

# Fitting tribute paid to War Heroes of 1891 Anglo-Manipuri War at Khongjom

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 23,**

Fitting tribute was paid today at the memorials of our forefather who had laid down their lives fighting the British soldier at Khebaching Khongjom. Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Chief Minister N. Biren led the people of the State in paying homage to the martyrs, who laid down their lives in the Anglo-Manipuri war – The Battle of Khongjom (1891) today.

The Government of Manipur organised the State-level function at Khongjom War Memorial Complex, Khebaching in Thoubal district.

Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla,

Chief Minister N. Biren, Manipur Legislative Assembly Speaker Y Khemchand, Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar, Ministers, legislators, bureaucrats, civil and police officials and large number of people offered floral tributes at the Khongjom War Memorial atop Khebaching. They also paid floral tributes to the statue of Paona Brajabashi, located at the foothill of Khebaching before they offered Tarpan at Khongjom river.

A contingent of Manipur Rifles gave guard of honour, general salute, reverse arms, sounding of last post, two minutes' silence, slope arms and order arms in honour of the martyrs.

Chief Minister, N. Biren left the memorial complex after paying homage at Khongjom War Memorial, Paona Brajabashi's memorial and Khongjom river as he had to catch a flight to Delhi to attend an urgent meeting. Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla and Deputy Chief Minister, Yumnam Joykumar graced the main function held at the memorial complex as chief guest and president respectively.



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**Imphal, April 23,**

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh recalled the spirit, courage and sacrifices of our forefathers who had laid down their lives fighting the mighty British Empire for protection of the freedom of this erstwhile nation.

The Manipuris – Nagas, Kuki, Meitei and Meitei Panggal, even though small in number, fearlessly fought the mighty British soldiers, who were equipped with guns and Tops

with only swords in their hands, the Chief Minister said and added that it was the spirit, courage and sacrifices that we need to regard in observing Khongjom Day.

Speaking at the occasion, Dr. Najma Heptulla urged the people of Manipur to build memorials for the martyrs and freedom fighters in their hearts apart from paying homage to the existing memorials.

The Governor said that paying homage to the war heroes

would be meaningful only when people of the current generation collectively take a pledge to fight against poverty, deprivation, illiteracy, underdevelopment, discrimination and other social evils.

Dr Heptulla recalled that brave Manipuri soldiers valiantly faced the mighty colonial British forces although they knew that they would be defeated.

She said that Khongjom war

heroes knew that British troops were far better in weaponry and larger in number, but they did have the will and desire to protect their motherland.

"While paying homage at the Khongjom War Memorial, we can imagine how the Manipuri war heroes fought the British forces with swords and little shields", she added.

The Governor said, "We are living in a free country today because of the supreme sacrifices made by these

martyrs and freedom fighters."

Dr. Heptulla also urged the people of the present generation to ask themselves everyday whether they had contributed their bit in nation building and bringing development.

In his speech, Deputy Chief Minister, Y. Joykumar reminded the gathering that Manipuris had to fight the Khongjom War with British forces due to disunity among princes.

## Khongjom Day observed at Cachar

**IT News**  
**Silchar, April 23,**

The Khongjom Day Observation Committee, Udharbond organised an Khongjom Day Memorial day at Udharbond Community Hall, Udharbond in Cachar on this Monday.

A mass rally in this connection was also organised in which hundreds of peoples across the region gathered. Distinguished persons along with peoples from various section and representatives of CSOs, students wings and Womens wings also paid floral tribute to the statue of Major General Paona Brajabashi located at Pangram, Silchar Airport road in Udharbond.

In a open session of the event, former Assam Minister Ajit Singh and H. Dhaneswar Singh, chairman of the event graced as Chief Guest and President respectively while Prof. Okram Churamani Singh, renowned social activist and a former principal of GC College, Silchar, Nilotpal Choudhury, Editor, Manipur Chronicle and Exeutive Director of Sangkha Group of publications pvt. Ltd., Taimur Raja Choudhury, Editor of Dainik Samayik Prasanga, a Silchar based Bengali dailies, among others attended as guest of honours.

## 2 substance users held

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 23,**

Volunteers of Laming Educated Welfare Association (LEWA) pulled up 2 substance users from Sangaiyupham Nungphou Keithel in Thoubal district while they were on their way to get SP tablets. A statement of the LEWA club of Laming Khumanthem Leikai, Thoubal district said that people of the area after getting specific information about the presence of drug pedlar had been keeping strict vigils to prevent youths from getting spoiled.

## KHUKYO warns govt. over shifting of district hospital; says will boycott all government related works

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 23,**

Questioning the present state government led by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, Khundrakpam Kendra Youth Development Organisation (KHUKYO) asked if the Khundrakpam Assembly constituency is not included to the welfare works of the people being taken up by the state government. The organisation said that if the people of the area are excluded

than the youth organisation will boycott all government related works in the assembly constituency.

"Does the government have no stand to take up developmental works or welfare programme of the innocent people of Khundrakpam Assembly Constituency?" a statement by the Information and Publicity Secretary of KHUKYO asked.

The statement said that Chief Minister N. Biren had time and

again announced through media that the government of Manipur will bring change by breaking the barriers between various communities of the state. He also stated to accept all suggestions of the public. It added that if the government is not willing to construct the district hospital at Sagolmang then the KHUKYO will take legal help and will take up stringent action by boycotting all government related activities in the assembly constituency.

