



Lack of civic sense is the major cause of environmental pollution: CM

Imphal, Feb.1: Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that lack of civic sense and common sense among the public are the major cause of environmental pollution. This was stated by him at the inaugural function of the Administrative wing and Laboratory wing of the Manipur Pollution Control Board building located at Imphal West DC Office Complex, Lamphelpat today. Speaking as Chief Guest of the function, Chief Minister said that Steps would be taken to ban vehicles above 15 years which are in bad shape. Mentioning about the improper waste disposal on the banks of Nambul River, Chief Minister said that Police would be deployed in civil dress to check improper disposal of garbage and to catch those culprits. Chief Minister appreciated the efforts and steps taken up by the Manipur Pollution Control Board to address issues related to water pollution, air & vehicular pollution, improper waste disposal in various areas of the State. We all should know that to maintain good health is the most important thing of our lives, he added. He further stated that the government would discuss about the upgradation of the Manipur Pollution Control Board into Directorate status as it has huge responsibility towards making clean Manipur. On the occasion, Chief Minister said that the reason for being an underdeveloped State in the country is due to the lack of strategic planning and vision of the previous governments. We are responsible for every consequences happening in the State, he added. He appealed to the people of the State to leave aside the greed and selfish desires to achieve inclusive development in the State. Chief Minister said that the

primary objective of the present government is to respect and uphold the rights and dignity of the people and also to render service with human touch in the State. Mentioning newly launched CMHT, CMST etc. Chief Minister said that the government has initiated various humanitarian welfare schemes for the people of the State recently. He appealed to the people to work with

sincerity and dedication for the welfare of the State. Minister for Forest and Environment Th. Shyamkumar said that there is rise in the pollution level in the State. Improper disposal of garbage in the city, vehicular emissions etc. are the some of the major factors for the rising level of pollution in the State. He appealed to the people to make a collective effort towards making clean Manipur.

3 girls suspected to be Rohingya arrested at Jiribam

IT News

Imphal, Feb 1: Three girls suspected to be Rohingyas who were brought in the state with fake Adhaar Cards by a person identified as Nasir Ali, (45 years) son of late Nasib Ali of Singarbond Part- 4, West, P.S Lakhipur Sub-Division, Cachar, District, Assam were arrested by personnel of CID Special Branch at Foreigner Check Post located at Assam Manipur border at Jiribam side. Report said that the 3 were encounter by the personnel of the CID (SB) at around 8 am today morning, while they were trying to sneak in the state in a Crusher passenger vehicle bearing registration number AS 11CC 4621. Co-incidentally a team of JCILPS Jiribam Branch were also present when the police personnel were verifying them. Officer in Charge of CID (SB), Inspector H.Deven Kishore Singh while talking to JNN reporter said that the individual Nasir Ali who

brought the three ladies was also arrested and handed over to Jiribam Police station. The three ladies spoke little Bangali but could speak Burmese language very fluently, JNN report added. M. Hemanta Mangang, Chairman - JCILPS, Jiribam Branch, said that as per statement of Nasir Ali, the three girls were brought by him by a person identified as Lalou, and he have no idea of who the three ladies were and where they come from. As per the Adhaar Card (fake), the three ladies were identified as Harijan Babi (25 years) (Date of Birth 15-Dec-1993) D/o Nur Hakim, Sonamura, Dhanpur, West Tripura, Sonamura Sub-Division, Tripura-799131, Fatima Begum (21 years) date of birth (12-Mar-1997) D/o Mohammad, Sonamura Sub-Division, Tripura-799131, and Johara Bibi (14 years) date of birth 03-Feb-2004, D/o Ali Mia, Sonamura Sub-Division, Tripura-799131.

Nagaland CSOs divided over bandh, shutdown affects in 5 districts only

(With input from Agency)

Imphal, Feb 1: Total shut down in Nagaland called Core Committee of Naga Tribal Hohos and Civil Organisations (CCNTHCO) affected normalcy at Dimapur, Mokokchung, Peren, Tseminyu and Zunheboto while the rest remain unaffected, agency report said.

