

State celebrates 69th Republic Day with cultural & traditional fervour

Imphal, Jan. 27: The state joined the nation in celebrating the 69th Republic Day. Main state function was held at sacred Kangla with Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla as the Chief Guest.

The Republic Day Celebration began with the unfurling of the National Tricolour Flag at Kangla by the Governor of Manipur. The Governor inspected the Guard of Honour accorded by 9th IRB (CDO) Battalion, Manipur which was commanded by Asst. Commandant, Bidyapati Thingbaijam, MPS.

The Governor of Manipur took the salute of 76 March Past contingents (including 11 band parties) led by Smt. Achin Haokip, IPS, Commandant 7th Bn. Manipur Rifles. 17 cultural troops representing different organizations from all parts of the state presented traditional cultural performances. A total number of 17 tableaux were also showcased by different departments under the Government of Manipur highlighting departmental activities. 14 gates were also erected along the March Past route.

The Governor handed over medals to 11 Personnel from Home Department honoured with Gallantry, Distinguished Service, Meritorious Service and Service for Excellence as part of the celebration. Inspector M. Robin Singh was honoured with Police Medal for Gallantry. Havaldar A. Shanti Singh and Divisional Officer Nabachandra Singh Laishram were honoured with President's Fire Service Medal for Distinguished Service. Sub Officer Ajit Singh Seram was conferred with President's Fire Service Medal for Meritorious Service. Head Warden A.S. Tobin TKL, Head Warden T. Sarat Singh, Warden Th. Sarat Singh, Warden T. Okendro Singh, Warden M. Dijen Singh and Warden M. Shyam Singh were honoured with Correctional Service Medal for Meritorious Service. Rifleman Kh Churamani Singh was



conferred with the Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Police Training. The vote of thanks ceremony of the 69th Republic Day celebrations was held at the parade ground of 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles. Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh in his address said that the new Government will maintain and continue the hard earned tranquility in the State. To promote equal development in all parts of the State, the Government has directed all the DCs, SDOs, BDOs and SDCs to station and function at their respective place of the posting, he added.

At places lacking suitable Government quarters and vehicles, the officials may opt for alternative arrangement and stay at rented houses and hired vehicles. The Government will reimburse all the expenses incurred. Shri N. Biren also asked the concerned authority to repair the dilapidated office buildings as well. The Chief Minister also cautioned that officials failing to comply with

the Government directive will face action as per the Government Rules.

Appealing to the armed groups to shun violence and come to the negotiating table for a political solution, the Chief Minister said all differences and misunderstandings can be resolved amicably through talks.

Expressing serious concern over widespread poppy and cannabis plantation at different parts of the State, the Chief Minister asked the DCs, SPs and SDOs concerned to destroy all these plants within the month of March with the help of NAB, police and paramilitary forces. He also urged the public to acknowledge the earnest efforts of the new Government and extend co-operation in its new initiatives.

Stating that India became democratic Republic with the adoption of its Constitution on January 26, 1950, the Chief Minister said that India is able to emerge as a strong Nation due to the committed efforts

of the successive Governments. The Chief Minister said that the current State Government is fully determined to make Manipur a developed State by fulfilling the hopes and aspirations of the people.

The Government is trying to avoid disparity in development and strengthen the bond of brotherhood and oneness among different communities.

The suggestions and information gathered through 'Meeyamgi Nimit' and Hill Leaders' Day is an important part in the formulation of Government plans.

Stating that giving a transparent and responsible administration to the masses is the duty of every Government, the Chief Minister said that the Government had set up Anti-Corruption Police Station in addition to the Anti-Corruption Cell at the CM's Secretariat. A Grievance Redressal Cell is opened at the CM's Secretariat where people can air their grievances

and complaints at the toll free number - 1800-345-3218, he added.

Maintaining that the new Government had taken up many welfare and developmental works within a short span of time, the Chief Minister said that improving road connectivity, construction of Women Markets in hill districts, programmes to provide employment to unemployed youths, providing drinking water, electrification of interior areas, introduction of Chief Minister-gi Sotharabashing-gi Tengbang and Chief Minister-gi Hakshel-gi Tengbang are some of the important works accomplished by the present Government.

Attending the Republic Day function were Chief Minister N. Biren Singh and his Cabinet colleagues, Rajya Sabha MP Ksh. Bhabananda, Lok Sabha MP Dr Th. Meinia, MLAs including Opposition Leader O. Ibobi Singh, Chief Secretary RR Rashmi, DG P.L.M. Khaute and high ranking Police and Civil officials.

