

Relief for N. Biren Singh Govt.

Delhi High Court quashes Presidential notification disqualifying 20 AAP MLAs

(With inputs from agency) **Imphal, March 23:** At what could be termed as a relief to the N. Biren Singh Government, the 20 AAP MLAs which has been disqualified by a Presidential order has been quashed by the Delhi High Court today. Manipur Congress MLAs, however is not disappointed as the matter of AAP MLAs challenging the disqualification is somewhat different from the issues of the Parliamentary Secretary as, it is now against the impunity of passing repeal bill of the PS as well as for holding office of profit.

Agency report said that the Delhi High Court directed the Election Commission (EC) to hear the case again. The President, on recommendation from the EC, had disqualified the MLAs "for holding office of profit." A bench, comprising Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Chandier Shekhar, was hearing a petition filed by all the 20 MLAs, who had challenged the order saying "there was no communication to us (AAP MLAs) from the Election Commission (EC) about the hearing before it. It is in complete violation of natural justice."

The petition filed by AAP had added: "It is also that even a temporary government employer cannot be removed on the grounds of misconduct without holding a full-fledged inquiry. However, in the present case, the members of the legislative assembly were removed without holding a full-fledged inquiry and without giving them an opportunity to explain if they ever held any office of profit." AAP convener and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal called the HC's order a victory for the people of Delhi. President Ram Nath Kovind

had ordered disqualification of the MLAs based on the recommendation of the Election Commission, which opined that they had "flouted the principles of natural justice". The office of profit case pertains to the appointment of the MLAs as Parliamentary Secretaries in the Arvind Kejriwal cabinet. The appointment, however, was set aside by the Delhi High Court on September 8, 2016, on the basis that they were appointed without prior concurrence with the Delhi Lieutenant Governor.

MAHUD Minister's unwillingness to construct Lamlong market shed angered Vendor ladies; staged protest

IT News Imphal, March 23: MAHUD Minister Shyamkumar's statement over the demand for speedy construction of

Khurai Lamlong Keithel had angered the vendor ladies of the Market complex who have been earning their day today livelihood.

Rk. Dhanabati, Secretary Lamlong Keithel Phambi Apunba Lup (LKPAL), said that Minister Shyamkumar had showed unwillingness to construct the Market Shed as there are no proper land for construction of the market shed.

Not satisfied with the MAHUD Minister's response women vendors of Lamlong Keithel Phambi Apunba Lup (LKPAL) stage sit-in-protest demanding construction of the Khurai Lamlong Keithel at the earliest.

Speaking to media persons, Rk. Dhanabati, Secretary LKPAL said that though its already 2018, Khurai Lamlong Keithel, which was badly damaged in January 4, 2016 earthquake was demolished for construction of a new market shed by the present government by the end of December 2017.

"It has been three months now and nothing is seen taking up construction of the market shed", Dhanabati said. Vendor ladies are earning their livelihood from the market shed and with no market shed the livelihood of the vendor ladies are being shattered, she

added. The temporary market shed constructed by Ex. MLA Y Irabot near Lamlong Girls School is not sufficient for the vendor women. Total vendors is 420, she added.

Dhanabati also said that local MLA of Khurai AC also stated the same which MAHUD Minister Shyamkumar had stated.

While, among the 420 sheds of women vendors, the government have allotted only 60 shed and states the rest won't allot any place which is unacceptable, she added.

Dhanabati further said that a memorandum was submitted to Ex CM O Ibobi Singh for the construction of the market shed at Lamlong Girls School by updating the school to high school level as there are not more than 60 students enrolled.

Drawing the attention of Chief Minister N Biren, the association appeals to construct the Khurai Lamlong Keithel at the earliest, which is one of the largest women market in Imphal East District where women vendors from all the community earns their daily livelihood.

Different forms of agitation will break out if their demands are not met, Dhanabati asserts.