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, April 23**

Congress president Rahul Gandhi today attacked the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying they have destroyed all India's institutions that are based on the Constitution by installing in them people with the RSS's ideology.

Gandhi further said that Modi isn't interested in the upliftment of Dalits, minorities and women, or in giving farmers fair prices, or in generating jobs. He's just interested in being Prime Minister, said the Congress president, as he blamed Modi for rising atrocities on dalits and minorities, the spate of rapes of minors and for farmers killing themselves.

The Congress president was speaking at the launch of the party's 'Save the Constitution' campaign.

In his address, he made special mention of the BJP slogan 'Save the girl child, educate the girl child' and said the BJP is now reduced to the slogan

## BJP is destroying with RSS ideology all institutions based on Constitution: Rahul Gandhi

'BJP se beti bachao' or 'Save the girl child—from BJP MLAs'. Gandhi was referring to the fact that two now-ex BJP ministers in Kashmir marched to support rape accused persons and to the fact that a BJP MLA in Uttar Pradesh is a rape accused.

Gandhi said that Modi and the BJP-RSS have destroyed the country's institutions like the Supreme Court. "Modi ji has said people who clean toilets and excreta could have stopped doing these jobs, but they don't because these jobs satisfy their spiritual side. Aman who thinks like this isn't really interested in the welfare of Dalits," said Gandhi.

This, he said, reflects the RSS mindset. "If there are institutions today the Constitution is their base. And today in all our institutions, there are people with the RSS's ideology installed in them, people who think cleaning toilets is a spiritual act," said Gandhi. He cited the example of four most senior judges calling a

press conference as further proof that institutions are being destroyed.

"Usually, the public goes to a judge for justice. For the first time, four Supreme Court judges came to the public to ask for justice. The SC is being crushed, Parliament is shut, nothing is being done on the Nirav Modi Lalit Modi or Vijay Malaya cases," said Gandhi.

Gandhi further challenged Modi to let him speak for 15 minutes in Parliament

"Let me speak for 15 minutes in Parliament in front of Modi, he won't be able to stand there..... the whole country understands this," said Gandhi. The Congress president further accused Modi of being uncaring.

"Dalits die, atrocities are visited on them and other minorities, women and girls are raped and all he wants to know is that he is PM, and how to stay PM is all he's interested in...In cleaning toilets there's spirituality (for others, according to Modi), but Modi gets spirituality only from being PM," said Gandhi.

## Auto Assn. helps victims of fire accident

**IT News**  
**Moreh, April 23,**

All Moreh Auto Owners & Drivers Welfare Association, handed over one bag of rice, 10 kg of Dal and other essential food items to the victim families of the April 19 fire accident at Premnagar area at around 10 am today morning.

The unfortunate freak fire accident gutted 9 houses near Indo-Myanmar Friendship Gate No. 2 of Moreh Ward no. 4 of Tengnoupal district.

President of the association J. Khongsai and General Secretary M. Biren were also present during the items



distribution function. Victim families thanks to Auto Association Moreh and other

organizations for helping for the assistant provided to them.

## Assistance provided to man who return home after 40 years

**IT News**  
**Imphal, April 23,**

A non government organisation called Konthoujam Kendra for a Change (KK4CHANGE) today presented a bag of rice, 10 kg of Dal, edible oil along with a sum of Rs. 2000 as assistance to Khomdram Gambhir Singh who was found loitering in the street of Mumbai after 40 years.

A statement by the organisation said that they will urge MLA Dr. Sapam Ranjan and Lok Sabha MP Dr. Th. Meinya to provide all sort of assistance that are available to a person of his condition from the government side.

Khomdram Gambhir, was found after a free lance journalist Firoze Mohamad Sakir uploaded his video taken at Bandra street of

Mumbai. After the family member recognised Gambhir some from the locality immediately contacted the photo journalist who finally helped them find him. The organisation while thanking Firoze Mohamad Sakir also lauded the service of Patsoi Police Station and Bandra Police station as well as some individual who contributed their service in bringing him back home.

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, April 23,**

A group of 50 alumni from the prestigious Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) across the country have quit their jobs to form a political party to fight for the rights of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes.

The group, which is waiting for an approval from the Election Commission, has named their outfit "Bahujan Azad Party".

"We are a bunch of 50 people, all from different IITs, who have quit our full-time jobs to work for the party. We have

## 50 IIT alumni quit jobs to form political party

applied to the Election Commission for an approval and are meanwhile doing ground work," Naveen Kumar, a 2015 IIT Delhi graduate, who is leading the group, told journalists.

The party members, however, do not wish to jump the gun and aim for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

"We do not wish to do a hurried job and end up being reduced to just one of those small political outfits with big ambitions. We will begin with contesting the 2020 Bihar assembly elections and then aim for the next Lok Sabha polls," Kumar said. The group, which includes

members mostly from the SC, ST and OBC communities, feels that the backward classes have not received their due in terms of education and employment.

All set with a poster which has pictures of B R Ambedkar, Subhas Chandra Bose and A P J Abdul Kalam, among others, the party has already begun a social media campaign.

"Once we have the registration, we will form small units of the party which will start working on the ground for our target groups. We also do not wish to pitch ourselves as a rival of any political party or ideology," Kumar added.