CM hoists giant National Flag at Imphal Airport

Imphal, Jan. 27: On the occasion of 69th Republic Day celebration, Chief Minister N. Biren Singh hoisted a monumental National flag measuring 30 ft by 20 ft on a 100-ft mast at Imphal Airport complex on the nation's Republic Day.

The mast has operational lights on the top and the flag would be illuminated with flood lights so that it is clearly visible at night.

Speaking at the occasion, the Chief Minister announced that a flag of similar size and height would also be installed at Civil Secretariat Complex, Mantripukhri after its inauguration.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India is progressing well in different fields. North East India was lagging behind in terms of development in the past. However, the present Government at the Centre had started giving importance to the development of NE States by upholding the sense of a united India, he added.

Maintaining that Republic Day was celebrated in all the districts of the State as in other parts of the country, the Chief Minister said that it was a testimony of strong and united India.

"We need to live together and help each other in order to sustain this unity and strength", he added.

Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) jointly organised the function.



69th R-Day celebrated at all district headquarters

Imphal, Jan 27 : The 69th Republic Day Celebration was held at District level in the District Headquarters.

IMPHAL EAST: The 69th Republic Day, 2018 was

celebrated today under the aegis of the District Administration at the District Headquarters, Porompat, Imphal East District with fervour and gaiety. For the first time, since the inception of the district in 1997, march past was held from Porompat Police Station to DC office complex, Imphal East by 19 contingents comprising of Police, Schools, Colleges, Youth Affairs & Sports Department, Nehru Yuva Kendra, Anganwadi workers, Thang Ya group, Dance troupes and a Tableau of KVK Imphal East. Grand salute was received by Deputy Commissioner, Imphal East, Th. Chitra Devi in the DC office complex.

One national teacher awardee and one State teacher awardee were honoured with shawls. Social Athletic Club of Top Mayai Leikai, Imphal East which was chosen by NYK, Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government of India for "Outstanding Youth Club Award, 2017" was felicitated with a cash prize of Rs 25,000/-. The DC Commendation certificates were also distributed to deserving officials as recommended by the respective Head of Office of the offices working within the jurisdiction of Imphal East District.

(Contd. on page 2)

Forest dept taking help from security forces to check timber smuggling: Minister Shyamkumar

ITNews

Imphal, Jan 27: Forest and Environment Minister Thounaojam Shyamkumar said the department is taking help from security forces including Army and Paramilitary in the State to help the Forest Department to stop illegal smuggling of forest and wildlife products.

Addressing media persons at his residential quarter at Kanglapat, Minister Shyamkumar lauded the 26

Assam Rifles stationed at Thoubal for seizing 16 trucks loaded with timbers and said due to shortage of staff especially the frontline staff, the Forest Department is seeking help from the security forces. He said the department on 18th May, 2017 had written a letter to all the security forces including Army and Paramilitary in the State to help the department.

Security forces were requested to detain trucks carrying timbers without transit pass or watermark which are machine numbered by the department. The security forces were asked to hand over the seized trucks



to the nearest Forest office, he said. He stated that most of the forest products are smuggled during the night time without the permission of Forest Department/Joint Forest Management Committee taking advantage of the hilly terrain with porous border in the interior areas of the State.

He stated that the committed Forest Department officials are working hard to save the forest and wildlife products of the State. He further said as a commitment to save the environment, he along with the Forest officials have been conducting forest inspection

the local daily after the trucks were already seized and handed over to the Forest Department, he added.

Minister Shyamkumar said the department will send a proposal to the Centre for establishing a Forest Protection Force to combat illegal smuggling of forest and wildlife products. Stating that the Chief Minister will be discussed over the matter, he hoped that the establishment of Forest Protection Force will enable the department to curb the menace. Appealing to the general public including media to help in combating the problem, he said the Forest department is also checking areas where poppy and other illegal plants are planted after clearing the forest land.

He said that Forest Department is planting saplings, harvesting and granting legal permission to cut trees following the guidelines. He said as part of saving the environment, the Horticulture Department will plant fruit bearing trees in the areas where the forest lands have been cleared.

"At Home Programme" held at Raj Bhawan

DIPR

Imphal, Jan. 27: On the occasion of 69th Republic Day Celebration, the Governor of Manipur Dr. Najma Heptulla hosted "At Home Programme" at the Raj Bhawan, Imphal yesterday evening. Dignitaries include Chief Minister N. Biren Singh, Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh, Cabinet Ministers, Speaker of Manipur Legislative Assembly Y. Khemchand, former Chief Minister Radhabinod Koijam were among the guest.