

## Intl. bodies denounce India Govt. refusal to repeal or review AFSPA

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept. 27:** Many international organizations including Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurist, FORUM-ASIA, WGHR, etc., strongly denounced the GoI's continued refusal to accept the recommendation for the repeal/review of AFSPA, said a statement of the Civil Society Coalition on Human Rights (CHCHR) whose delegates had attended the 36<sup>th</sup> regular session of the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC). CSCHR is a conglomerate of various Human Rights organizations in the state and Dr Laifungbam Debabrata Roy is the convener of the organization. A statement issued by Dr. Roy said that during the session for the adoption of the outcome document on India's 3<sup>rd</sup> Universal Periodic Review (UPR) to improve its human rights situation, on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2017, the

Government of India (GoI) formally accepted 152 recommendations out of the 250 recommendations given by 112 member states of the United Nations. The remaining 98 recommendations were simply noted. However, most of the human rights issues critical to the situation in Manipur including the repeal/review of AFSPA, ratification of Convention on Protection of All Persons Against Enforced Disappearances (CED), moratorium on death penalty, ratification of the Rome Statute on International Criminal Court, etc., are only noted without indicating a follow up plan and not accepted. Many international organizations including Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurist, FORUM-ASIA, WGHR, etc., strongly denounced the GoI's continued refusal to accept the recommendation for the repeal/review of AFSPA.

CSCHR strongly deplores the refusal of the GoI to repeal Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 (AFSPA) despite persistent recommendations from the UN and international community. In the first cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) in 2008 Germany, UK and Canada made recommendation regarding AFSPA. Similarly in the second cycle in 2012, Switzerland, France and Slovakia made similar recommendations. In this third cycle too Government of Switzerland and Pakistan raised the issue. But in all the three cycles GoI has persistently refused to accept the recommendation. CSCHR also condemns the failure of India to ratify the Convention against Torture (CAT) despite its signing the treaty 20 years ago in 1997 and strongly urges GoI to urgently ratify CAT by adopting an Act of Parliament for the prevention of torture that is consistent with the

provisions of CAT. In the side event entitled "UPR Outcome Document", held on 21<sup>st</sup> September in the Palais des Nations, Jiten Yumnaf of CSCHR stated "The continued enforcement of AFSPA, 1958 mean the unleashing of more inhumanity, extreme forms of violations, genocidal practices and a culture of impunity, targeting the most marginalized communities and national minorities". Babloo Loitongbam of WGHR/CSCHR, who moderated the event, questioned the true meaning of India repeatedly accepting a recommendation to ratify the Convention Against Torture, which was accepted by the GoI in the first, second and third UPR, while taking no meaningful action at all. Renu Takhellambam of EEFVAM drew the attention of the UN Human Rights Council on the issue of extrajudicial executions and AFSPA.

## 'Greater tourism opportunities can help the country in eradicating poverty'

**AIR**  
**New Delhi, Sept 27:** President Ram Nath Kovind has said greater tourism opportunities can help the country eradicating poverty. Speaking after giving away National Tourism Awards for the year 2015-16 on the occasion of World Tourism Day in New Delhi, Mr Kovind said, Tourism generates better employment opportunities. The President said, tourism can also help improve

economy of the country. President Kovind said there are immense opportunities in sports and adventure tourism. He called upon people who are part of tourism industry to do more efforts to improve tourism destinations in India. Speaking on the occasion, Tourism Minister K J Alphons said India has registered substantial growth in the tourism sector during the last three years. He said, more than 60 lakh foreign tourists have visited to different parts of India between January to August this year.

AIR correspondent reports President Kovind also launched Incredible India 2.0 campaign on the occasion of World Tourism Day. The campaign promotes different heritage sites and tourism destinations of India. The President also launched "Adopt a Heritage Project" which has great potential to make India's rich and diverse heritage monuments, tourist-friendly. He hoped that the project will help in the maintenance of country's heritage with a partnership of the public and private sectors.

