

CM attends to around 600 complaints on MEEYAMGI NUMIT



DIPR Imphal, April 15,

As usual the Chief Minister N. Biren Singh attended to the complaints and grievances of the people on Meeyamgi Numit held at Chief Minister's Secretariat today. Hundreds of people turned up to highlight their grievances to the Chief Minister on "Meeyamgi Numit". Chief Minister N. Biren Singh personally attended to around 600 complaints and met nearly 1500 people from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

The Directorate of Information and Public Relations (DIPR) organised public screening of film/documentaries highlighting the achievements and new developments in the State.

Officials of Health Department and JNIMS had been deputed at CM's Secretariat for the day to attend to the people, who seek medical assistance, reimbursement and health care in Government medical hospitals. Other Departments including Minority and Other Backward Classes, Social Welfare and Police Departments were also deputed at the Chief Minister's Secretariat to help attend to the grievances of the public.

The Chief Minister's Secretariat made elaborate arrangements for the convenience of the general public. Light refreshments including water, tea and snacks were provided to the visitors. A medical team along

with an ambulance and a team of Manipur Fire Service were kept on stand-by at the complex for any emergency. On the occasion, students and teachers of BB Paul Mental Development Home (Special School), Mongshangei met the Chief Minister and expressed their happiness over the Cabinet's decision for converting the school into a Government aided Institute. T. Anita Devi, Principal, BB Paul Mental Development Home (Special School) said that 175 students are being enrolled in the school. She mentioned that the school is imparting vocational training and co-curricular activities including carpentry, tailoring, yoga, dance and music etc.

Private school constructed at Govt. kash land encroaching the public route

IT News Imphal, April 15,

Keirou Loukon Kanba Lup (KLKL) demands eviction of land encroachers at the khash land of Keirou Loukon, Takyel Kolom Leikai under Patsoi Assembly Constituency to avail the previous route to the loukon.

Speaking to media persons today at Manipur Press Club, Majorkhul, K Ranjit Singh, Secretary KLKL said that Keirou Loukon which has 83 acres of farm land and the path used by the farmers which is

a khash land of .1826 hecter under the dag number 187 of 93 villagers of Takyel Khongbal has been totally blocked due to a wall fencing constructed by the owner of Kinder Garden Montessori School.

The said land is a khash land where for generation farmers have been using to and fro to Keirou Loukon but since the set up of gate and encroachment of land by the school have created a big problem for the farmers to reach the loukon, he added. "Reaching to Keirou loukon is a big problem as there are no proper route way to the loukon though the only route is the narrow roadway available in between Takyel Kolom Leikai and Langjing Achouba which directly reach

to the centre point of the loukon but unfortunately the route is no more useable due to the construction of fencing wall and gate of the Kinder Garden Montessori School", said Ranjit.

Ranjit also said that the school owner might have bought land from land owner who has land patta apart from the khash land. Encroaching khash land as the school property is unacceptable and strongly condemned, he added.

Drawing the attention of the concern authority, Ranjit

appeals to work in the interest of the public and farmers of the Keirou Loukon and evicts the land encroachers and those who are constructing fencing at the khash land under dag number 187 and not to provide and land patta at the khash.

Under the Manipur land revenue and land reforms (sixth amendment) act, 2014 (Manipur act no. 3 of 2014), those who disobey the must be punish by the law of the land, Ranjit asserts. Mention may be that Keirou

Loukon is about 4 km from Imphal city along the New-Casar Road, surrounded by Takyel Kolom Leikai on the North, Takyel Khongbal on the South, CRPF Camp on the West and Government Polytechnic College and other departments in the East.

The loukon has 118 pattadar of 83 acres of land but in 2001 CRPF camp station at Langjing Achouba occupied most of the land in the name of expansion. Since then Keirou Loukon Kanba Lup (KLKL) was form to save the loukon.