Employees' cease work strike enters 2nd day

Imphal, March 23: The cease work strike of the government employees under the aegis of the Joint Administrative Council of AMGEO and AMTUC today entered 2 day. Most of the staffs of almost all department even though attended offices, normal functioning was severely affected at most offices. The JAC of AMTUC and AMGEO had submitted 22 charter of demand including pay hike by implementing the 7th Pay Commission for state government employees and pensioners. State govt. have not said no to 7th Pay but their utter silence to the demand have compelled the JAC to launch the cease work strike.

Patriotic Song Competition

Imphal, March 23: Artists Training cum educational Research Center, Wangkhei Ayangpalli, Road Imphal East is organizing an open Patriotic song competition on April 23 at MDU Hall Yaikul. A statement said that patriotic song competition is being organized to show respect to the martyrs of Khomjiong war in April 1891, who had fought fearlessly against mighty British Emperor. Cash prize for the winner of the competition is Rs. 10,000/-, 2nd is Rs. 7000/- and 3rd is Rs. 5000/-. There will also be 10 consolation prizes. Interested persons can take part in the competition by contacting the organizers at the office of Kangleipak Loinasillon Apunba Marup (KLAM) located at Nagamapal Uripok Machin or contact at 8787482122 or 907759887.

Supreme Court seeks detailed response for not appointing Lokayukta in 12 states and UT including Manipur

IT News Imphal, March 23: Twelve states and Union Territories including the state of Manipur now face another worries as Supreme today sought detail reports for not appointing Lokayukta. According to reports on All India Radio, the apex court also asked these states to specify by when they would appoint a Lokayukta. The bench of Justices Ranjan Gogoi and R Banumathi directed Chief Secretaries of

these states and UTs to file an affidavit on the matter within two weeks and apprise the apex court about it. The 12 states and UTs which have been asked to give reasons for not appointing a Lokayukta are Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Delhi and West Bengal. Section 63 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, states

that every state shall establish a body to be known as the Lokayukta. The apex court was hearing a PIL, which sought a direction to the states to provide adequate budgetary allocation and essential infrastructure for effective functioning of Lokayuktas. The PIL said many state governments are deliberately weakening the Lokayukta by not providing adequate infrastructure, sufficient budget and workforce.

Police harassment alleged at Pradhan's residence; protest staged

IT News Imphal, March 23: Locals of Kshetrigao Sabal Leikai in Imphal East today staged a sit-in-protest alleging harassment by Imphal East Police personnel to Abdul Quddus, Pradhan of Kshetrigao Constituency and its local people in the name of hasty search operation last night between 9 and 9:30 pm. Speaking to media persons, Abdul Quddus said that last night atleast 11 police vehicles along with police personnel of Imphal East led

by DSP Ronnie, Devkumar, SP Narcotic and SI Sabir trace pass at the backyard of his residence and his cousin without any information targeting poultry house and rice stock. None didn't give any positive response when enquired by the family members and himself and suddenly three persons including two female entered their premises in suspicious manner carrying big bags in civil dress and order to stay out from the house where a scuffled broke

out and the persons took off and sheltered himself in one of the police vehicle, he added. Abdul Quddus also said that the act of the police personnel seems to be politics to bring bad name of him and his family by plotting fake plan of confiscating drugs from his residence. Those personnel involved and the SP of Imphal East must clarify the motive behind the trace pass without any search warrant and information. Protest and agitation will be carried out if no clarifications are made.

No land dispute for construction of the Sagolmang District Hospital: KKDC

IT News Imphal, March 23: "There is no land dispute for the construction of the Sagolmang District Hospital as alleged by an organization through some local dailies", Sorokhaibam Yaikul, Secretary of the Sagolmang District Hospital said during a press conference held today at Manipur Press Club. He said that the foundation stone for the construction of the Sagolmang district hospital was laid on 2011 and land owners have no objection to the construction of the hospital. "This is a petty politics and an

attempt to shift the hospital from the site to some other places" Yaikul further said. He said land owner Nevideta and her Mother Lakhisana have already consented to use the land for the purpose of hospital construction. An organization called Peace and Development Co-ordinating Committee, PDCC, Khundrapam and Shaikul have been alleging land dispute as the reason for delay in the construction of the hospital. Publicity secretary of the organization, who was also present in the press meet, said that to make it clear about the

problem the Khundrapam Kendra Development Committee had gone to the Health Director office yesterday and invited the member of the PDCC to sort out the misunderstanding. However, no members of the PDCC turned up. He said the Director of the Health Services have been conveyed about the peoples' support to the construction of the hospital. He further said that no compensation has been awarded but people are not protesting it as construction of the hospital is considered more important to them.

