

Rashtriya Sankalp Diwas observed; Manipur's integrity will never be disturbed: CM

Imphal, Oct. 31: Chief Minister N. Biren has said that State's integrity will never be disturbed.

He was speaking at Rashtriya Sankalp Diwas (National Re-dedication Day) which was organised to mark the death

anniversary of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at Secretariat South Block today. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar graced the occasion as chief guest and president respectively.

The Chief Minister said that he has full trust in Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assurance on Manipur's territorial integrity issue.

As such, people need to shun all forms of discord, mistrust and blame-game at this juncture, he added.

As Manipur is home to many ethnic communities, people need to learn to sacrifice and share, the Chief Minister said while adding that the State must concentrate more to bringing unity and maintaining harmony, he added.

The Chief Minister informed that different developmental works would commence soon after the retreat of rain. In this regard, he sought co-operation from the bureaucrats and officials.

Observing that the State has very short working season, the Chief Minister asked the officials to work over time when the weather permits.

The Chief Minister exhorted the people of the State to adopt the idea of Nation and State first. He urged them to equip themselves to become the 'warriors' of the Nation towards bringing progress, unity and development.

N. Biren said that the bold decision of storming Golden Temple to drive out militants cost the former Prime Minister her life. However, her decision strengthened India as a Nation, the Chief Minister contended.

As such, no citizen of the country should forget to honour the late leaders, the Chief Minister said while adding that it is because of their sacrifices that India is now standing as a strong Nation.

Speaking at the occasion, Y. Joykumar remembered Indira

Gandhi as a strong leader, who had the courage to take a hard decision, when there were possibilities of disturbance to the national integrity.

Had Indira Gandhi not taken the decision of driving out militants from Golden Temple, Punjab could have been separated from India, the Deputy Chief Minister opined. As such, fitting tribute must be given to the late Prime Minister by the current generation, he added.

Y. Joykumar also urged the people to take the responsibility of protecting the integrity of India and Manipur.

Ministers, MLAs, Chief Secretary R.R. Rashmi, DGP L.M. Khaute and top civil and police officers also attended the function.

Film Forum bans two actors

IT News

Imphal, Oct 31: Film Forum Manipur has banned two actors over failure to comply with the rules and regulation of the forum. The Forum appeals all directors and producers to stop signing up with the two actors or cancelled any contract with the two actors if signed up already. The

two actors are Khundongbam Ajit, S/o Kh. Thambiyou of Keishamthong from Pukhri Mapal and Priyobratra Mairembam of Moirang Leirambam Leikai, also producer of Ningthempokpa Film Production. The ban of the two film personality was announced by the Chairman of Film Forum

Manipur S. Mangoljao today. The ban will continue until the two brought an understanding with the Film Forum Manipur, said S. Mangoljao. Secretary General of the Forum Ng. Ghanashyam Information & Communication Secretary of the Forum Rakesh Naorem appeals people to cooperate with the film.

Tribute paid to late Indira Gandhi on 33rd death anniversary

IT News

Imphal, Oct 31: Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee also observed the Rashtriya Sangkalp Diwas to mark the 33rd death anniversary of late Prime Minister Indira Gandhi at Congress Bhavan at BT road today.

Opposition leader Okram Ibobi Singh, MP Dr. T. Meina, MPCC President TN Haokip, other Congress MLAs, former Ministers and former MLAs attended the observance function.

Speaking on the occasion, Okram Ibobi recalled the stand of late Prime Minister for the unity of the country as well the state of Manipur.



Imphal Times staff reporter, Laishram Ranbir, son of Late Laishram Ibohanji Singh of Wangkhei Tokpan Leikai, Imphal East receiving the 1st prize and 2nd prize which includes mementos and cash for spot photography contest on lifestyle and fauna category during the 2nd Kwatha Festival held at Kwatha Village, Tengnoupal District. Laishram Ranbir had received 3rd prize on fauna category on the 1st Kwatha Festival held last year.