Public Washroom & Toilet Complex inaugurated by Director, RIMS

DIPR Imphal, April 15,

A Public Washroom & Toilet Complex in the RIMS Hospital complex near the Obst & Gynaecology ward was inaugurated by Prof. A. Santa Singh, Director, RIMS, Imphal in the presence of Prof. Ch. Arunkumar Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital during the last day of observance of Swachhta Pakhwada which was started since 1st April, 2018. The Director said that such facility will be convenient to the

public and happy that the public washroom could be inaugurated as a part of the Swachhta Pakhwada. Prof. Ch. Arunkumar Singh, Medical Superintendent, RIMS Hospital urged the public to use such facility as their own property and maintain neat and cleanliness. He also expressed his happiness that such facility could be inaugurated during the last day of observance of Swachhta Pakhwada.

During the 15 days observance of Swachhta Pakhwada, many activities like

cleanliness drive in the Offices, Departments, Units, Sections, Hospital, Dental College and College of Nursing was performed. A seminar on the theme "Health & Sanitation" was also organized during the observance. The observance was inspected by the official from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India.

The Nursing Superintendent, officials, staff, staff of CRED and Manipur Security Services were present in the inauguration of the public toilet facility.

Rohingya arrested at Moreh

IT News Imphal, April 15:

Two more Rohingyas have been arrested by the police from the border town of Moreh in the Tengenoupal district of Manipur. Tengenoupal Superintendent of Police, Sarengthem Ibomcha said that Md Shobik (26) and his wife, Arofa (26), have been staying in the town for the past years and

it is not known how they entered India. Three other Rohingyas, Mohammad Saifullah (34), Mohammad Salam (25) and Nargis (20) were arrested from the same town recently for their alleged involvement in human trafficking. According to the Police, the two men had confessed to their involvement in the crime. Rohingyas have been arrested from other parts of

the country as well. In January, a Rohingya Muslim was arrested in connection with dacoities in Kerala. The arrest was made through a joint operation between Delhi and Kerala police. We had also reported earlier that terrorist organizations were seeking to recruit Rohingyas for their anti-India activities and one Al Qaeda operative was arrested in the process.

First Rohingya family repatriated to Myanmar

Siam Sarower Jamil, Dhaka, April 15

Myanmar has accepted what appears to be the first five among some 700,000 Rohingya Muslim refugees who fled military-led violence against the minority group, even though the U.N. says it is not yet safe for them to return home.

A government statement says five members of a family returned to western Rakhine state from a refugee camp across the border in Bangladesh.

The statement says



authorities determined whether they had lived in the country and provided them with a National Verification card — a form of ID that doesn't mean citizenship that Rohingyas have been denied in Buddhist-majority Myanmar,

where they have faced persecution for decades. It isn't clear if more repatriations are planned. There are concerns Rohingya would be forced to return and face unsafe conditions in Myanmar.

Killers and rapists emboldened by impunity under BJP rule: Popular Front

IT News Imphal, April 15,

Popular Front of India Chairman E Abubacker in a statement has strongly condemned the brutal gang rape and killing of 8-year-old Asifa from Kathua district in Jammu and rape of a girl in Unnao in Uttar Pradesh by BJP MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar along with others. "The way some officers in J&K police along with communal political mafia from

the area gang raped and killed Asifa must open our eyes to the crimes being committed jointly by the security agencies and fascist forces", a statement of the Popular Front of India, Manipur State said.

The statement said that the way Asifa was held captive and finally murdered and subsequent support by a some groups show the mean level of their moral depravity and hatred for the other. Therefore, it is disingenuous

to treat this as an isolated case of gang rape; rather it is to be seen as part of political agenda of revenging Kashmir Muslims, it added.

E Abubacker demanded an impartial enquiry under judicial supervision to unearth all facts including the role of local BJP minister Lal Singh. He also expressed deep resentment over the increase of politically backed atrocities against weaker section in U.P. under Yogi Adityanath.

Guest Column

Who are Meeteis

Heigrum Nabashyam Political Commentator

Meetei is one of the indigenous communities of North East India, who had its kingdom for centuries, like the Tai-Ahom and Tripura. And after their conversion to Hinduism, in the 18th Century, they assumed the name 'Singh' for men and 'Devi' for women and this was how Meetei became Aryan Kshetriyas- ridiculous! This is wrong. One can embrace any religion if one so wishes, but that does not change his ethnicity. This is basic knowledge.