Tripartite talk held

IT News Imphal, March 23: The tripartite talk among the Government of India, Government of Manipur and the United Naga Council is held today at Senapati District Headquarters. While details of the talk is still forthcoming, the state government has set 10 April 2018 as the date on which it will finalise its stand on the demands of the UNC and to inform of the same to the central government and the UNC. The state government was represented by V Hangkhalian, Minister Agriculture, Vety & Animal Husbandry, N Kayaisii, Minister Tribals and Hill Areas and Fisheries, and Thokchom Radheshyam, Minister Education and Labour & Employment. The next round of the talk is scheduled to be held on 27 April 2018.

Thoubal District Health Mela held at Gwarok

IT News Thoubal, March 23: With the objective of providing health care facilities to people in remote areas of the district, the District Health Society, Thoubal organized a Health Mela under the sponsorship of National Rural Health Mission at Gwarok Maring Village in Thoubal District today. The Inaugural Function of the Health Mela was attended by Haobam Rosita IAS, Deputy Commissioner Thoubal, who is also Chairperson DHS Thoubal, Dr.N.Jayantakumar Singh CMO/ Director DHS Thoubal, Dr.N.Akendra Singh

DFWO Thoubal and Ph.Leidun Chairman Kwarok Maring Village as Chief Guest, President and Guest of honours respectively. During the Health Mela, 11 Medical Officers examined the patients with cases in General Medicine, Paediatrics, Gynaec, Ortho, Dental, Surgery and Ayush. Moreover, facilities of laboratory tests, X-ray, Ultrasound and medicines were also provided free of cost to the patients. Apart from setting up of 18 Departmental Stores, a Photo Exhibition of the District Health

Society was also displayed during the health Mela. Around 1000 villagers from the surrounding villages availed the health care facilities in the Mela in which services of ASHAs, Staff Nurses, ANMs, ASHA Felicitators and other staff of District Health Society, Thoubal were also utilised. Speaking on the occasion, Dr.Jayanta Kumar Singh, CMO Thoubal, who is also the Mission Director of District Health Society, said that the objective of organising the health mela is to provide health care facilities to people living in remote villages.

Dilapidated road condition of Wangjing to Salungpham irked locals; Auto Association threatens serious agitation

IT News Thoubal, March 23: Dilapidated conditions of the road stretch in between Wangjing market to Salungpham Village in Wangjing Tenthra Assembly Constituency have irked the locals of the region. Multiple Potholes now fill the road, during rainy season the road turns muddy and when no rain dust storms like situation created lot of inconveniences to the travelers. The most common mode transportation is passenger diesel auto, and many time the diesel auto nearly landed in trouble as passengers sometimes felt due to bumping of the

vehicles due to the multiple potholes. An Association of the passenger vehicle service providers called Salungpham Auto Association has threatened to launch series of agitation including closure of the road if the concern government authority fails to start repairing of the road stretch by March 27. A statement of the Association said that if the authority fails what the association has been demanding the road stretch from Wangjing to Salungpham will be closed. This road stretch is the only connectivity of various villages including

Salungpham, Keirembikhok, Wangjing Tekcham leikai, Wangjing SK Leikai etc. Besides there are also schools in the area. As students going to classes had many times met accident after the cycle they ride slip due to the road condition. "In rainy season parents sometimes appealed their wards to remain at home as they felt it better stay safe then met accident. Local club and transporters' body had also submitted memorandum to the concern government authority as well as to the local MLA, but till today the plea of the people of the region is not listened.