

State security situation reviewed, manhunt for those responsible in Koirengei blast underway

IT News
Imphal, May 10

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has said that an active manhunt is underway to nab the culprits behind the series of blasts that recently rocked the State Capital.

He was speaking to media persons on the sidelines of Hill Leaders' Day at the Durbhar Hall of the CM's Secretariat today.

N. Biren Singh said that he had reviewed the situation in a security meeting held at Chief Minister's Secretariat yesterday.

During the meeting, the Chief Minister said, it was felt that certain technical difficulties faced by the intelligence units of the State Police Department must be addressed at the earliest.

As such, updated technology would be acquired as soon as possible to counter different security threats, said N. Biren, who is also the in-charge of Home Department.

Stating that common people may face some inconveniences during the course of search operations conducted by the police/security agencies, the Chief Minister urged the public to bear with this inconvenience and extend co-operation to the security personnel to arrest



the culprits. Maintaining that it is the bounden duty of the Government to book the anti-social elements and protect the life and property of the common people, the Chief Minister asserted that the ongoing manhunt would go on until the perpetrators are nabbed.

If peace prevails in Manipur, the State has the potential to become one of the most developed States of the country as there is no dearth of resources and talents, he opined.

Regarding Hill Leaders Day, the Chief Minister expressed hope that the number of visitors of this day would automatically come down when the 'Go to Village' mission is expanded to more villages, he added.

The Chief Minister said that provisions of providing

allowance to Government officials taking part in the mission and acquiring necessary vehicles would be discussed by the State Cabinet soon.

Regarding dredging of riverbeds, the Chief Minister lauded the people who were residing within the limits of the flood plain zoning areas of Imphal River and Nambul River for removing their shops, houses and other structures on their own extending co-operation to the ongoing dredging exercise.

N. Biren further said that a high level powerful committee comprising high ranking officials of NHPC and the State Government had already been formed to jointly tackle flash floods. Hence, there would be no unnecessary delay any more in the opening of sluice gates of Ithai Barrage when required, he added.

The Chief Minister also said that development of infrastructures of the newly created districts is in active consideration and the construction of the new bridge near Nung Dolan on NH-37 (Imphal-Jiribam road) is nearing completion. In today's Hill Leaders' Day, N. Biren Singh attended to 350 complaints and met around 1000 people from different hill districts of the State from 9 am to 1 pm.

Protest Staged Against Koirengei Blast: Floral Tribute Paid

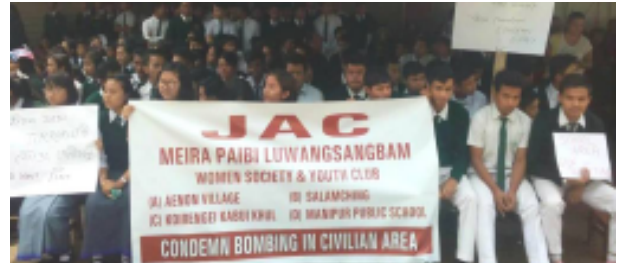
IT News
Imphal, May 10,

Strongly condemning the blast occurred yesterday at Koirengei near 49 BSF Battalion Headquarter gate, Joint Action Committee of Luwangshangbam Meira Paibi, Women Society and Youth Club, Aeon Village, Salamching, Koirengei kabui Khul, Vaiphi Colony, Teachers and Students of Manipur Public School, Reliance School, King English School today stage sit-in-protest at 49 BSF Battalion Headquarter gate, which is the blast site and Koirengei Bazar.

Speaking to media persons, Leitongbam (O) Robita, Member Luwangshangbam Meira Paibi said that potting bomb blast in the civilian areas is an inhuman act.

"What do they get by hurting and injuring the innocent civilians? What was the fault of 35 years old Manipur Public School van driver Heisnam Mubi and 40 years old Mangsatabam Premrata Devi, who got seriously injured in the blast, that run a shop living hand to mouth to survive and feed her son and daughter?" Robita questioned.

Robita maintain that those persons or groups responsible for the blast should clarify with legitimate reasons and the state government and concern department should also find out those culprits responsible behind the blast to award befitting punishment at the earliest.



Robita appeals not to repeat such act anywhere just to claims lives in the near future especially at the civilians residing areas.

Mention may be that, two BSF personnel namely N Ningthouba Meitei of Bashikhong Kunja Panung and Sanjay Tirkey posted at the 49 BSF Battalion, Koirengei lost their lives due to the bomb blast while Heisnam Mubi and Mangsatabam Premrata Devi were admitted at Raj Medicity Hospital, North A.O.C.

