

Team **Imphal Times** wish all wishers a happy and prosperous Yaoshang

Torch rally for sports event mark the beginning of Yaosang Festival

IT News

Imphal, March 2: While the rest of the country today begins the celebration of the Festival of colours - popularly called Holi, the state of Manipur begins its celebration with thousands of children running torch rally wearing colourful dress. The festival originally signifies the victory of good over evil and the arrival of spring.

The culture part to mark the beginning of Yaosang, the largest festival of Manipur is also not left out by Hindus of the state. Small huts were built at each locality and burnt to mark the beginning of the festival.

Unlike in other state, the way Manipur celebrate Yaosang is unique and different. Thabal Chongba or moonlight dance is performed in each locality. Playing with colour is also perform at Shri Shri Govindaji Temple as rituals. Earlier playing with colour was practice during Yaosang to the people of the state but the trend has change. Yaosang is more a festival of sports in Manipur but without losing the spirit of Culture.

AIR report added that Holi is being with great enthusiasm and energy in Mumbai and other parts. In Uttar Pradesh, police have made elaborate arrangements to prevent any untoward incident during the festival. President Ram Nath Kovind, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have greeted the people on the occasion.

Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan also conveyed her greetings to fellow citizens. As Yaosang begins almost all newspapers except Sanaleibak daily will stop publication for 5 days starting from today. Imphal Times, with no option also will stop publication from tomorrow till March 6, 2018.

Misunderstanding political appointment

How could the Govt. expect people to follow rules of law when they themselves fail to follow it

IT Desk

Imphal, March 2: Any ruling government can appoint some high profile political activist to some Independent government establishment like the Corporation, State Social Welfare Board etc as head of the office. Even to some of the statutory bodies the government (ruling) can interfere to the appointment of top post like the chairman or members on the condition that those person the ruling government desire to appoint should fulfil the eligible criteria provided in the government rules.

In our news report published yesterday under the heading "MCPCR in dire straits" which questions the government about its concerns for Children of the state, the name of the Chairperson appointed by the government should be Smt. Sumatibala Ningthoujam and not Sunitibala as reported. The post of the Chairperson of the

MCPCR cannot be appointed by the state government by skipping the provision of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights Rules, 2006, Section 3(A) of the rules details on the eligibility criteria of who should be selected as the Chairperson of the Commission. In Section 6-A of the rules says that before the appointment of Chairperson or members says that wide publicity through newspaper should be published. So the post itself cannot be appointed on politically. However, it is a culture that ruling political party favours candidate from among their members if in case the eligibility criteria are fulfilled. The case is similar with the Appointment of member of the Manipur Human Rights Commission (MHRC). A rejoinder sent to this newspaper mention about this newspapers personal interest

and called it "sinister report". The report does not attempt to malign the image of any person neither attempted vengeance as it was purely on the interest of the rights of the children.

We report that the chairperson of MCPCR has souring relations with other members of the commission and because of that the commission fails to render its duty.

The conflict between the members and the Chairperson arises after a fielded work coordinator of the Indra Gandhi National Tribal University in a letter to the Chairperson stated - "... there are some concerns raised by the students place earlier (intern course) that the behaviour of their supervisor in your organisation is unwelcoming and creates discomforts to students particularly female students". The supervisor stated by the coordinator of IGNTU is a married male.

Such an indication to a statutory body that too - a government body to look after for protection of child rights is serious. So the members of the MCPCR in a meeting resolved to remove the said person as exemplary action but were halt back by the Chairperson. These resulted as an insult to the members and following that have boycotted the Chairperson. Imphal times also reported that Govt. in an order appointed Sumatibala Ningthoujam, when the applicant for the post as per record in the certificate is Lourebam Sumatibala. The state government boldly announce to make the state free from corruption and appeal to follow the rules of law of the land. When rules are violated by the government itself to the appointment of the post how could the government expect the people follow the rules of law?

9 Sector Assam Rifles begins Yaosang celebrations with locals

IT News

Imphal, March 2: Continuing with its tradition of being part of the Yaosang celebrations the units of 9 Sector Assam Rifles started five day long games for the kids including spoon race, sack race etc. The children had great time and enjoyed the games showing their competitive spirit. With an aim of inclusive participation in the festive environment, the Hanuman Top Company Operating Base personnel spent the day with the residents of Old Age Home at Chingarel. 35 boys participated in the run with full enthusiasm. The locals from the nearby villages cheered the participants. The winners were awarded prizes

by Subedar Major Sonaemba (Retired), the Pradhan of Pourabi village. The Chingmeirong Company Operating Base organized various fun games for the kids including spoon race, sack race etc. The children had great time and enjoyed the games showing their competitive spirit. With an aim of inclusive participation in the festive environment, the Hanuman Top Company Operating Base personnel spent the day with the residents of Old Age Home at Chingarel and the personnel of Mantripukhri Company Operating Base spent the day with children of Carmel Jyoti Orphanage, Luwangsangbam. The elders

conveyed their blessings to the Assam Rifles personnel for their gesture. 26 Assam Rifles (Thoubal Battalion) joined the youth of Heirok Part I in a friendly volleyball match which witnessed large turnout of the spectators. The unit also kick started the festivities at Thoubal with Women Income Generation Centre joining in a cultural program followed by colour celebrations with children and elders from the area. The units of 9 Sector will be organizing a number of sports and traditional events in association with local youth clubs & elders over the next four days

Security Meeting

Imphal, March 2: A security meet was organised by 6 Assam Rifles of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR(South) at Andro Company Operating Base. A total of 42 individuals including members of group councilors, youth club members, meira paibis of Andro valley attended the meet. Issues regarding peaceful conduct of the Yaoshang festival, maintain of peace and harmony in the complete area were discussed so as to avoid unwanted incident in the area. The current security situation was also discussed in detail. The attendees appreciated the efforts of Assam Rifles in ensuring peace and assured their commitment and assistance in maintaining the same.

