

Are some Forest dept. officials trying to sabotage the good effort of Forest Minister Th. Shyamkumar?

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Except from a vested interested civil society body, who openly opposed the effort of Forest and Environment Minister, Th. Shyamkumar, almost every people of the state applauded the recent drive by the minister against illegal timber transportation. However, after this reporter found huge quantity of timbers hiding at some places of Heirok in Thoubal district which is not far from Forest Office as well as a BSF Camp. At first the reporter speculated the timbers to have been seized items, but on learning that some people are transporting it from the place using trucks at around midnight, our reporter drilled the matters by spending times until he finally found out that these timbers are being kept and smuggled out in the nose



of the Forest department and the BSF. At a time when Forest Minister Th. Shyamkumar, spent sleepless night to check the smuggling of timber in the state, it is disheartening to learn staffs of some Forest department turning blind eyes to the smuggling of timbers right under their nose. The timbers, stated above are being piled up at a foothill near

Khulsaibung (Karongthel) Village which is about 200 meters from a BSF Camp located at Heirok Chingompok in Thoubal district. Opposite to the BSF camp is a Forest Office. Our reporter found out that the timber were smuggled from Machi side and piled up here. The timbers were transported on Heirok to Keirembikhok route which is under the nose

of the Forest office located opposite to the BSF camp at around 11 pm on heavy trucks. A numberless Gypsy guarded the truckload timbers while transporting the timber, our reporter added. Promises of the present government to protect forest and to enforce the Forest law is likely to be another mockery if staffs don't co-operate with the Forest Minister.

Collective determination is key to bring a change: CM

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Speaking during the Samajik Nyaya Diwas (Ambedkar Jayanti) at Sangai Hall, Hotel Imphal yesterday Chief Minister N. Biren Singh had called on people for collective determination to bring about a change in the society. The Chief Minister said that people need to cooperate to the Government's effort towards bringing a change because legislators and executives alone can't make it happen without mass support. He said that the State Government's 'Go to Village' mission would promote social harmony, spread awareness

about pro-poor initiatives of the Government and reach out to poor people. N. Biren urged the Government officials to put in wholehearted effort to make Central Government's 'Gram Swaraj Abhiyan' and State Government's 'Go to Village' mission a success. The Chief Minister said that people had witnessed what the present Government could deliver in the past one year. As the Government had noted people's wishes, it is the time to deliver service by the Government, he added. In line with the interaction programme with those who are in the organised sectors held a few days back, the Chief Minister said that similar

interaction with police officers who are from Sub-Inspector level would be conducted soon. Expressing concern over apparent rise of crime rates due to coming of new technologies and gadgets, the Chief Minister said that education and awareness are the key areas where one should focus to check it. The State Government had begun dealing with evils like crime against women with an iron hand by setting up a Fast Track Court. However, it is seemingly not deterring the criminals much, he said. As such, there is need for imparting proper awareness and education to the people, the Chief Minister observed.

KCP observes 38th Foundation Day with pledge to continue arm struggle

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Armed rebel group Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP) observed 38th Foundation Day with pledge to continue the arm struggle against the government of India. A press communiqué by S. Mangal, Member-in-charge, Information & Publicity, KCP said that the 38th Foundation Day of the KCP was held at the CHQ, GHQ, 141 Bn., Training Centre, Mobile units and at united base camp yesterday. At the observance held at United Base Camp of the outfit Dy. Finance Secretary - I, Ng. Khuman, Camp Commander, N. Chan and Second in command Gulliver attended as Chief Guest, President and Special guest respectively, the statement said. The observance begins with the hoisting of the party flag by the dignitaries. As per the statement, the Chief Guest of the observance called on the fellow revolutionaries to struggle in the right direction to correct the mistake committed during



the course of struggle. He said that today's revolution movement is the outcome of the strategy prepared by the revolutionaries since a very long time. He also stressed on the need to follow the correct ideology then the activities will also be in the right direction. On the effort to suppress the movement by reactionaries, the Chief Guest said that when water and milk

are mixed together it is hard to separate, but when it is heated in fire then the water will vaporise and the milk will remain. This way with the struggle becoming more serious the reactionaries will be submerged. Other speakers also focus on the need for protection of identity, culture and discipline during the course of revolutionary movement.

DAMMS on rise of sexual violence

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DAMMS and the Manipuri Students community living in Delhi showed serious concern with the rise of sexual violence against women and children happening across India. The recent rape and murder of Asifa Bano, an eight-year-old girl belonging to the Backward community of Jammu and subsequent communalization of the case to divide the people for political gains has shaken and anguished us to the core, a statement said. The students' body also expressed shocked by the gang rape case of a woman in Nagaon, Assam and the Unnao rape case in UP.

Manipur Maoist warns students' union and teachers' body of Manipur University to stay away from contract works

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Rebel group Maoist Communist Party today warned the office bearers of the Manipur University Teachers' Association (MUTA), Manipur University Students' Union and the research scholars of the University to refrain from joining in the contract works for construction of the University's infrastructures. The outfit also appealed other rebel/arm group not to force and threaten the teaching community for awarding of contract works in the Manipur University as well as at any colleges and educational institution of the state. On the

Private schools, the outfit said that it would not interfere to any action to the owner of private schools earning money from the people but said the Maoist will not remain silent if the teaching community of the private school are made scapegoat. The statement of the Manipur Maoist said that the outfit is ready for protection of the intellectual rights and said that no kind of pressure from any groups should be given to the students, teachers and research scholars of the University. The Maoist also said that this is the last warning for those in the academic circle of the university to stay away from joining the contract works for

construction of infrastructures. The Maoist further said that the division seen in the university among the students and teaching community is reflected to the society. It also criticise the movement of the MUSU saying that it is going to the wrong direction. As the MUSU now seem to a place for power hunters of getting contract work. At the moment the student union of the Manipur is now a union without any movement. The outfit further appeal to all not to disturb the academic atmosphere of Manipur University due to clash for contract works among different groups.

