

Weavers' house inaugurated



IT News
Thoubal, Aug. 23,

A weavers' house for women of Tengnoupal district was inaugurated today at the office complex of the All Tribal Women's Organization (ATWO) Nungouruk Village. The cost for construction of the weavers' house is being sponsored by the Directorate of Handloom and Textile.

The inaugural function of the weavers' House was organized by the District Handloom and Textile Office, Tengnoupal. K. Lamlee Kamei, Director, Directorate of Handloom and Textile, Government of Manipur, E. Jeeten, Deputy Director Handicrafts Directorate of Handloom and Textile, Government of Manipur and K. Shangamshel, Chairman, Nungouruk Village attended

the inauguration function as dignitaries.

Speaking during the function Lamlee kamei said that the newly inaugurated weavers' house is being construction as per the need of the village weavers even though it has not been included in the work Programme. He said that it is not difficult for the government to provides the basic requirement of the weavers however, it is upto the weavers to make the weavers house sustain. He highlighted the various scheme for the welfare of the weavers' community. Government is providing raw material for making cloths at subsidize prize and moreover the government will again procure the product from the weavers. The Director appealed the weavers to take the benefit from the government.

What the Change of Guard in Myanmar's Naga Rebel Base Means for the Northeast

Courtesy: thewire.in
By: Rajeev Bhattacharyya

On August 17, Khango Konyak was impeached from the post of chairman of the separatist Khaplang faction of the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (NSCN-K) capping a long chain of events that began soon after the demise of the organisation's founder and chairman S.S. Khaplang last year.

The cabinet also gave its approval to the appointment of Khaplang's nephew Yung Aung as the acting chairman at a meeting of the outfit's central headquarters in Myanmar's Taga. This also means that Aung will head the Government of the People's Republic of Nagaland (GPRN) which holds sway over the Naga inhabited region in Myanmar's northern Sagaing Division. The general council is expected to endorse the resolutions within two weeks. NSCN(K) functionaries in Nagaland's Mon identified two reasons that led to Konyak's exit after decades of his association with the group since its formation in 1980 (NSCN). "For quite some time, Konyak was unable to assume an active role in the organisation and discharge his duties due to his sickness. He had been away from Taga for a long time which widened the gulf that existed between him and other top leaders," said a functionary of the outfit who did not wish to be named. They said Konyak was recuperating somewhere in the eastern Konyak region of Myanmar's Sagaing Division when the resolution was passed in Taga. He hails from Mon and his appointment as chairman last year was disliked by some senior members of the cabinet many of whom belonged to the Pangmi tribe, a conglomerate of several tribes inhabiting a large area from the border in Arunachal Pradesh to the hills bordering Hukawng Valley. There were regular inputs about the growing differences between Konyak and other leaders like commander-in-chief Khumchok Pangmi. Konyak was accused of usurping all powers which violated the party's 'yehzabo' (discipline). NSCN(K) could not have allowed the internal strife to drag for long given the dire financial conditions of the group currently. Besides, pressure was mounting from Naypyidaw to give up the demand of sovereignty. The

ties between the two sides have remained friendly after the informal agreement in 2001 which was converted into a written accord on April 9, 2012. The Nagas have also allowed Myanmarese teachers to teach their children the language which this correspondent witnessed during an assignment in 2011-12. But Naypyidaw also seems to be in a hurry to enlist as many rebel groups as possible including the Nagas in the Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement. It remains to be seen how Aung copes with the situation and whether he is able to achieve breakthrough in the deadlock that has continued for the last few years. **Dim chances of conflict** Konyak's expulsion is the fourth instance when leaders from the Northeast have had to quit the outfit following differences with the leadership in Myanmar. The first was in 1988, when Thungaleng Muivah and Isak Chisi Swu had to exit after clashes broke out with Khaplang's supporters. This divided the NSCN into the Khaplang and Isak-Muivah factions triggering a turf war, killings and abductions. The next came in 2011 when commander-in-chief Khole