All set for counting of votes in Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland

Imphal, March 2: All arrangements are in place for tomorrow's counting of votes for Tripura, Meghalaya and Nagaland Assembly elections.

Tripura went to polls on the 18th of last month, while voting in Meghalaya and Nagaland was held on Tuesday. All the three states have a 60-member Assembly, but polling was held for 59 seats in each state. Polling to Charilam (ST) seat in Tripura was postponed till the 12th of next month due to the death of CPIM candidate Ramendra Narayan Debbarma.

In Meghalaya, the election was countermanded in Williamnagar in the wake of the killing of NCP candidate Jonathone N Sangma in an IED blast, while in Nagaland, Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party Chief Neiphiu Rio was declared elected unopposed from the Northern Angami-II constituency.

In Tripura, over 92 per cent voters had exercised their franchise in the elections, setting a new record. In Nagaland, over 75 per cent voting was recorded, while in Meghalaya, 67 per cent votes were polled.

Re-polling held at 12 polling stations in Nagaland

Kohima, March 2: Re-polling was held today at 12 polling stations in Nagaland. The state went to Assembly polls on Tuesday along with Meghalaya. Re-polling, which began at 7 in the morning, will end at 3 in the afternoon. It is taking place

in five polling stations in Phek district, two each in Tuensang and Kiphire, and one each in Kohima Town, Peren district and Mon district. The Election Commission had announced re-polling after it received complaints on polling related matters.

Union Cabinet clears setting up of NFRA to oversee auditors

New Delhi, March 2: Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA). Briefing media in New Delhi

yesterday, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said, the NFRA will act as an independent regulator for the auditing profession which was one of the key changes brought in by the Companies Act 2013. Mr. Jaitley said, the jurisdiction of NFRA for investigation of Chartered Accountants and their firms will be extended to the listed companies and large unlisted public companies. The Cabinet also gave nod to the Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill - 2018 to deal with those escaping overseas to avoid getting caught. The Bill will help in laying down measures to deter economic offenders from evading the process of Indian law by remaining outside the jurisdiction of Indian Courts. Mr Jaitley said, the economic offences worth 100 crore rupees or more will come under the purview of the Bill.

Chirom Indira conferred "Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017"

IT News

Imphal, March 2: Smt. Chirom Indira W/o. Ch. Sanjoy Singh from T h a n g m e i b a n d Lairenhanjaba Leikai, I/w (Manipur) is selected for this prestigious award "Nari Shakti Puraskar 2017" for her remarkable contribution towards the women empowerment, development of socio-economic conditions of the weaker sections and handloom sector.

Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India confers the 'Highest Civilian Honour for Women' on International Women's Day, 8th March, every year by presenting "Nari Shakti Puraskars". The objective of the award is to acknowledge and recognize the services of individuals and institutions who have made a lasting contribution to women's empowerment. The awards



Smt. Chirom Indira

are also an effort to recognize role models who act as torch bearers for the younger generation and catalysts of change in the lives of women and society at large.

Smt. Chirom Indira was one of the Women Entrepreneur, Designer, Exporter, and Social Worker from the North-Eastern Region of India. Her dedication and contribution for the development of handloom sector and working for the women empowerment made her a well-known figure in the region. She was born in Sagolband Sayang Kurao Makhong (Imphal West). Activities such as social works, women empowerment and working for the development of socio-economic condition of the weaker sections were always close to her heart. As a woman entrepreneur, she believed communal harmony is key to social development in multi ethnic society like Manipur. Empowering and embedding self-esteem into women is her life's biggest mission. She is also a strong supporter for women empowerment. By

giving women skills and new opportunities, we can unlock their full potential and enable every woman to find a new meaningful place in society. She is a lady of huge ambition and she works really hard to achieve what she wants. She worked nights and weekends. It's a known fact that success doesn't happen overnight. Things take time; it demands hard work and enthusiasm. She believed on herself and her work. She took all the problems as a challenge.

She has never been one to rest on her laurels. She has always looked ahead, towards newer challenges. Her natural instincts and foresight have always led her to the next frontier. She performed silently and continues to let her works talk for them. She has always maintained a very positive and friendly attitude towards all the section of peoples. She

loves people and always tries to lift the spirits of those around her. She has a keen interest in paying it back to the society by doing something for its welfare. The efforts of her hard work bring smiles to thousands of women in the region. The best thing about Chirom Indira is her utmost simplicity.

She has earlier received many prestigious awards including National Award in Design Development of Handloom Products honoured by Ministry of Textiles and DMA All India Women Entrepreneurs Award 2018 (Super Achiever Award) honoured by Delhi Management Association (DMA). She is a woman who has consistently strived hard to attain sky height success and still managed to maintain her foot firmly on the ground.

Imphal Times will not have its hard copy publication from tomorrow the 3rd March, 2018 till 6th March, 2018 due to Yaosang Holiday