

## University of Culture in trouble : A-Block locked down

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Students of Manipur University Culture, Palace Compound today lock down A-Block department of the university against non-commencement of classes of this year first semester batch. Speaking to the media persons, Y. Homeshwor, General Secretary of Manipur University of Culture Students' Union said that despite the fact that many new students have been enrolled for this year first semester in the university, classes have not commenced till date. The Manipur Government has already passed the Manipur University of Culture Bill - 2015, since than from 2016 the first batch classes for the graduate second semester has already begun. As the University Administrative Block failed to initiate their duty, the union

## One died in road accident

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** In a tragic accident occurred today at Jaipur Khunou in Bishnupur District, one 63 year old woman, died at the spot when a passenger diesel auto vehicle and a winger vehicle collided. According to a report, the incident occurred at around 9:30 am when one Winger passenger vehicle bearing registration number MN-02-B0997 coming from Churachandpur and one diesel auto passenger vehicle bearing registration number MN-06-SA3413 coming from Nambol to Bishnupur side collided. The deceased have been identified as one Haobam Ningol Thoubam Ongbi Ibetombi (63), wife of (Late) Thoudam Nongthamba of Keinou Thongthak Awang Leikai. The dead body of the deceased has deposited at RIMS morgue. An FIR has been register by Bishnupur Police in connection with the accident.

## Water level recedes, but many areas still affected

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Though the water level of major rivers running in Imphal areas have been receded from the danger level as rain have stop showering, many areas in and around the Imphal city are still affected due to artificial flood cause by failed drainage systems. The water level of Nambal and Imphal rivers is receding slowly even as some part of the low laying areas of both the rivers are still facing floods.



Many of the drainage are overflowing with water causing artificial floods. Sagolband, Uripok,

Naoremthong, Keisamthong, Lambol, Khongnangkong, Pishumthong and many areas in Imphal West district are facing artificial floods. Likewise, Porompat, Nongmeibung, Wangkhei Angom Leikai, Ayangpalli and some of the areas in Imphal East district are also facing the problems of artificial floods due to unavailability of proper drainage system. On the other hand, many of the paddy fields in the state which are ready for harvesting have been affected at large scale due to the recent non-stop rains showered in the state. Paddy farmers are left saddened with their hands on the head staring at their already seasoned paddy fields which have been submerged under the water.

## Nepotism and favouritism alleged in the selection of books by Education Dept.

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Irabot Foundation Manipur has alleged nepotism and favouritism to the selection of books by the Directorate of Education (S) Govt. of Manipur for the current year 2017. In a statement, the organisation said that authors and publishers of the state had submitted their books as per an order issued by the Directorate of Education (S). The order issued on June 29, 2017 stated to submit books published after 2014 June 30. However, in another order issued by one Diki Doma Bhutia, Joint Director (H), Directorate of Education (S), which did not have any date,

list of the selected authors was seen stick at the pillar of the gate of Director of Education (S) office. Name of the nine (9) authors along with their 2/3 books or 4/5 books published in the same year were listed. The Irabot Foundation Manipur questions about the rationale behind issuing of order without date. The organisation stated of the books selected four to five are written by a single author among the nine which the organisation stated it as not justified. The organisation further questioned the rationale behind the selections of 2/3 or 4/5 books of one author when many are left unnoticed.

It further stated that the bureaucrats who are responsible for the selection are trying to defame good image of the present government. The organisation also stated that if the government is serious about the condition of the author of the state it could have select at least 1/1 books of each author. It also expressed apprehension about the presence of some relatives of the selected authors to the 'book selection committee'. Drawing the attention of the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, the Irabot Foundation Manipur appealed for immediate intervention to the selection of the books.

## Manipur Maoist threatens general strikes over misappropriation of PDS items

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Maoist Communist Party Manipur has alleged misappropriation of PDS items in connivance with the PDS and CAF Minister. In a statement, the outfit stated that the PDS items which are supposed to be made available to the poor people of the state under the National Food Security Mission has been hijacked by some persons including Naoba, a right hand of the MLA of Lamlai Assembly Constituency, Gobai of Khurai Assembly Constituency, Momon, brother of Kshetrigao Assembly constituency and

one Manglemjao of Kongba who is also a brother of a former student leader. The statement said that these persons in connivance with the PDS and CAF Minister has been hijacking the PDS items meant for distribution to the people. The Maoist also alleged these persons to be supported by some rebel groups as well as those in the power. The outfit further stated that whether these people have hijacked the PDS items or not could be easily find out if agency like CBI or NIA investigated over the matter and checked their bank accounts. Demanding punishment of

these people and resignation of the PDS and CAF Minister, the Maoist Manipur said that if the demands are not listened then they will call general strike on November 2. On the other hand, the outfit also stated that due to the frequent flood in the state the outfit will postpone its called for mass agitation for protection of the indigenous people. It said, while knowing that calling general strike will burden the poor and daily wage earner but as the outfit is left with no choice it will call general strike on Nov. 2 for the shacked of the common people.

## Computer literacy is a must to face challenges: Khasim Vashum

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Parliamentary Secretary, Transport and Planning, Manipur, Khasim Vashum attended the valedictory function of "3-months Certificate Course in Computer Application" (Border Area Development Programme) at ICM, Lamphel today. Speaking as Chief Guest, he said that in today's Information Technology age, computer literacy is a must to perform a task and face challenges. He also said that Manipur is home to famous doctors and scientists who mostly had studied and practised outside the State. He also stressed on the need to create awareness to the people and students residing in the hilly border areas who still have no idea about computer. Expressing his satisfaction on maintenance of good relationship among the teachers, staffs and students of ICM, he said that he would be happier if the institute caters and provides the required training to the students living in the remote areas of the state who are still deprived of the facilities of computer literacy. The 3 months residential certificate course which started from 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2017 is availed by 50 students from the border areas of Ukhrul district.

