

Die-in-harness applicants of PWD still remain pending

IT News

Imphal, Feb 15: Ninety eight (98) applicants under die-in-harness scheme at the state Public Works Department (PWD) still suffer as authority had put halt their appointment process for reason best known to them.

Source said, a leakage about monetary demand allegedly asked by some of the top government officials who were dealing with the file process is the reason for not taking up the case for appointment of the Ninety eight (98) applicants applied under the die-in-harness scheme.

In February 2017, this newspaper after receiving information about govt. top officials asking money for processing the file for the applicants had conducted independent investigation

regarding the matter.

In the course of investigation it was found that an association of the job applicants under die-in-harness scheme at state PWD department was formed under the initiative of one L. Kholen, who is also an applicant under the scheme at the department. On January 4, 2017, a meeting was convened at Sagolband Bijoy Govinda Thangapat Aroiba Lairenjam Leirak Keli Makhong Community Hall to press the government for pushing up the matter of die-in-harness appointment.

The meeting notification was circulated through cell phone from a cell phone number 7008147687.

The message said, "An emergency meeting meeting for PWD Die-in-harness will be held on Wednesday Jan 4

2017 at 10.30 am at Sagolband Bijoy Govinda Thangapat Aroiba Lairenjam Leirak Keli Makhong Community Hall. All applicants are requested to attend the meeting without fail. No further responsibility and complaints will be entertained for those absentee. NB- Please hand over your contribution on or before 4th Jan, 2017 to the undersigned. L. Kholen."

One applicant when enquired the amount to be contributed to the sender of the notice informed that Rs. 50,000 is the contribution.

He further told that the money was meant to pay to officers at department of personnel affairs.

On further investigation it was learnt that the then officer who was handling the case

summoned Kholen and asked him about the reason for collection of money. He stand firm saying that no money was collected from any of the applicant.

However, Kholen with some group of people came to the office of Imphal Times saying that they have not collected any money for payment to any officers. Imphal Times after investigation waited for more evidences to publish the story and finally it was learnt that the officer personally called up all the files of the applicants and started checking by himself. Unfortunately, the officer was transferred to another department on routine government reshuffled measures. Since then the matter regarding the appointment of the applicants under die-in-harness scheme

has been put halt.

Recently, In January this year (2018) one applicant went at DP to check the progress of the files. Interestingly, a DP staff did not allowed the applicant to even inquire about the status of the file saying that he had to get permission from L. Kholen first. Kholen is no official staff neither any agency member of the government but how come a government department need permission from an applicant.

Imphal Times now learnt that the files for appointment of the Ninety eight (98) applicants have been returned to the PWD department.

For reason best known to the government authority the case for appointment of 108 die-in-harness applicants has been put to halt.

BJP intensifies election campaign in tripura; Modi stage public rally

Agency

Agartala, Feb 15: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's today leads election rallies at Santirbazar and Agartala with an overwhelming crowd gathering at the Swami Vivekananda ground at Agartala.

"Looking forward to campaigning in Tripura today, I would be addressing rallies in Santirbazar and Agartala," Mr Modi tweeted. Among the gathering those came in at Swami Vivekananda ground, several voters including women and from minority community said that the public mood in the state is for

change and hence everyone seems to endorse the slogan 'Chalo Paltai' (Come, Let us Change)".

"The CPI-M government is last few years turned into a regime of self-seeking leaders as ministers and Left leaders only ensured job for their relatives and children. They simply forgot the common people of the state," said Moinul Islam, a voter from Bordwadi assembly segment. Endorsing his views, another voter Asheem Pal, a trader by profession, hoped once BJP government is installed in the state, Tripura will see an atmosphere of booming business.

He further said, "The BJP's promise of creating job avenues has attracted me most. I also welcome the assurance given by the BJP that there will be a comprehensive CBI inquiry into the Rose Valley Chit Fund scam". Prime Minister is arriving in Agartala for the second time in a week as he addressed two rallies one at Sonamura and the other at Kailashahar on February 8.

