

## Booth capturing, poll violence, clash between candidates' supporters mark the fifth Panchayat Election

IT News

**Imphal, Oct. 7:** Voting for the fifth Panchayat election began at 8 am today. Early hours report said that voting was conducted in a peaceful manner at almost all places however, later stage of the voting was a direct blow to the democratic election with supporters of candidates capturing ballot boxes, clashed between workers and firing by police at different places are reported.

At Khabeisoi area and Heigrumkhong area of Khurai Assembly constituency the supporters



of a specific candidates did not even allowed news-reporters to enter the polling station. At Kiyamgei Maning leikai Heibong Makhong in Keiroa Assembly constituency polling officials had to left the station before 3 pm as some of the miscreants allegedly destroyed the ballot boxes. At Kairang in heingang Assembly constituency police had to resort firing of tear gas shell and rubber

bullet. At least two persons who throng in a polling booth with batons were reported injured. Some others were also reported injured in stampede as the mob runs here and there. Report added lately also said that re-poll is likely at 8/20/11 Mecca Sangaiyumpham Cherapur mathak Leikai of Wangjing and at 2/3/16 Irong L.P. school. Panchayat election is held to

elect new local body representatives including Zilla Parishad, Pradhan and ward members. In case of any election misconduct, re-polling will be held on October 9, 2017, a report claimed. A total of 7,16,813 voters including 3,68,691 females and 3,48,139 males will exercise their franchise in the election. Each voter has to cast his/her vote in secrecy in three ballot papers of three

different colours. Ballot paper for Pradhan is in yellow, for Zilla Parishad in pink colour and Gram Panchayat member in white.

Voting will take place in all six valley districts of Manipur – Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishnupur, Jiribam, Kakching and Thoubal – across 1,521 polling stations to elect 60 Zilla Parishad Members, 161 Pradhans and 1,513 ward members.

60 Zilla Parishad Members, 158 Gram Panchayat Pradhans and 1118 Gram Panchayat Ward Members will be elected in this election. Altogether 3180 candidates are in the fray for the rural body elections.

The counting of votes will take place on October 11. The election process would be completed by October 16 before the expiry of the term of the existing representatives on October 23.

## Interactive session with the Centre in-Charges Of Urdu, Arabic And CABA-MDTP held



DIPR

**Imphal, Oct 7:** The National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language (NCPUL) has organised today 'One day interactive session with the centre in-charges of Urdu, Arabic and CABA-MDTP centre of Manipur' at Hotel Imphal, North AOC.

In the inaugural session of the interaction, the Governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma Heptulla graced as the Chief Guest. Director of the NCPUL, Prof. Syed Ali Karim and Social Activist Mohd. Afzal were also on the dais.

It is worth to mention that NCPUL is an autonomous regulatory body in the Government of India. It is the main authority of Urdu language and education in India. And CABA MDTP is

one of the significant initiatives of the NCPUL. It has been the transformation of Urdu speaking population into part of the employable technological workforce in the age of technology and computer. It not only provides job opportunity for Urdu speaking people but also increases computer literacy rate of the country including Manipur. To transfer the information technology to language and making Urdu speaking boys and girl's part of employable technology work force of India, NCPUL establishes Computer Applications, Business Accounting and Multilingual DTP Centres (CABA-MDTP) across the country. It is said that there are around 40 centres in the State.

## Act East Policy

Assam Chief Minister

Sarbananda Sonowal has said that the Act East Policy Department of the state government has been conceived to facilitate an environment for investment and rapid industrialisation.

The government wants to explore business opportunities with South East Asian countries, based on positive inputs from all sections of the society. This includes business houses, corporate groups, economists, and students, the minister said. Mr Sonowal said that the North East has been put in the forefront of development initiatives of the Central government. The Assam government has set up the Act East Policy Department to ensure implementation of the policy in a time bound manner. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has taken steps to make the Northeast region the new engine of growth for the country, he said.

## 'Research Line' released

IT News

**Imphal, Oct 7:** 'Research Line', a book edited by Arambam Babina, Senior Research Fellow, ACEE, Manipur University was released yesterday. A function organised by Manipur University Research Club, for the occasion, at the conference Hall of the Anthropology department, Manipur University was attended by Prof RK Hemakumar, Former Dean students welfare MU & Principal, MIT, Imphal as Chief Guest, while President MURC Hemam Nandakumar Manipur University attended presided over it. Prof MC Arun Kumar, HOD Dept of Anthropology MU attended as Guest of Honour.

## MLA Dr. Sapam Ranjan steal the show by waiting in queue to cast vote for Panchayat Election today

IT News

**Imphal, Oct 7:** MLADr. Sapam Ranjan, who was elected from Konthoujam Assembly constituency today steal the show by standing in queue at the polling station to wait for his turn to cast vote of the Panchayat election today. MLAs in Manipur are given privilege, if not officially to go ahead of those standing in queue considering his busy schedule, but for Dr. Ranjan he treated himself as no difference from any of the voters.