During the series of debates that I had with ATSUM (All Tribal Students Unions Manipur), whose objection to STDCM's (Schedule tribe Demand Committee Manipur) demand to include the indigenous Meitei tribe in the ST list of Indian constitution, that had reached the level of fanaticism that cannot see anything beyond their own self-interests, had also raised this issue.

However I had stated with full responsibility that the Meiteis are neither Aryans nor Kshetriyas, but they remain Meitei. The simple idea is you don't cease to be a Kuki or a Naga when you embrace christianity or for that matter any other religion say Buddhism, Hinduism, etc. The fact of the matter is, the Meetei are a people made of seven big families or clans—Salai Taret namely Khuman, Luwang, Mangang, Angom, Moirang, Khaba-Nganba and Sarang – Leishanthen. Here it may be pertinent to mention that in the early

period ethnic Chinese and later with the arrival of Hinduism, Hindusthanese came and assimilated into the Meitei fold and became Meitei. Such things happen in many communities because of their historical experiences.

Now, what is interesting is that some intelligent and honourable people whose intentions are obvious praise the Meitei as "a highly developed society". The fact is Meetei, including the Hindu converts still worship natural objects such as rocks, stones, trees, caves, etc. the basic elements of animism, beneath the veneer of Hindu religion. It maybe noted that during the Laiharoba ritual which is observed every year at a particular period of time the highly developed Meitei would connect themselves and associate with their creator - their God by performing certain rituals by the Maibi - a sort of a Shaman and eventually, the god would tell them what to do for their well being till the time of the next season.

The truth is, till today, the 21st century the Meitei and their God are very much in touch with. This is the way a tribal lives. However such traits and characteristics of tribalism are no more found among the Nagas and the Kukis. Now, ask any Meitei, he will tell you he has a deity at home that takes care of the family; they will also have another common deity for their clan for which the Piba - the eldest son on the patrilineal line of the clan is in charge, etc. Such is the degree of tribalism that the Meitei still live with. The fact is, Meiteis are more tribal

than the Kukis and the Nagas.

As regards Meitei's talents in horse riding, it is only natural for a people with a small population of around a lakh or so in those days who control the vast land stretching from the area of the present Cachhar in the west to Burma in the east. The fact was the pony the local horse was a necessity in every household, like motorcycles in today's time, it was used for multiple purposes from transportation to that of the perennial warfare. It was also the most favourite thing for the boys. There was an old saying, "Eppa sini khanglamlabadi sagol leijaramgadabani" — if I knew that father is dying I would have bought a horse. Not only boys even among girls horse riding was popular.

In their leisure time the boys played riding their horses hitting rounded dry bamboo roots with long cane sticks. That was how Sagol kangjei, the progenitor of modern Polo was born in the fields of Chingleipak, the home to all of us.

Regarding Meitei's dance talent, as a matter of fact tribals love to dance and sing and thus it so happened that a Meitei dance master invented a dance form based on the folk dances and adopted the movements of the hands, fingers, legs and feet to portray the love story of Radha-Krishna of the Hindu epic. And after independence, that dance form struck the chords of the Indian dance gurus and thus the gurus ordained, that dance form to be classified as a classical dance—which is

now called Raselela. So what's so great about it! It is also noted that the intelligent and honourable people have expressed their fear that in the event of Meitei being enlisted in the ST category, the Meitei would gobble up the lion's share in the state's job sector. Frankly, I believe the intelligent people are deliberately acting ignorant. The STDCM have clearly stated that they would agree to continue with the existing quota system, of course with new nomenclature, like the case of Nagaland where each group have their respective shares of quota within the quota. This should not be a problem, as it can be agreed upon among the stakeholders.

The truth is Meitei's concern is for its survival, where a population of a few lakhs and whose only habitat is the 700 square miles valley - the home to all of us, is being exposed to global competitions and contests. Indeed Meitei do not have any constitutional protection whatsoever in the face of the serious challenges that come with the coming of the railways and the opening of the Trans-Asian highway in a few years time.

But very unfortunately ATSUM and its associates, adopting a tone of moral righteousness, have been condemning STDCM's demand to include the Meitei in the ST list. This is wrong. The demand to include the Meitei in the ST list is genuine. This is a question of survival of the Meitei. And given the facts, nobody should have any issue with the Meitei.