Konyak and prime minister of GPRN K. Kitovi Zhimomi deserted the group to form their own organisation. Four years later came another incident when Y. Wangtin Naga and Tikhak had to part ways after they opposed former chairman S.S. Khaplang's decision to abdicate the ceasefire with the Indian government. Barring sporadic incidents, none of these later incidents fuelled violence similar to the event in the late 1980s. A former activist of NSCN(K) who is now associated with an over ground group in Nagaland is also of the opinion that Konyak's impeachment will not result in any turmoil in the Konyak-inhabited region. "The cabinet's decision also has the support of Konyak leaders from Myanmar. So, it is doubtful if all the leaders from the tribe will join hands with the former chairman," he said. Despite the drawbacks in his leadership, Khango Konyak is a revered leader among the Nagas of eastern Nagaland. He was among the early rebels from the Naga National Council (NNC) to have been trained in China's Yunnan province and who later decided to join hands with Khaplang. So, the possibility of some of his close associates

walking out with him cannot be ruled out as it happened when Khole Konyak and Y. Wangtin Naga had left the group. According to media reports, Khango Konyak will join the NSCN(IM) along with his followers after reaching Nagaland. **Impact on separatist campaign in Northeast** The change of leadership notwithstanding, NSCN(K)'s ties with the separatist groups from the Northeast will remain the same. The Naga group is low on resources, which is why it has to depend upon the other outfits for weapons and human resource. It is a mutually beneficial association that has endured since the early 1980s with more outfits pitching tent and establishing training facilities over the years. The camps that exist across Manipur and elsewhere in Myanmar are however beyond the control of NSCN(K) and they exist through a tacit understanding between the army and police. Konyak's departure from Myanmar will lead to further shrinkage of NSCN(K)'s support base in Nagaland. It will be more focused on the Naga inhabited region in northern Sagaing Division across the border and the pockets in the eastern districts of Arunachal Pradesh where

it still commands support. There are also rumours that the Sumi faction from Nagaland led by Nikki Sumi in NSCN(K) may soon land up at a ceasefire designated camp in the state. But NSCN(K) would not be totally deprived of its capability to carry out strikes in the region. Like many Naga tribes, Konyak villages are found on both sides of the hilly border and residents are allowed to travel up to a distance of 16 km on the other side. According to informed sources, many village headmen have refused to take sides and have maintained cordial ties with all the groups. Militant activities in the contiguous stretch from Mon to Sivassagar in Assam which was once so prominent will decrease and shift to the eastern districts of Arunachal Pradesh bordering Myanmar. All the major attacks against the security forces in the last couple of years have taken place around the Margherita-Jagun region that have routes leading straight to the border through areas of support in the hill state. ****** Rajeev Bhattacharyya is a Guwahati-based journalist and author of Rendezvous With Rebels: Journey to Meet India's Most Wanted Men.**

Legal awareness camp

IT News
Tengnoupal, Aug. 23,

A One Day legal awareness campaign was held today at the ATWO office complex of Nungouruk. The legal awareness camp was organized by the Legal Aid Clinic, ATWO office, Machi block under the sponsorship of District legal services authority Chandel. The theme of the workshop is

"To enhance the skill of rights" and "entitlements for women" haba.

Lalam mate president, ATWO and Moikham Ronglo, secretary graced the campaign as dignitaries while N. Mohendro lawyer and Y. Modhu, lawyer attended as resource persons and elaborated on the entitlement and right schemes for widow and DVA Act 2005.

"Paonilkhon" Evening daily to celebrate 28th Foundation Day

IT News
Imphal, Aug. 23,

Imphal base daily evening newspaper Paonilkhon Daily is celebrating its 28th Foundation tomorrow, the 24th August 2018 at Manipur Press Club at 1 pm. The foundation day function will be graced by Minister of Health and Family Welfare L. Jayentakumar Singh as the Chief Guest while Brozendro Ningomba, President of All Manipur Working Journalists' Union

(AMWJU) will preside it. Publisher of Paonilkhon L. Mangi Singh and Director of Information and Public Relation H. Balkrishna Singh will attend as the guests of honour. Editor of the evening daily Chongtham Meghabarna greets the well wishers, patron and readers of the newspaper in connection with the 28th Foundation Day. A special issue of the newspaper will also be released on the occasion.

