

## Congress strike back: says 'constitute a committee which consist of media persons to probe the issue'

IT News  
Imphal, April 6,

Works Minister Bishwajit's clarification over the issue of financial irregularities fails to convince the opposition congress leaders, saying that the ruling party BJP is trying to mislead the people by cheap propaganda.

"If they felt that there is nothing wrong to the issue brought up by the Congress party over the misappropriation of public money then constitute a committee which comprises of members from opposition political party, ruling and also at least two from among the journalist 'fraternity', Joykishan said talking to reporters at Congress Bhavan today morning.

Senior member of the MPCC K Govindas, . Kh Loken, Th Lokeshware, Fajur Rahman and Okram Henry were also present during the press meet



held today. Joykishan further said that the spokesperson of the BJP led government is trying to mislead the people saying the amount withdrawn is only 3 crore rupees when the actual amount is over Rs. 30 crore. "This is a big scam of financial irregularities and the ruling government should produced a white paper on how fraud check have been used for withdrawal of government money", he said.

Joykishan further added that exchequer of the state government was lapsed on March 28 but there are reports of withdrawing money from it by diverting funds from other source. "What the Works Minister Th. Bishwajit had stated is 100% wrong", Jokishan said. He further added that Minister Bishwajit is trying to fool the people by saying that amount which had been sanctioned are being withhold for

recovery. "How can a check that has been issued from the state exchequer be recover without executive power", the Congress spokesperson said. On the other hand MLA Joykishan said that after the lapsed of state exchequer the state government has failed to pay the salary and pension of the government employees. He however said that pension for employees of Imphal East have been cleared but the

remaining employees of other employees in Manipur are yet to receive their salary or pension. "What is more surprising is that the state government had issued cheque to a black listed contractor" Joykishan said. He further said that the state exchequer has been lapsed on March 28, and they issued cheque from the state exchequer after March 28 by diverting fund from other welfare project.

## State govt announces Rs. 15 lakhs each for Mirabai and Sanjita

DIPR  
Imphal, April 6

The State Government has announced a cash reward of Rs. 15 lakhs each for Saikhom Mirabai Chanu and Khumukcham Sanjita Chanu who have brought laurels to the Nation and the State by winning Gold Medals in Weightlifting event at the 21<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth Games currently underway at Gold Coast in Australia. Sanjita Chanu won second Gold Medal for India in the 53 kg category of women's weightlifting event today. Chief Minister N. Biren Singh congratulated the weightlifter on winning the second Gold medal for the country. Sanjita clinched Gold Medal in the 48 kg weight class at the 2014 Commonwealth Games at Glasgow as well. Born on January 2, 1994, the 24-year-old weightlifter has been playing the sport of weightlifting since 2006. She won Gold Medal at the Senior National Championship in 2009 before grabbing a Bronze Medal at the Asian Weightlifting Championships in 2011. In 2012, she again won Gold Medal at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships. It may be mentioned that

Mirabai Chanu won the first Gold Medal for India in the 48 kg category of women's weightlifting event at 21<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth Games, 2018 breaking her own and Games records yesterday. Mirabai Chanu has been representing India in different international events since 2014 in the 48 kg category. She has won the World Championships title and multiple medals at the Commonwealth Games. Mirabai won Silver Medal in the women's 48 kg weight class at the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Glasgow. Her biggest achievement came in 2017, when she won the Gold Medal at World Weightlifting Championships held in Anaheim, United States. In recognition of this feat, she was feted by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh by presenting her with a cash prize of Rs. 20 lakhs. Mirabai was awarded the Padmashri by the Government of India for her contributions to the sport in 2018. As per the Government rule, cash prizes of Rs. 15, Rs. 10 lakh and Rs. 8 lakh would be awarded to all the players of the State who win Gold, Silver and Bronze medals respectively in the ongoing Commonwealth Games.

## BJP celebrates its 38th foundation day today

IT News  
Imphal, April 6

Bhartiya Janata Party is celebrating its 38th foundation day today. On the occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with thousands of booth workers along with the 734 district presidents and their respective teams from five Lok Sabha constituencies via video conferencing this evening.

The conference will be facilitated through Narendra Modi app. During the interaction, Mr Modi will listen to the ideas of the party workers, and also discuss the schemes related to the welfare of poor people. Mr Modi will also answer the queries of the party workers. In a tweet, Mr Modi said, he looks forward to this very special interaction at 4.30 PM. Prime Minister said it is always special to interact with hardworking party workers.

In his message on the occasion, Prime Minister said, BJP is the party of a New India and is privileged to receive the blessings of people of all age groups, across all sections of society. Mr Modi said party believes in India's diversity, unique culture and above all the strengths of 125 crore Indians.

Prime Minister thanked people of the country for their unwavering faith in BJP. Mr Modi said, it is party's commitment that it will continue to devote itself towards India's transformation.