The BJP vote share in 2013 assembly polls was near negligible at 1.57 per cent and in 2014 parliamentary polls had hardly risen to 5.7 per cent. However, the saffron party strategists now claim that they have enhanced the party base and will now give a befitting fight to the CPI (M) in their own citadel.

Minorities Awareness program

IT News

Imphal, Feb. 15: An awareness Program on Welfare scheme of minorities in Manipur & elsewhere in India was held today at Rural Development & Panchayati Raj Bhavan, Porompat, Imphal East. Sponsored by Manipur State Minorities Commission, the Program was organized by All Manipur Buddhist Association (AMBA) Imphal. Dr. Syed Burhanuddin, Chairperson - Manipur State Minorities Commission, Dr O Kumar Singh, Advisor - AMBA, Ojit Ningomba, Advocate, S. M. S. Editor- Echel Express, S. Bhubon, Senior Member- AMBA and Memo Ningombi, Joint Secretary- AMBA, were present as Presidium Members. Speaking as Resource Persons at the Awareness Program, Alhaj Dr Syed Burhanuddin, Chairperson - MSMC, Ven. Panthaw Paa, Member-MSMC, Rev. M Ranjit Singh, Member-MSMC and Abdul Hakim Shah, Secretary- MSMC elaborated on the various Welfare scheme being made available to the minorities of the state including the scholarships, benefits and assistance to students and other members in various walks of life to enable the minorities in the state to contribute to development of the society as a whole.

ASUK sets strictures for BOSEM and COSEM examination; warn serious action to violators

IT News

Imphal, Feb 15: Alliance for Social Unity, Kangleipak has set strictures to be followed during class X, Class XI and Class XII examination conducted by COSEM and BOSEM, which is set to start from February 19 and February 20.

In a press statement, the organization said that under its campaign for National Regeneration (CNR), examinations conducted should be in most fair manner.

It said a special task force formed by the organization have imposed curfew within 200 metres in the periphery of school campus conducting examination. No parents or helper should be seen helping the students from outside. The outfit also warns using of Mobile phone, Camera, notes etc by the students or the invigilators as well as invigilators assisting any of the students.

Flying squad of both BOSEM and COSEM are also warn

serious action if they fail to perform their duty without biasness.

The statement also said that uploading of original or hoax question paper through social networking site will be seriously deal with and students' organizations are also asked not to occupy any school.

The ASUK statement said that the Special Task Force had not taken up any stern action to any defaulter last time but will not spare any person.

Rape accused surrendered

IT News

Imphal, Feb 15: An absconding accused that has been charge for raping a 12 year minor girl on the eve of February 13, 2018 has surrendered to the police yesterday evening.

The accused has been identified has one Heisnam Langbol (22 yrs), son of Heisnam Budhi of Thanga Heisnam Leikai.

According to a report received, the victim family had lodge a complaint to Moirang Police Station on February 14, 2018, stating that on the evening of February 13, 2018, around 6:30 pm, the accused

Heisnam Langbol kidnapped and rape their 12 year old daughter somewhere in Thanga area as the accused has absconded after the incident.

The accused Heisnam Langbol who had been charged for rapping a minor girl and absconding from the public and police has surrendered to Moirang Police Station last night (February 14, 2018) around 10:20.

A case has been registered and to avoid any untoward incident, a team of Moirang Police Station has guarded the accused resident.

Save Thoubal River: Sit-in-Protest continue

Thoubal, Feb 15: "Committee for Conservation of Thoubal River" along with various club organisation continue its movement for clean Thoubal river.

Today, sit in protest were staged at seven different places by meira paibi, shopkeepers, women vendors and locals of Yairipok Bazar, Yairipok; Kiyam Babu Bazar, Haokha Kiyam; Leisangthem Bazar, Leisangthem; Okram community hall, Thoubal Okram; Sabantongba manung keithel macha, Sabantongba and Khekman community hall of Phoudel.