The 12 hours bandh was called in the entire state by some Nagaland civil society bodies demanding postponement of the state assembly election as solution to the vex Naga issue is considered more important. NSCN-IM the rebel group which had signed Frame work agreement with the government of India also warned political parties from taking part in the Nagaland election before settling the Naga issue.

In the five districts where the total shut down has been forced normal traffic has been

severely affected as both commercial and private vehicles stay off the road besides shutting down of all business establishment and educational institutions. Government offices were reported to be defunct in the five districts however essential services had been kept out of the purview of the bandh.

Several apex bodies of the State that had formed a solidarity network for 'solution before election' under the CCNTHCO, backed out from enforcement of total shutdown.

The Angami Public Organization (APO), the Chakhesang Public Organization (CPO), Eastern Naga People's Organization (ENPO) and Lotha Hoho on Wednesday announced they were against the bandh in larger interest of the people. However, these organizations said they are in favour of an early solution to the vexed

Naga issue.

The APO also decided 'not to persuade nor dissuade any individual from filing nomination' and 'will not boycott the ensuing Assembly election'.

This was stated in a press statement issued by APO President, Dr Kepelhouse Terhija, and general secretary, Neisakholie Ziephru, that was circulated in the social media.

"No bandh shall be allowed within the Angami inhabited areas on February 1," the statement read, adding, "This clarion call is made for and in the larger interest of the Nagas in its quest for peoplehood and nationhood which we are aware cannot be taken lightly."

In Kohima district, however, the Rengma Hoho is observing the bandh in Tseminyu sub-division, that began from dawn on Thursday.

The Chakhesang Public

Organization, instead, resolved to have a 'prayer day' for early solution to the Naga political problem instead of a bandh. This was decided at an emergency general meeting held at Town Hall of Pfüterso on Wednesday.

The CPO appealed to all the citizens to 'remain at home and pray for an early solution to the Naga political'.

The ENPO also decided not to impose bandh in ENPO areas, stated a press release from its media cell.

"That does not mean the ENPO do not support the Naga solution. But the decision not to impose bandh has been decided on good faith and not to create unnecessary inconvenience to the public of ENPO areas," stated a press release.

It is learnt that the ENPO had received a letter from the Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday inviting ENPO for a meeting with the MHA in March later year.

India may grow 7.2-7.5% in H2; on way to becoming 5th largest economy: FM

Source: PTI

New Delhi, Feb 1: Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Thursday said India is expected to register a growth rate of 7.2-7.5 per cent in the second half of the current fiscal and is on way to becoming the 5th largest economy of the world.

While unveiling the Budget 2018-19, he said, India has grown on an average of 7.5 per cent in the first three years of the current government and has become a USD 2.5 trillion economy.

"We hope to grow at 7.2 to 7.5 per cent in the second half of the current fiscal," Jaitley said in the Lok Sabha.

India has already become 7th largest economy of the world, he said, adding that it is expected to become 5th largest economy soon.

As per the CSO estimate Indian economy is expected to grow at 6.5 per cent in the current fiscal, ending March 31.

For 2018-19, the economy is likely to grow at 7-7.5 per cent as per the Economic Survey tabled in Parliament earlier this week.

GDP growth in first quarter of 2017-18 had moderated to 5.7 per cent, the lowest in the three years. In the second quarter, it recovered to 6.3 per cent.

PM Modi says budget is development friendly and will strengthen new India

New Delhi, Feb 1: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said the General Budget 2018-19 is development friendly. He said it focuses not only on Ease of Doing Business but also on Ease of Living for the common man.

In a televised address on DD News, Mr Modi said the Budget will fulfil the aspirations of people. He stated that this budget has devoted attention to all

sectors, ranging from agriculture to infrastructure. Mr Modi added the Budget will bring new opportunities for rural India and farmers, Dalits, and tribal communities will gain a lot from it.

He congratulated Finance Minister Arun Jaitley for the decision to give 1.5 times the cost incurred to farmers as MSP and expressed confidence that this will help farmers tremendously.