Training was given on word processing, excel spreadsheet, power point, image editing using photoshop and various aspects of internet. The course was organised by the Institute of Cooperative Management, Imphal under the sponsorship of Planning Department, Government of Manipur. Out of the 50 trainees, Miss SP Khankhamsi was adjudged as an all-rounder student and presented with a citation in today's function. Apart from the computer course, an Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) of 10 days as well as a 3-days Orientation on Health and Nutrition and Fruit & Vegetable Preservation was also incorporated in the 3 months residential course in collaboration with MSME-DI. Attending the function as the Functional President, Dr. Th. Munindro Singh, Director, Planning Department, Manipur, also exhorted the trainees while feeding them with some take home messages. He also distributed Course completion certificates to the trainees. The valedictory function was also attended by Dr. N. Ranjana Devi, Director, ICM, Debrabrata Mitra, Deputy Director, MSME-Development Institute, K. Joychandra Singh, Course Coordinator/Sr. Faculty, ICM and Faculties and students of ICM.

## JAC accepted dead body of Premilla

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Death body of Naorem Ongbi Premilla Devi, which has been lying at RIMS morgue since October 6 has been received by the family and the JAC formed against the death of the deceased after suspension of the doctor, at which the JAC alleged as the reason for her death. Naorem Ongbi Premilla Devi of

Toubul died at Bishnupur district hospital on Oct. 5 evening. Family and relatives blamed the doctor on duty at the hospital for the death of Premilla. On Oct. 6 JAC was formed and a memorandum was submitted to the Chief Minister and the Health Minister seeking stringent action against the doctors and other hospital staffs for

dereliction of duty. While meeting with the government authority, the JAC has been informed about the suspension of the doctor following which the JAC accepted the death body for performing her last rite. A statement by the JAC however said that not all the demands has been fulfilled by the government.

## PFI lambasts BJP government

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Oct 23:** Chairman of the Popular Front of India (PFI), E Abubacker in a statement said that Sangh Pariwar is again intensively taking out the communal card in their attempt to avoid the grave governance failures becoming national discussion and polarise people ahead of

election. A statement Manipur state PFI said that the performance of the UPA government since they came to power in 2014 has been a historic failure by all standards. While the government invariably served the interests of the corporate and the rich, the large majority of the citizens suffered due to

anti-people policies like note ban and GST. In BJP ruled Uttar Pradesh, while babies continue to die at hospitals due to the lack basic facilities, the chief minister Yogi Adityanadh is busy organizing mass religious events. The front also alleged the BJP of playing communal games in electoral politics.

## A New Perspective of Urban Planning for Vision 2030-Manipur

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Imphal valley is the birthplace of one of the earliest human civilizations in the north eastern region of India. The oval shaped Imphal valley covers an area of 1,843 sq. km approximately and situated 2567 feet high above the mean sea level. The area of Imphal Valley after the deduction of 600 sq. km of Loktak Lake is 1243 sq. km which is less than that of Delhi with an area of 1,484 sq. km. The valley is a natural gift of fertile agricultural land with the fertility being naturally renewed through flooding by the rivers. The valley with majority of urban centers is the focal point of population. The main issue of urbanization in Imphal valley is that it is taking place at the wrong area and is beset with many problems. Imphal city is the major urban center where the

populations as well as facilities are concentrated. With the increase in population due to natural growth as well as migration from rural areas, there is a great pressure on the infrastructure of Imphal city. Imphal city is now facing a myriad number of problems - traffic congestion, lack of parking space, flooding due to bad drainage, lack of water supply, lack of sewerage system, environmental degradation etc.. Possibility of the occurrence of flood every year is the biggest worry of a majority of people in Imphal city and other areas of the valley.

Another important aspect of the urbanization process is the loss of fertile agricultural land. The ongoing population growth and urbanization is fuelling the conversion of much of the best agricultural lands to non-farming uses. Once agricultural land is designated or developed for non-farming uses it is unlikely that it can be restored to produce agriculture. It can take thousands of years to produce just one centimeter of

new topsoil needed to sustain food and farm production. Agricultural land is very scarce in Manipur. The valley constitutes just one-tenth of the total area. Development of agriculture and farming is essential for the growth of other sectors of the economy. Protection of agricultural land resources is necessary for the growth of a sustainable economic development, job creation, investment and growth.

All these issues are to be dealt in urban planning. Urban planning is a technical and political process concerned with the development and use of land, planning permission, protection and use of the environment, public welfare, and the design of the urban environment, including air, water, and the infrastructure passing into and out of urban areas, such as transportation, communications, and distribution networks. Regional planning deals with the efficient placement of land use activities, infrastructure, and settlement growth across a larger

area of land than an individual city or town. Regional planning is a subfield of urban planning as it relates land use practices on a broader scale. Urban and regional planners develop land use plans and programs that help create communities, accommodate population growth, and revitalize physical facilities in towns, cities, villages, and metropolitan areas.

There is an urgent need to take up the urban planning from a new perspective. The new perspective is to take a holistic view of the Imphal valley as a whole with its surrounding foothills for urban and regional planning. From this perspective, the urban centers can be located on the foothills, where the fertility of the soil is low. The central valley can mostly be reserved for agricultural and allied activities. The location of growth centers on the foothills has the advantage of unlocking a vast untapped potential-irrigation, power, water supply, tourism, industrial growth centers etc. (Contd on page 2)