Rohingya Refugees Celebrate Eid in Bangladeshi Camps

Courtesy: voanews.com
By: Muazzem Hossain Shakil
Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

As Muslims around the world mark the religious Eid al-Adha — the Festival of Sacrifice — this week, thousands of Rohingya minority members Wednesday joined the celebrations in Bangladesh's refugee camps. The three-day festival comes nearly a year after more than 700,000 Rohingya refugees fled their homes in Rakhine province of neighboring Myanmar due to a crackdown by Myanmar's army and Buddhist militias. The refugees started their celebrations at dawn with congregational prayers at makeshift bamboo and tarpaulin mosques, followed by the slaughter of animals as a mark of sacrifice to God. At Kutupalong, a settlement housing hundreds of thousands of refugees, thousands gathered to perform other traditional rituals such as embracing each other and distributing the sacrificed meat to the needy in the camps. Meanwhile, children played on wooden carousels and around the muddy fields of the sprawling camps. Md Nikaruzzaman Chowdhury, chief executive of Ukhaia subdistrict, told VOA that more than 2,000 cows were slaughtered for approximately 195,000 refugees on the first day of the festival. He said the sacrificed animals were provided by charity groups and local Bangladeshis. "We will be getting another 10,000 beef packets for the refugees in the following days," Chowdhury said. "The distribution will continue to ensure meat is

delivered to every Rohingya during Eid." One Rohingya refugee, who requested anonymity, told VOA that the celebrating refugees were planning to mark the festival by gathering in one field in the camp. He said camp officials prevented the meeting to avoid chaos in the cramped settlement. "There was no big ground for the prayers, so we decided to perform our Eid prayers in mosques," he told VOA. Kutupalong is known to be the world's largest refugee camp, with nearly 1 million Rohingya refugees living in an area of 13 square kilometers (8 square miles). **Limited resources** Officials in Bangladesh have complained that the influx of refugees is beyond their capacity, straining already limited resources and causing large deforestation to make space for the refugees in Cox's Bazar. The government of Bangladesh has sought different ways to reach a solution for the refugee crisis, including an announced deal with the government of Myanmar earlier this year to repatriate the refugees. Another alternative plan by Bangladeshi officials was to relocate the refugees to the newly emerged island of Bhasan Char. Both proposals have been rejected by humanitarian organizations as further endangering the refugees. **Allegations of torture** Human Rights Watch in a report Tuesday accused Myanmar authorities of torturing and imprisoning Rohingya refugees who returned to Rakhine state from Bangladesh after the August 2017 purge. Casting doubt over promises



made by Naypyitaw officials for the safe repatriation of Rohingya, the international rights watchdog said returning refugees — as young as 16 years old — faced torture and were sentenced to four years of imprisonment. "The torture of Rohingya returnees puts the lie to Myanmar government promises that refugees who return will be safe and protected," said Phil Robertson, Human Rights Watch's deputy Asia director. "Despite Myanmar's rhetoric guaranteeing a safe and dignified return, the reality is that Rohingya who go back still face the persecution and abuses they were forced to flee." **Terrorism or discrimination?** Myanmar officials are defending their policies in Rakhine province and say their military campaigns only target Rohingya militants. "We who are living through the transition in Myanmar view it differently than those who observe it from the

outside and who will remain untouched by its outcome," Myanmar state counselor and foreign minister Aung San Suu Kyi said Tuesday, while giving a lecture in Singapore. Suu Kyi said terrorism, not discrimination, was the cause of the crisis in Rakhine and it remains a threat. "The danger of terrorist activities, which was the initial cause of events leading to the humanitarian crisis in Rakhine, remains real and present today," she said. "Unless this security challenge is addressed, the risk of intercommunal violence will remain. It is a threat that could have grave consequences, not just for Myanmar but also for other countries in our region and beyond." The United Nations has described Myanmar's military campaign against Rakhine province as "textbook ethnic cleansing" and has reported that the Rohingya people suffered killing, rape and the mass destruction of their homes by the army and Buddhist militias.

Imphal Times donate this space in commemoration to 53rd Hunger Marchers' Day

53rd HUNGER MARCHERS' DAY

On 27th August, 2018 (Monday)

Floral Tribute at Pishum Chingamacha

Public Meeting at D.M. College Multipurpose Hall

ALL MANIPUR STUDENTS' UNION (AMSU)

Atiokha machol marig
Bachangdegi cherrinlensa orinon
Sombamba lembidade
Eikheise zilekhi.
Maddoigi bakchanggiigi
Chawndolaga nerikisingano
Parakansa Malensida achumba khunna.
Achumba wakhalgi paringdo
Eikheise, Tung gi wothakou
Hatan pambagi sine
Ningsingolunaga leihnarsauna
August 27, Chak Lamhasing gi Mhongchat Nurm.

(Late)Uman Babakmar (Late)Kakhoi Khasari (Late)Ladram Choral (Late)Hengchupam Pamboro