Gen. Bipin Rawat's remarks on AFSPA fuel anger; Rebels' body reacted

IT News

Imphal, Feb 1: Army Chief Gen. Bipin Rawat remarks on AFSPA has fuel anger to sections of people who are committed to protection of human rights in the country. The remarked also received political criticisms from a rebel group operating in the region. Joint body of major rebel group operating in WESEA region CorCom hit tough words to the statement of the Army chief saying it as another revelation of the intention of the arm forces to directly endorse in the rampant violation of human rights in WESEA region including Manipur and Jammu & Kashmir.

Recently media report had stated that the central government is looking a way out for review of the AFSPA. But the Army chief's statement was a direct reply

of the army's stand to the media report.

A statement issued by CorCom media coordinator Ksh Yoiheiba yesterday said that the draconian Act (AFSPA) licences Indian military forces to kill people at their fancy and whims in the alleged occupied territories. General Rawat's statement implied that the Indian military forces have no morale and are afraid to face the revolutionary groups of these regions without AFSPA. It said how the people of Manipur has been suppressed by the army since its merger to the Indian Union.

"Under the shadow of AFSPA, which contradicts international laws, Indian military forces have been committing genocide as well as isolated killings for the past many years", the statement said. The statement also

highlighted on the recommendation of the United Nations Human Rights Committee to the Government of India time and again to repeal AFSPA. It also reminded the UN Commissioner for Human Rights N Pillay and Special Rapporteur Christof Heyns proposals for immediate repeal of the same Act as it amount to violation of Human Rights.

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch (HRW) also categorically stated that AFSPA was an instrument of colonialism and contradicted international laws, and it must be repealed, the CorCom said. "Even Justice Jeevan Reddy Committee constituted by the Government of India after the murder of Manorama recommended that AFSPA should be repealed but the Government of India flung

aside the same recommendation because its military was not in favour of repealing the infamous Act", the statement added.

After six cases out of 1528 alleged fake encounter cases have been confirmed as genuine fake encounters by Santosh Hegde Commission and the Supreme Court has been preparing to begin trial of these cases.

It is at this juncture that General Rawat came out with a statement in support of AFSPA. Such statement only exposes the Government of India's perception of WESEA and Jammu & Kashmir. Saying that CorCom condemns General Bipin Rawat's statement in the strongest term, it appealed to all the people to analyse how the Government of India has been determining the value of human lives in WESEA.

Scrutiny of nominations for Tripura Assembly elections to be taken up

Agartala, Feb 1: Scrutiny of nominations for the Tripura Assembly elections has taken up today. Yesterday was the last day for filing of nominations. State Election Commission said a total 688 nominations have been filed by 320 candidates. The last day of withdrawal is Saturday. Our correspondent reports that polling for the 60-member Assembly will be held on the 18th of this month, while counting of votes will take place on the 3rd of next month.

On the last day of filing nomination papers, 368 nominations were filed by 185 candidates. Yesterday

BJP state president Bipal Kumar Deb for Banamalipur, Vice Presidents Subal Bhowmik for Sonamura and Ram Prasad Pal for S u r j y a m a n a g a r constituencies filed their nominations.

On the other side, yesterday Sitting MLA of Congress Gopal Chandra Roy filed his nomination paper for Banamalipur constituency. Also, Ex-Chief Minister of Tripura Samir Ranjan Burman filed his nomination for the Bishalgarh constituency as an independent candidate. Meanwhile, campaigning has gained momentum for the assembly polls in the state.

Farm machinery training

DIPR

Imphal, Feb. 1 : The Department of Agriculture is sponsoring two Training Programme on Farm Machinery equipments specially for male and female of Manipur State separately at North Eastern Region Farm Machinery Training & Testing Institute (FMTTI-NER), Biswanath Chariali, Sonitpur, Assam. Interested male and female farmers willing to attend the said programme whose age is not above 40 years may contact Executive Engineer (Agri/CSC), Agriculture Department, Sanjithong of District Agriculture Officers of every district on or before 6th February, 2018.