Photo credit: Radakanta (aarkay)

Villagers decry over pathetic road condition

Laishram Ranbir

Imphal, Oct 31: Promises made for better road infrastructures in the state turn as another joke when it comes to link roads of the most of the city areas and villages, roads have more potholes than carpeted and smooth surface. The potholes are so large that even drivers of four-wheelers have to think twice before commuting on these roads.

During a random check of link road of Kwatha Village in Tengnoupal District, revealed that the dilapidated condition of the Kwatha Village to Kwatha Lamkhai road has not only piqued residents and locals, but also exposed negligence on part of the state government's high pitched slogans of development. Despite being assured by numerous ministers and MLAs for the construction of the very road, one can witness that the village has been totally ignored during the course of development in Tengnoupal District.

The historic Kwatha village, the last and only Meitei village in the border area, where festival like Kwatha Festival and traditional Lai-Haraoba functions was still held no government was serious to the conditions of the road infrastructures.

Obviously, residents of the village are up in arms against the poor condition of the link road which leads to Asian Highway. The road, full of large potholes and broken brims, is virtually non-motorable.

"The situation worsens during the monsoon when water potholes are filled with water and the road starts to run will slippery mud water, it becomes too difficult to drive vehicles, especially two-wheelers and four-wheelers on the road," said Lukhoi, a local resident.

The village, which has the Memorial of establishment of

the Village and the historical tree at the foot of the memorial which was once struck by lightning, is being visited by a number of visitors.

"The pathetic condition of the road not only causes inconvenience to visitors but also leaves a bad impression of the area on them," the residents said.

The poor road condition of the village has also been posing a big hurdle to the farmers in sending their produce to the nearby markets. The disappointed people of the village area have over the years been demanding the State Government for early repair of the road, though their collective pleas have not been taken seriously by the powers that be over the past many years.

Expressing strong resentment the locals have even shown less interested on the state government verbal assurance which does not put into work. With 73 houses and 315 Population, Kwatha Village in Tengnoupal District is the last surviving only Meitei establish village in the Indo-Myanmar Border area.

The village is famous for the production of *SOIBUM* (fermented bamboo shoots) in the state.

25 houses of the village are still taking the oath of Meitei religion while the rest have converted into Christian religion.

Unfortunately it is sad to describe that no concern or state government have shown any interest to develop the village, even many of the contractors seems to taken the advantages for their own benefit submitting fake work completion documents without even carrying out in real.

Who to blame, state government or the contractors, that's the only question, remains as of now. If necessary processes are not taken up, one day one will not be able to witness the village except for namesake.

Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel remembered on 142th Birth Anniversary Governor, chief minister flag off 'Run for Unity'

DIPR

Imphal, Oct. 31: Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh flagged off 'Run for Unity', from Khuman Lampak Main Stadium today.

The run was organised as part of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) celebration, which commemorated the 142nd birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Speaking at the occasion as the Chief Guest, Dr. Najma Heptulla said that India is proud of its diverse communities and religion, and this diversity became a unity because of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

Stating that India comprised of numerous princely States earlier, Smt. Heptulla said that it was because of the Iron Man of India Sardar Patel, India became a unified country. As such, it is appropriate to celebrate his birth anniversary as the National Unity Day, the Governor added.

Remembering Sardar Patel as a dedicated lawyer, Dr. Heptulla stated that duty was of utmost importance for him. Dr. Heptulla said that Sardar Patel kept on discharging his duty even when he was informed about his wife's demise.

The Governor further said that she has emotional attachments to many of the frontline freedom fighters, Dr. Heptulla said these freedom fighters spent many years in jails for the independence of India, which the people of the current generation are enjoying today.

She urged the public to take a pledge to follow the ideals and

path of these freedom fighters. Chief Minister N. Biren and Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Letpao Haokip were the president and guest of honour of the occasion.

In his speech, N. Biren remembered Sardar Patel as a farsighted leader, who could envision India's potential of emerging as a leading country in the world through its unity in diversity.

