim responsibility for the placing of the hand grenade.

Combing operation

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: Imphal East Police team under the supervision of its SP today conducted search operation at various areas of the district to flush out anti social elements. Source from the police said that the search operation is being conducted as security measures ahead of the visit of Dalai Lama here in the state. The police team led by DSP Imphal East Police Robinson Khamnam and Officer-in-charge CDO I/E Lunthang Vaiphei conducted cordon and search operation as Haokip Veng and Mahabali Awang leikai area. As per information from the police a total of 260 persons including 60 women were verified. There is no report of any arrest.

Intl. Day for Disaster Reduction

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: International Day for Disaster Reduction was observed today Modern College. The observance was jointly organized by Department of Relief & Disaster Management and Deputy Commissioner, Imphal East. Vice Chairman of State Disaster Management Authority, Adim Pamei, DC Imphal East, Th Chitra were present at the observance. A mock drill on disaster management participated by personnel of SDRF and officials from various departments was also held as part of the observance. Deputy Commissioner, Imphal East, Th Chitra said the day was observed to give awareness on how face calamities and provide relief to the victims.

CM Biren terms Tera blast "Terrorist Act"; KCP claims responsible; people protests

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: Manipur Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh has termed yesterday's blast at temporary amusement park Tera Lukram Leirak that injured 11 persons including a lady and a minor as Terrorist act while the KCP claims responsible of the blast. In his Facebook post, Chief Minister N. Biren said, "I strongly condemn the blast; this is a terrorist act and nothing else", "I do share the

sentiment of the victim families". Meanwhile, Banned militant outfit Kangleipak Communist Part (Peoples War Group), in an email circulated to local media houses, has claimed responsible for powerful bomb blast at the amusement park. The outfit has expressed "satisfaction" over the blast and warned the local people against participation in fairs and carnivals. In the past too, the outfit had warned people against the

"I strongly condemn the blast; this is a terrorist act and nothing else", "I do share the sentiment of the victim families".

practice of gambling and participation in local fairs. Among the injured persons a woman and a child received serious injuries in the blast and their condition remained critical. The bomb exploded at around



7 pm. The explosive was suspected to be a hand grenade as police later recovered a hand grenade lever. Meanwhile, locals of Tera today protested against the blast condemning of triggering the grenade at crowded public place.



Manipur Maoist condemns blast

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: Maoist Communist Party, Manipur (MCPM) today condemn yesterday bomb blast at Tera Lukram leirak which left 10 civilian injured. In a press statement, the outfit termed such an act as illogical and injustice. It said the Maoist Manipur had never indulged in any such action which will hurt

civilians. It further added that such act like bomb blast in public places might be an architect to sabotage the wecklong protest being prepared the Maoist Manipur to protect the indigenous people of the state from November 11. The Maoist also said that to sabotage the mega movement for protection of the indigenous people of the state

there are possibilities that state machineries or whoever not in favour for protection of the indigenous people may target outsiders to divert and suppress the peoples movement. Or the government might use technique like some organisations imposing economic blockade or bandh. The armed outfit appealed people to be aware of any such

attempt. The Maoist Manipur also said that they are waging war against the government but they are urging the government authority to formulate a legislation for protection of the Indigenous people of the state. The outfit also appeal all sections of people to jointly struggle for the protection of indigenous people.

Chief Minister graces UKAL'S Mera Meepham

DIPR
Imphal, Oct. 14: Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has said that educating the masses about the philosophies, implications and components of Lai Haraoba can do wonders in strengthening the sense of oneness among the people of different communities of the State. He was speaking as the chief guest at Mera Meepham (Annual Conference of Umang Lai Haraoba) organised by Umang Lai Kanba Apunba Lup (UKAL) at Maharaja Chandrakirti Auditorium, Palace Compound, Imphal today. N. Biren said that tranquility remained elusive in the State due to paying less attention to the common history, culture and origin shared by the people of hill and valley for quite a long time. Stating that the present State Government has been giving due importance to preserving

the age-old traditions and culture of the State, Shri N. Biren said that within a few months after they came to power, the Joint Interrogation Cell was shifted from Kangla. He asserted that the sacred Kangla is now free from all forms of impurity and it has regained its real essence. Informing that the Government is making cost estimates for the construction of a bridge over Imphal River to enable opening of the eastern gate of Kangla, Shri N. Biren said that he had studied the old map of the fort for the said purpose. Mentioning the brilliance and achievements of Manipuri people in different fields, the Chief Minister said that the world would acknowledge the ancient high civilization of the Manipuris if the Puyas (ancient scriptures of Manipur) are translated into English and Hindi.



Art and Culture Minister L. Jayantakumar and Organising Committee Chairman Prof. Ng. Kangjija Mangang were the guest of honour and president of the function respectively. Speaking at the occasion, L. Jayantakumar said that every community of the world has the tendency of tracing their origin and blood relations.

Stating that the philosophies and meanings implicated in Lai Haraoba are so significant in terms of studying the origin of the universe and the life cycle of human beings, the Minister opined that utmost care must be given to avoid alteration of its original form due to addition of alien components.