## Guv' wishes on Durga Puja

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 27:** Manipur Governor Najma Heptulla wishes the people of the state on the auspicious occasion of Gurga Puja and Dussera. In her message it is stated that the festival is one of the biggest festival of the Hindus and is celebrated with full gaiety. The festival signifies the triumph of the good over the evil.

## Vehicle lifter nabbed

**IT News**  
**Imphal, Sept 27:** With the cooperation of the club members of the YDC, Yairipok Police today nabbed a vehicle lifter from Khoiron Mayai Leikai area at around 4 am today morning. The vehicle lifter has been identified as one Md. Imtiyaz

@ Imtiyaz (26) yrs. S/o Md. Anamuddin of Heitropokpi. As per report reaching here he disclosed that he had stolen the Honda Activa Regn (No. Nil) from the house one Md. Raji of Heitropokpi at around 1 am today. Police has registered a case.

## MLA Kiyaneilie Peseyie passes away

**IT News**  
**Kohima, Sept 27:** Nagaland legislative Assembly Kiyaneilie Peseyie, expired today morning around 2:30 AM at a private Hospital in Dimapur. He hails from Jotsoma Village in Kohima District. He was seventy. He leaves behind seven daughters and two sons. Born on August 1, 1947, Peseyie entered Government service as Inspector in the Excise Department. He retired voluntarily as Additional Excise Commissioner in 2002 and entered electoral fray in 2003. On being elected, he was elected as the Speaker of the 10<sup>th</sup> House of the Nagaland Legislative Assembly. During his political career, he served as Speaker for three terms and twice as Minister.

## World Alzheimer's Day observed



**IT News**  
**Kakching, Sept 27:** World Alzheimer's Day was observed today at the conference Hall of Jivan Hospital Kakching. The observance organized jointly by the Indian Psychiatric Society, Manipur State Branch and Jivan Hospital Kakching was attended by the MLA Surchandra as the Chief Guest while Dr. Heramani, President of the Indian Psychiatric Society, Manipur State

Branch, also Head of Dept. of RIMS presided over the inaugural function. Disability Commissioner Dr. R.K. Kumarjit, Psychiatrist Dr. R.K. Lenin and Dr. Y. Ashok attended as guests of honour. A technical session under the theme - Remember me: early diagnosis means I can live for longer. Dr. Heramani, Dr. Nelson Loitongbam, Dr. S. Gajendro and Dr. L. John were the speaker of the technical session

## Maipaksana's EIBISU YAOHANBIYU selected in International children's film festival

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Sept. 27:** *Eibusu Yaohanbiyu* (Let Me Join You) directed by Haorongbam Maipaksana that clinched the Best Regional Feature Film in Manipuri Language in the 63<sup>rd</sup> National Film Awards 2015 has been officially selected for International Competition at 20<sup>th</sup> International Children's Film Festival, India (ICFFI) organized by the Children's Film Society India (CFSI) under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to be held in Hyderabad from November 8-14, 2017. *Eibusu Yaohanbiyu* has opened a new chapter of the history of Manipuri cinema for the first Manipuri feature film selected in the International competition section of the prestigious International Children's Film Festival. Dr. Shrawan Kumar, Festival Director of the International Children's Film Festival India today sent the official invitation to the film maker Maipaksana Haorongbam for attending the screening in the festival. The film is about the victory of a differently-abled boy's attempt to join a football

team. The story revolves around a football loving physically challenged school boy and his determination to take part in his school football team faces discrimination but ended up scoring the winning goal in the last moments when he replaced an injured team mate in the interschool championship final. Maipaksana who had completed three years Diploma in Film Editing from Jyoti Chitraban Regional Film and Television Institute, Guwahati has also contributed towards the promotion of modern and folk theatre of Manipur. International Children's Film Festival India popularly known as The Golden Elephant is a biennial festival that strives to bring the most imaginative and delightful international & national children's cinema to young audiences in India. The festival presents features, shorts, live action and animation films over seven days of festive celebrations attended by more than one hundred thousand children and hundreds of film

professionals and eminent guests from around the world. The festival consists of three competition sections - International, Asian Panorama and Little Directors; Non-competition section- Children's World; Open Forums; Workshops; Special events on Kids Mela. A selection Committee appointed by CFSI selected the films for the festival. The International competition section will screen children's fiction that adheres to globally recognized standards of excellence in filmmaking.