The Chief Minister said that Sardar Patel knew that the princely States of India would falter if they were not unified as a Nation.

Speaking about Manipur, the Chief Minister said that like India, Manipur would fall apart if its diverse communities are not unified.

Maintaining that raising unity slogan alone would not serve any purpose at this juncture, the Chief Minister observed that people should not only put in serious efforts to maintain harmony but also shun all forms of activity which may disturb unity and integrity of the State.

N. Biren opined that people should stop finding negative connotations and implications every time any group or Government speaks up or try out any initiative. Contending that discords hamper progress and development, Shri N. Biren urged the people of Manipur to give unity and harmony a chance.

Stating that peace parleys had begun even in Jammu and Kashmir, the Chief Minister urged all concerned to resolve all the differences and discords through talks.

N. Biren said, "We should learn to appreciate those who



wish to join us, and we should also not forget to ask the reason to those who try to leave us".

Like India's unity is its strength, oneness would be Manipur's strength, he opined.

Letpao Haokip said that National Unity Day celebration aims at fostering and reinforcing the country's

dedication to preserve and strengthen its unity, integrity and security.

Stating that around 600 participants would be taking part in the run, the Minister expressed hope that through this run, India would reaffirm its inherent strength and resilience to withstand the threats to unity, integrity and security.

Run for Unity: National Unity Day Observed

Chandel, Oct. 31: The birth Anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Jhaverbhai Patel, one of the founding fathers of the Republic of India, celebrated as Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or the national day for unity is observed at the Deputy Commissioner's office complex here today. The event is organized by the District administration in association with Nehru Yuva Kendra, Chandel.

The event is started with "Run for Unity" from Indoor Stadium Hall, Japhou Bazar to Deputy Commissioner's office. Mr. Khishna Kumar IAS, DC/Chandel flag-off the race.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Kumar said that the people of Chandel district needs to unite to fight against anti-social elements to bring development in the district. "No room should be given to the people who want to bring chaos and misunderstanding among the people" he said. All the district level officers, police, Manipur rifles, Assam Rifles, tribe and student leaders, chiefs and leaders from different CSOs and students participated in the function and take a pledge to preserve the unity, integrity and security of the nation and to strive hard to spread the message of peace among the people.

Guv', CM greets on Kut Festival

IT News

Imphal, Oct 31: Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today greet the people of the state particularly to the Kuki-Chin-Mizo community on occasion of the Kut Festival which is being celebrated on November 1.

In her message the governor of Manipur The festival symbolizes peace, harmony and unity transcending the barriers of caste, creed or religion. "Let the spirit of Kut embrace one and all to strengthen the social fabric more than ever and bring prosperity to all the communities in the state", the governor wrote.

In his message, the Chief Minister wrote that the Kut, the biggest and post harvest festival of Kuki-Chin-Mizo groups of people, is an occasion of thanksgiving to God for the bountiful harvest.

"The spirit of Kut is all about sharing, understanding, harmonious co-existence, co-operation and merit. Kut festival has now come to occupy an important place in the hearts of all the people of Manipur". Chief Minister wrote.

He also wish Kut festival this year to spread the message of love, peace, compassion and forgiveness among the people of Manipur. "I am confident that the celebration of the festival in its true spirit will help in ensuring peaceful co-existence among all the ethnic groups in the state", CM wrote.

Forest and environment Minister Th. Shyamkumar, Social Welfare Minister Nemcha Kipgen, CAF & PD Minister Karam Shyam also wish the people of the state on occasion of the Kut festival.

69th IPR Day Celebration

DIPR

Imphal, Oct 31: The 69th IPR (Information and Public Relations Day) Celebration will be held tomorrow i.e. 1st November, 2017 at 8.00 in the morning, at Department of Information and Public Relations Complex, Moirangkhom, Imphal.

On the occasion, IPR Minister, Thongam Biswajit and Commissioner (IPR), K. Radhakumar Singh, IAS will grace as Chief Guest and President respectively.