CORCOM to observe October 15 as National Black Day; calls total shut down

IT News
Imphal, Oct 14: Conglomerate of major rebel groups of the region CORCOM is observing October 15 as National Black Day resisting the annexation of the erstwhile Independent nation Manipur (Kangleipak). CORCOM is the joint body of the major rebel groups of the region UNLF, PREPAK, RPF and PREPAK (Pro). In a press statement, the joint body said that there will be

total shut down in all the region of Manipur (Kangleipak) from midnight today to 6 pm tomorrow as a part of the National Black Day observance. While calling upon the people of section to support the total shut down call, CorCom said that emergency services, medicals, media and fire service will be exempted from the purview of the total shut down. Advocating their stand, the

statement said that after restoring independence from the hand of the British, Manipur already had its own constitution and conducted democratic election in 1948 before India. Despite the fact that Manipur had its own council of Minister to run the erstwhile nation, the Indian authority had forcibly made the then king of Manipur signed the controversial Merger agreement on September 21,

1949 at Shillong under duress without the consent of the people of the region and the council of Ministers. Later on October 15, 1949 Manipur was forcibly annexed to the Indian nation, said the statement. The CorCom statement further said that since the merger, people of the reason has been waging war against the government of India for restoration of Independence of the erstwhile nation.

Tune out within dark

By: Indrakanta Ngangbam
Imphal, Oct. 14: Hope and persistence can make everything possible. It is seen in a Pena artiste who lost both her kidneys and woke up from the death bed to promote the traditional musical art of the state representing cultural shows in different parts of the globe and nurturing young folk art lovers.

Trained under the guidance of Padmashree Khangembam Mangi, Ngasam Durgeshori Devi became a Pena exponent contributing in the promotion of the unique Pena music of traditional Manipur showcasing in different platforms. However, remained like an unsung personality. When this journalist came across her, the history she narrated about her career and struggle turned out to be iconic besides her unpopularity among the masses.

Ngasam Durgeshori, a 33 year old girl from Thangmeiband Lourung Pural Leikai, Imphal was fond of music since her early childhood when she was in class III. She learnt Hindustani modern music and traditional dance during her early life. After she entered the Jawaharlal Manipur Dance Academy in Imphal she became acquainted with the Pena, traditional musical art/ traditional musical instrument. "I love and practice various types of music and dances, but decided to take up Pena with the motive to promote our less listened music inherited to the people through generations. It appeared as if it remained practiced only in rituals in festivals like Lai Haraoba", said Durgeshori.

"I was very happy when my parents bought me a harmonium, but I was even more happy when I get a Pena", said Durgeshori.

She said she practices Pena to promote traditional art form which is less popular to the youth and feared for extinction with the emerging different forms of modern music. Pena was not practiced by woman in early days, but today it became acquainted with girls too, added Durgeshori.

She is one best among few girls who practice Pena. She is the only girl Pena artiste who was rewarded scholarship by the ministry of culture. Young Talent Scholarship, 2011. She was associated with Laihui, a popular traditional musical organization, in the state. She teaches the local youth the art when she gets time out of her busy schedules. She has also produced a girl child Pena artist who was rewarded national scholarship, which too was the first for a girl child to get a scholarship in Pena.

She is at present working at Anjika society for Manipuri dance and moment therapy musical institute at Kolkata as a multi art performer and instructor. At the same time she is also serving as music and dance guru in a school in Imphal. Durgeshori travelled in different parts of the world like Indonesia, Brunei, Cambodia, Singapore China etc. She remains busy travelling throughout the nation and abroad showcasing the unique art of Pena and its associated

folk dances and ballets. After graduation she completed her master's degree at Manipur University in Dance.

During her career she was diagnosed with both kidney failures in 2013. A couple of years went by and she got her kidney transplant at AIIMS, Delhi. She was almost dead with the Hemoglobin content just at 1 (four) as against the normal 12.5. She didn't lost hope.

"While I was lying weak in the hospital bed, I sing the lyrics of Pena in my heart and mind even though I couldn't sing them out. I believed I will live and sing loud", said Durgeshori.

After her transplant she struggled to recollect her knowledge and began to write musical lines and slowly picks up the lost vocal and the tune of Pena out of her darkest part of life. She resumes her performances and continue teaching and preaching the folk art. She got the kidney form her younger brother. Durgeshori is the only girl among four children in the family.

"It was unbelievable that she survived and remains courageous with even after both kidneys were failed, I admire her spirit. But sad, nobody knows the reality", Th. Th. Sangeeta, national award winner in dance.

She said there are different forms of Pena of different tribes in Manipur. If a common platform is given and organised Pena festivals regularly, it will certainly help in bringing positive integrity in the state. She also said the appearance of Tangkhul during Lai Haraoba festival shows that the hill and valley people are brothers. Lai Haraoba festival is incomplete without a Tangkhul Lad with his spear. "Pena can remove the division between the hill and valley people in the state.

After returning from Indonesia, Brunei, and Cambodia after showcasing my performance, I was preparing to perform at Singapore. However I became sick and doctors told me of failure of both the kidneys. It was my most socking part in Life. My career was seized while I was at AIIMS. I was worried if I could come back. But the determination and faith in God has brought me to how I am today. During my dialysis I didn't stop writing notes of the music and practice when I can sit up. With the blessings of the almighty and my determination I am able to continue. Said Durgeshori.

Her life never ends to struggle. Her parents were daily earners. Her beloved mother passed away last year after suffering in hospital with cancer. Her father who is a Mukna (traditional sport) exponent remains weak. She never shows off her woes to anyone, remained singing the Pena. Durgeshori is jolly to all and one can see only smiles on her face every time. She is still surviving with costly medicines being procured by her own earning while at the same time supporting her family. She regularly visits hospital for checkups. Her Pena tune never fails to fill the neighbouring air everyday.