## Health Minister laid foundation stone for district hospital, imphal east

IT News  
Imphal, April 6

Health & Family Welfare Minister L Jayantakumar Singh today laid the foundation stone for construction of District Hospital Imphal East at Kyamgei Mayai Leikai under Keirao Assembly Constituency. Speaking at the function as the Chief Guest Minister Jayantakumar expressed that the people might not believe that a District Hospital would come up in the district but laying of foundation stone today has marked the surety of construction of the District Hospital in Imphal East which is first of its kind to be built in the district. He further stated that everyone wish for a longer life. To fulfill the desire to live long one needs to be health

conscious and as such April 7 is celebrated every year as World Health Day. Minister further informed that the present government has been taking up steps to uplift the health standard of the people from time to time. Above the State Plans to provide better healthcare to the people of Manipur foreign nations has also been approached for construction of Multi-facility hospital, relating to which a foreign nation has approached the State Government to provide Rs. 400 crores. Giving the presidential speech, L. Rameshwor Meetei, MLA Keirao A/C said that Keirao A/C is still lacking behind in every field comparing with other A/Cs. It will be privilege for the people especially in the Keirao A/C when the District Hospital

starts to function. He also appealed the public to cooperate with the Government initiatives which are being launched for the welfare of the people. The Foundation Laying function was graced by MLA Kshetrigao A/C, Shri N. Indrajit Singh, DC Imphal East,

Smt. Th. Chitra Devi and Director Health Services Manipur, Dr. K. Rajo Singh as Guests of Honour. Today's function was also attended by Officials and staff of health department, representatives from club/ organizations and local leaders

## Everyone should preserve and protect their identity

Imphal, April 6: Art & Culture Minister L. Jayantakumar Singh said it is everyone's duty to preserve and protect their identity. Minister was speaking as the Chief Guest at the Anniversary of King Kangba at Kangmong at Imphal West under Konthoujam A/C today organized by King Kangba Khubam Sinlup, Kangmong. He stated that preserving and protecting our own identity is a march ahead. It is our pride that we are still following the age-old tradition and philosophy. He further stated that despite of being a small state, we should be proud of our rich heritage. Our culture and sports is defining the status of our State.



**Khelen Thokchom**, 58, a courageous, sincere and committed and one of the most distinguished journalist suddenly left us for the heavenly abode in Imphal on Sunday April 1, 2018. I was expecting pranks from some of my friends as it was April Fool's day and it was around 7 am when one of my friend enquired about the demise of Ta Khelen Thokchom. Though I didn't take it on a serious note, some intuition made my heartbeat rapidly getting faster, even

## A tribute to Khelen Thokchom

By Shyamsunder Haobam

though I still thought it could still just be a prank. I was dumbstruck when Irang Rinku Khumukcham, editor of Imphal times and confirmed the agonizing news. My association with him was way back in 1996, first of all as he became a relation to me (my better half is his cousin) and also my association with print media. We became even closer from 2004 when he started his association with 'The Telegraph' and around that time we had a squad where we used to organise Lunch/dinner for at least two times in a month, venues included the partially built incomplete porch of his house. My last dinner with him was on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2018 at my residence. He was

late as we had planned to meet by 6.00 pm but was late by more than an hour. We had discussions on numerous topics before and after dinner including personal health issues, diets and foods and by 10:30 pm he left for his residence and that became the last time I met Ta Khelen Thokchom even though we call each other kept in touch with each other. Khelen Thokchom with his broad and contagious laughter leaves behind a rich legacy of journalism that impacted people and was a not only a colleague to the media fraternity but was a dear friend, to many people even personally unknown to him. He believed the society can be transformed for the better, if only you speak the truth and

insightful and well-informed as it could possibly ever be. I believe everyone has a mentor. That individual, who guided and supported you, moulded you and most significantly the person whom you trust and would help you in your bad times and Khelen Thokchom is this sort of person. He would not criticise but rectify the mistakes that one commits, as a friend, as a brother, as a guide or whatever it may be, he is always ready to lend a hand and that is always for sure. Khelen Thokchom is no more but will be a legend never forgotten. He was and ever will be a true journalist and his presence with the journalist fraternity will ever be remembered throughout and alas I have lost my mentor!

## Aryans NE students shine in 11<sup>th</sup> Cultural Function "Roshaan"

Guwahati, April 6,

The North East students of Aryans Group of Colleges, Rajpura, Near Chandigarh shine in Aryans 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Cultural Extravaganza "Roshaan". The function was held at Aryans Campus. A Large number of students from various parts of North East participated in various activities. The function commenced with the Lamp Lighting ceremony by Aryans Group

patrons Prof. Roshan Lal Kataria and Mrs. Rajni Kataria; MLA, Ghanaur, Sh. Madan Lal Jalalpur; Young leader, Sh. Gagandeep Singh; Chairman, Aryans Group, Dr. Anshu Kataria. Students of Engineering, Law, Management, Nursing, Education, Business School, Degree College etc participated in various colorful cultural items and mesmerized the whole crowd with their performances representing the states including Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jammu Kashmir, North East etc. The starcast of Subedar Joginder Singh including Kulwinder Billa, Rajvir Jawanda, Aditi Sharma, Jaggi Singh, Charan Singh and Navdeep Kaler etc performed on their hit numbers. Dr. Anshu Kataria while congratulating all said that Aryans Group has students from all across the Country who are studying in various courses & sets an example of "Unity in Diversity". He added that besides studies, extra-curricular activities are equally important. They help in the overall development of the students.