This Asian Panorama competition section will present the best of children's films from Asia and aims to encourage talented Asian filmmakers who are making high quality, sensitive and entertaining films exclusively for children. The aim of Little Directors competition section is to encourage children & young people to experiment with the moving image, and stimulate pursuit of filmmaking both as an art as well as a creative expression of their point of view.

## Free Medical camp at Serou

**IT News**  
**Kakching, Sept 27:** In connection with the Swachhta hi Seva, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Manipur Pradesh today organised free medical camp at Serou Community Hall in Kakching district. Five doctors specialised in Medicine, Gynae, Heart, Ophthalmic and dermatology attended patients in need of the area.

State and District leaders of BJP attended the free health camp. General Secretary of BJP Manipur Pradesh, K. Saratkumar said that the camp is being organised under the auspicious programme Swachhta Hi Seva launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said people recently dace flood due to incessant rain and people of the area need medical attention.

## Normalcy returns to Darjeeling hills after 3-and-half months

**Agency**  
**Darjeeling, Sept 27:** Normalcy has been restored to Darjeeling hills on Wednesday after three-and-half months following the suspension of the indefinite shutdown by Gorkha Janamukti Morcha, GJM. The town, known as the Queen of Hills, sprang back to life as news of the suspension of the agitation spread. Shops and markets were open from morning. Buses and vehicles ferried passengers and normal services resumed. GJM had last night suspended its agitation which

it had launched on June 15 for a separate Gorkhaland. The strike was lifted from today in response to an appeal by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh. In a statement, the home minister said on Tuesday that in a democracy dialogue is the only way out to resolve any problem and solutions can be found through restraint and mutual dialogue within the legal ambit. The Union home minister has also asked the union home secretary to convene an official-level meeting to discuss all related issues.

## Manipur CM interacts with Union Ministers on several issues

**DIPR**  
**Imphal, Sept. 27:** Chief Minister N. Biren Singh yesterday met Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari regarding the improvement of road connectivity in Manipur. The Union Minister agreed to release some funds immediately for repair of flood damaged National Highways in the State. He assured that he would come for Bhumi Pujah for Imphal-Moreh National Highway once the land acquisition is finished.

During the meeting, Nitin Gadkari also agreed in principle to declare the Singhat-Behiang Road as National Highway and Behiang would be developed as another Border Trade Point of Manipur. The Union Minister also advised the State Government to send suitable proposals for upgradation of roads to National Highway. Meanwhile, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh also met Union Minister of State for Tourism Shri KJ Alphons to discuss the

issues for promotion of tourism sector in the State. During the meeting, proposals for Cable Cars at Sendra, Shirui and Marjing were discussed. The Minister gave assurance for positive speedy consideration of the proposals. Shri KJ Alphons agreed to visit Imphal for the upcoming Sangai Festival on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017. Later, Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh also spoke to MOS (Civil Aviation) Shri Jayant Sinha for introducing direct flight between Delhi and

Imphal as currently the officials and passengers have to stay for a minimum of three days outside the State, when their work take hardly a day in the capital. Shri Jayant Sinha assured that the Ministry would look into the matter and immediate steps will be taken to ease out such inconveniences to the officials and passengers of the State. The Chief Minister also spoke to CMD, AIR INDIA Shri Rajeev Bansal for introduction of direct Air India flight between Delhi and Imphal. Shri

Rajeev Bansal also promised to take up immediate action into the matter. N. Biren Singh is scheduled to meet Shri Ravishankar Prasad, Union Minister (IT) for speedy laying of Optical Fibre Network in Manipur so that digital payments could become a reality in the State. The Chief Minister will also be meeting Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas to discuss about the laying of gas pipeline from Tripura to Imphal.