Formation of (TBCA) from (TBL) - A greed for Leadership and to concealed monetary corruption: MNPF

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Armed rebel group Manipur Naga Peoples' Front (MNPF) have exposed an aged old issue which have been concealed for years. The issue highlighted the division created by some vested interested persons among the Tangkhul community. A statement by the outfit said that the fight to change the Tangkhul Baptist Churches nomenclature from TBL to TBCA is a complex issue and only the tip of the iceberg is known by many of the other MBC Churches leaders and that is the very reason why the conflict is not being resolved after such a long fifteen years and more of conflict. It involves a monetary fund awarded to one Mr. N. Shangkahao of Mapum village by the California ministry funding agency which was undeniably misused by the Association leaders namely, Wungnaoting Konghar and group who were by that time was working under TBL leadership but also became a TBCA leader and also an MBC leader along with the NSCN IM leaders. Taking the advantage of Mr. N. Shangkahao's simplicity, sincerity and ignorance, the leader of TBL diverted the United Team Leadership Ministry (UTLM) fund directly under UADP in collaboration with TBL and withdraw the money in the first phase a sum of rupees forty lakhs (40 lacs) in the month of December 1995 without the consent of Mr.

Shangkahao to whom the monetary fund was awarded. In the process uncountable incidence of force were used by the NSCN IM to the church leaders and the public who were aware of the issues, for e.g. Nine pastors were taken captive forcefully and make them sign to withdraw the fund without the proper consent of the owner Mr. N. Shangkahao, seven times the church leaders were summoned to Hebron in which two of the meetings were chaired by Th. Muivhah himself. Phungyo Baptist Church women were beaten up, Mr. Wungchapai and Mr. Shangam shipiro were taken captive to Sirui jungle during the time of Christmas and new year, Mr. N. Shangkahao himself was threatened and was asked to surrender his funding agency file etc. so on and so forth and all this were done by the NSCN IM in lieu of Wungnaoting Konghar and friends. And after such a chaotic mess of corruption and betrayal the vested individuals who are working hand in glove with the NSCN IM came up with an idea of creating a new nomenclature called TBCA instead of TBL, base on a call to start a new beginning as the Tangkhul Baptist Churches along with the whole world step into a new millennium just to cover up the crime and corruption committed by them. Formation of TBCA has nothing to do with the better future of the Tangkhul Baptist Churches but it is just to cover up the crafty struggle of evil schemes and crimes of corruption among few Tangkhul Christian leaders which in turn is the root cause of attitude for creating the

Tangkhul Baptist Churches Association (TBCA) even though there are some good fabricated elements attached to it. The prevailing conflict in the Tangkhul churches are an aged old conflict caused due to the egoistic mindset among the leadership of the western Tangkhuls, especially by the somdal village. The Tangkhul churches were under one administrative association called 'North-east Baptist Association Manipur (NEBAM) from 1929 among the Tangkhul Baptist Christians until 1959. On the occasion of convening a general meeting at Lungphu village in the year 1959, fro, 27th Jan. to 1st Feb. under the banner of NEBAM, the vested elders from the western tangkhul churches tabled the agenda to segregate the tangkhul Christian association into four different associations as per the jurisdictions of the tangkhul landmark. But on that auspicious occasion, the Southern Tangkhuls especially opposed the agenda and pleaded the rest of the tangkhul Christian leaders not to accept the agenda and continue to work together under one administrative association, but sadly in response to the plead of the Southern tangkhuls, one of the elders from somdal village, namely Mr. Ringkahao Ruivanao openly declared before the congregation with a defaming statement that, 'is not the southern Tangkhuls a man born with a testical organs? Are not the southern Tangkhuls born as a man? With such statements, the

Tangkhul Baptist churches were segregated into four different associations and the southern Tangkhuls Baptist were left with no option but to struggle as an orphan, as an ignored Christian group within and without from the rest of the more versed and experienced Tangkhul Christian groups. The reason for such plead was since, the southern Tangkhuls villages by that time was mostly on the process of converting and new to Christianity and were poorly educated in most of the field and was lacking every essential leadership quality in Christianity. So, with every possible means of enduring shame and hardships that one could ever bear, the southern Tangkhuls endured and was affiliated to MBC as an independent association in the year 1963 forcefully since no other option was left for them. Following the last North-East Baptist Association Manipur (NEBAM) meeting at Lungphu village the 'Tangkhul Naga Baptist Convention' (TNBC) was adopted under the resolution no. 18 clause 'C' within a certain frame of constitution which allows Northern Tangkhul Naga Baptist Association (NTNBA), Western Tangkhul Naga Baptist Association (WTNBA), Eastern Tangkhul Naga Baptist Association (ETNBA) and Southern Tangkhul Naga Baptist Association (STNBA) to exist as an independent association with each of them affiliated to MBC within the parental body of Tangkhul Naga Baptist Association (TNBC). (Contd. on Page 2)