Displayed placards as today sit in Protest "Our River Our Life", "Our Thoubal River is Dying Let's Revive Our Thoubal River" and "Save Thoubal River".

Whereas, the committee, along with the local people, will continue to launch



different forms of agitation at various areas of Thoubal if the plights and grievances of the people remain neglected.

MLA Dr. S. Ranjan kicks starts cleaning of Maklang River bank

IT News

Imphal, Feb 15: MLA of Konthoujam Assembly Constituency Dr. Sapam Ranjan today kick start cleaning the river banks of Maklang River, Konthoujam in Imphal West to avoid flood and other natural calamities in

rainy season.

The initiative taken up by MLA, cleaning the river banks of the Maklang River in Konthoujam will safeguard the houses and villagers residing in and around the river bank.

The river banks were clean

using JCV heavy vehicles and trucks.

Mention may be that last year more than 200 houses of Konthoujam Assembly Constituency in Imphal West District were affected by flood resulted from the overflowing of the Maklang River.

Nagaland yet to elect a woman to its Assembly

Agency

Kohima, Feb 15: Even after 54 years of statehood and 12 assembly elections, Nagaland is yet to see any woman representative in the Assembly. The state is set to go to polls on February 27 and the results will be announced on March 3. Of the 195 candidates vying for a seat in the 60-member Assembly this time, five are women. While Wedie-u Kronu and Mangyangpula are contesting the polls on National People's Party (NPP) tickets from Dimapur-11 and Noksen Assembly constituencies, Rakhila is a BJP nominee from Tuensang Sadar-II seat.

Awan Konyak of the newly-formed Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) is fighting the election from Aboi seat and Rekha Rose Dukru is an independent candidate from Chizami constituency. The ruling Naga People's Front

(NPF), however, has not fielded any woman candidate this time.

NPF president Shurhozelie Liezietsu, during a recent media interaction, said: "No woman in the party has shown interest in contesting the polls."

Barring Rakhila, the four other women candidates are first timers.

The BJP nominee is wife of former minister and four-time legislator Lakiumong, who died in 2006 after a prolonged illness. Rakhila lost the last election from the same Tuensang Sadar-II seat by around 800 votes.

"Men in power do not perform. I will do what they haven't done so far," said Rakhila.

NDPP candidate Awan Konyak is daughter of four-

time former MLA Nyeiwaung Konyak, who passed away earlier this month.

"Women make significant contributions to the society every day. Their problems, however, are often ignored. I want to focus on gender equality and women empowerment," she said.

Mangyangpula, an alternative medicine practitioner, said Noksen is 100 per cent ready for a woman leader.

"The ground reality in this constituency is horrible even after 50 years of the states formation," she said.

Men and women together in the 60-member House will make a lot of difference, Rekha Rose Dukru, an entrepreneur-turned-politician, opined.

Wedie-u Kronu, a social worker, feels women can bring positive changes in the society.

India's first radio festival being held in Delhi today

New Delhi, Feb 15: India's first radio festival is being held in New Delhi today to mark World Radio Day.

The festival is being organized by International Association of Women in Radio and Television, in collaboration with UNESCO. In the inaugural session, Paralympian Deepa Malik in

her address said, radio talks about positivity and it is pivotal in celebrating sports. She said, at every crucial point of her life, Radio was an integral part. Ms Malik said, a documentary made on her life by All India Radio boosted her self-confidence and help create a hero out of a differently abled woman.

Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Anju Nigam, Director General of AIR Fayaz Sheheryar, Director General of Door Darshan Supriya Sahu and UNESCO representative to India Shigeru Aoyagi addressed the gathering. The festival includes live

performances, an exhibition, and slotted panel discussions. Apart from touching on the theme for World Radio Day 2018 - radio and sports - the festival is also examining the potential of the medium as a platform for social change, ways to make it more creative and will trace the journey of music on the radio.