"That's a very good example for non VIP culture", wrote Samarjit Sanjenbam at social networking site Facebook at which the photo of the MLA standing in queue was posted. Another person Akojiam Ibohah wrote, "Standing in the queue just like a layman speaks volumes of your simplicity Tamo (brother). May you achieve greater heights in your endeavours." People in the state have been fed up of the so call VIP culture at which MLAs or



bureaucrats often overridden common people just because they are having the power. Earlier, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh was seen carrying an umbrella, which indeed was a rare sight. DC Tamenglong Armstrong Panmei, an IAS officer had also enthralled the spectators through his noble

gesture by not allowing anybody to hold umbrella for him while delivering speech on Indian Independence day. "If this culture flourished then there will be no room for criticism to VVIP or VIP, people will have more respect for them", Ningthoujam Sanatomba said.

## Finance Ministry makes Aadhaar mandatory for small saving schemes

New Delhi, Oct 7: The government has made biometric identification Aadhaar mandatory for all post office deposits, Public Provident Fund, National Savings Certificate scheme and Kisan Vikas Patra.

Finance Ministry has issued four separate Gazette notifications making Aadhaar mandatory for opening all post office deposit accounts, Public Provident Fund, National Savings Certificate scheme and Kisan Vikas Patra deposits. Existing depositors who have not provided Aadhaar number at the time of application for such deposit "shall submit his Aadhaar number to the post office savings bank or deposit office concerned, on or before December 31, 2017.

The government has insisted on quoting Aadhaar for bank deposits, obtaining mobile phone and several other utilities to weed out benami deals and black money.

## 15 cadres including 2 Deputy Kilonsors of NSCN-IM return back to NSCN-IM

IT News

**Imphal, Oct 7:** Naga rebel group NSCN-IM today said that 15 cadres including two deputy kilonsors of the NSCN-IM have returned to the NSCN-IM. In a press statement released today the outfit said that a joyous reunion between comrades from different camp returning to the present NSCN was organized at the Camp Moba at Mon Nagalim. Brig. Yanpho Konyak received the comrades returning so called from Unification Camp, the statement added. While expressing its gratitude over their manly and resolute decision to reunite with the

Naga-based political Organization, the Brigadier reminded the Naga Army that such a bold move symbolizes the Naga solidarity as it was the launch for rights to self determination was the first flagged off several decades ago today. "Nagas will soon script a history of triumph over forced occupying forces. Your home return today will soon follow suit. Nagas can never remain fettered by whims of visionless leaders. Government of India is committed and therefore has boldly and loudly announced that Naga's case is unique political history and that Gol

truly understood the situations of the Naga peoples as a whole and not the situation in Indian created Nagaland state", Brig. Yanpho Konyak was quoted as saying. Lieut. Col. Khoitwang Konyak who return to the party briefly narrated how they have been through thick and thin confused by the statements of so many professed Naga leaders. The true nature of leadership came into spotlight when those leaders zero down their issue to the case of present Nagaland state. The Lieut. Col. reiterate that, they now understood the reason why Baba Kholi abandoned his former camp to join hand

with the true Naga National organization that holds the issue of the Naga peoples. "Many are still in the dark side of the whole story" the Lieut. Col. said. "To identify the true leader is extremely necessary. And we are here today. We are confident now that our return journey will surely harvest from the seed sown by the true patriots". He furthermore expressed profound gratitude on behalf of his comrades who have joined the mainstream for the state of the arts welcome home arrangements accorded to them on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2017 by the Commander, Moba Brigade.

## GST Council reduces tax rates on 27 items, approves quarterly return filing

AIR

**New Delhi, Oct 7:** In a major relief to common man, small traders and exporters, the GST Council has reduced tax rates on 27 items and allowed the filing of returns on the quarterly basis. The GST Council meeting held under the Chairmanship of Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in New Delhi yesterday decided to reduce the GST rates on dried mangoes, Khakhra, plain chapatis, unbranded Namkeen, unbranded ayurvedic medicines and paper wastes to 5 percent from 12 percent. Briefing reporters after the meeting, Mr Jaitley said, food packets used in ICDS scheme, plastic and rubber wastes will now be taxed at 5 percent instead of 18 percent. Man-made Yarn will be taxed at 12 percent instead of 18 percent. Mr Jaitley said, stationary items, flooring stones other than marble and granites, parts of diesel engine and pumps will now attract 18 percent GST against the present rate of 28 percent.

Moreover, job works related to zari embroidery, imitation jewellery, food items, printing, and government contracts involving high element of labour will all attract GST at the rate of 5 percent. The GST Council also approved the quarterly filing

of returns for businesses with turnover upto 1.5 crore rupees besides raising the threshold for composition scheme from 75 lakh rupees to one crore rupees. Mr Jaitley said that under composition scheme, traders will now pay one percent, manufacturers two percent and restaurants five percent. He said, exporters will start getting refunds of their input credit for the month of July from 10th of October and for August from 18th of this month. This is an interim arrangement. Long-term solution is to create an e-wallet for every exporter in which a notional amount would be credited as advance refund and through this, the IGST or GST will be paid. This credit will be offset from their actual refund. This arrangement will be developed by an appropriate technology company by April 1, 2018. The GST Council also recommended setting up Group of Ministers to examine key rate cut issues regarding AC restaurants. The committee will come up with a mechanism to reduce GST on AC restaurants in ten days. Mr. Jaitley said, the Council also discussed e-way bill. He said, Karnataka is already having good experience with it and after first of January it will go to other states.