Mangsatabam Premrata Devi was admitted in serious condition and underwent operation for total left arm amputation. One of the heartfelt news that has been received is that the deceased N Ningthouba Meitei was married two months back, recently. Meanwhile, floral tribute was paid to the two deceased BSF personnel by high ranking officers of various security officials of the state.



PREPAK claims hands in Koirengei blasts

IT News
Imphal, May 10,

Proscribed group Peoples' Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) has claimed responsibility to the Koirengei blasts which killed to personnel of the 49 BSF camp.

A press statement issued by LeibakNgakpa Luwang, Secretary -in-charge and propaganda, PREPAK, said that yesterday blasts at Koirengei which killed 2 personnel of the 49 BSF camp

at Koirengei at 1.40 pm was carried out by the Red Army of the outfit. The statement said that the blasts is carried out to restore the erstwhile nation Kangleipak which has the history of over 2000 years of civilisation, from the hand of the colonial India.

The outfit however share pains and sorrow to the three person who sustain injury in the blast. The PREPAK appealed the people not to stay near the camp of the security force, which hinted more strike at security forces.

One day convention on condition of Thoubal River held, Rally staged

IT News
Thoubal, May 10,

A one day discussion programme on the condition of the Thoubal River was held today at Thoubal Mela Ground. Large number people from Andro, Wangkhem and Lilong and those which were living on the River since time Immemorial attended the meeting. The people also staged a rally till DC office Thoubal and submitted a memorandum to take immediate action for protection of the River. Speaking during the discussion experts blamed the government authority over failure to take immediate measures for preservation of the River. The one day discussion programme was organised by the "Thoubal River Conservation Committee" and supported by students' group AMSU, DESAM and MSF. Various protest have been staged for protection of the River since February this year even bandh had been called on February 17 demanding immediate measures for conservation of the River.

MU Professor invited to deliver lectures at international conference

IT News
Imphal, May 10,

Prof. G J Sharma, Professor HAG (R) and UGC-BSR Faculty Fellow, Department of Life Sciences of Manipur University has been invited to deliver Keynote and Plenary Lectures at the International Conference on Plant Science & Physiology, 21 - 22 May to be held in Osaka, Japan. He has been invited as Honorable Guest and shall chair two scientific sessions.

Earlier he was Invited Speaker and Session Chair at the joint International Conference on

Food Engineering & Biotechnology and the 3rd International Conference on Agronomy & Horticulture, 28-30 November 2017 held at Sanya, China.

At the Biotech France International Conference & Exhibition, 28-30 June 2017 held at Pôle Universitaire, Paris, France also he was an Invited Speaker. There, he was Chair of the Scientific Session - I: Biochemistry/ Bimolecular Engineering.

Prof. Sharma has so far delivered over thirty international conferences held in USA, UK, France, Italy, Netherlands, Japan,

China, Singapore, Thailand and in India.

In this regard, the teaching fraternity, officials, students and scholars of Manipur University conveyed him best wishes and expressed happiness over such achievements.

One of the teachers of the varsity state that it is indeed a matter of pride for our university to have such eminent professor among us and to represent our university in the international arena through his academic excellence and contribution in the field of Life Sciences.

Two Factions of Zeliangrong United Front Announce 'Ceasefire Agreement'

Agency
Imphal, May 10,

The two warring factions of Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) - one led by S Kamson and the other by Jeanchui - have come to a term of "ceasefire agreement" on Monday between the two groups while "heeding to the call of the Zeliangrong public to come together as one and pursue the political problem of the Zeliangrong people". According to a joint press release of the two groups, the development was a step paving ways for

"reconciliation and to come together as one". The press note further said that the development was a move "on the path towards achieving the aspiration of the Zeliangrong people".

According to the joint press statement, the ZUF was "divided into two groups" about a year ago following some misunderstandings, subsequently resulting in loss of lives from both sides. In order to fulfill the "aspiration and dreams" of the Zeliangrong people, the two groups were compelled to sign the "ceasefire agreement" term between

them, it said. D Longmei and A Dangmei represented the S Kamson group while A Riamroi and Felix Kamei represented the Jeanchui group in signing the "ceasefire agreement" it added.

Imphal Times is looking for 2 trainee reporters and one assistant machine man. Interested persons can contact the office during office hour (from 12 pm to 4pm)

PDA Fields Yephthomi Against NPF's Jamir for Lok Sabha By-Poll

Agency
Imphal, May 10,

Ruling People's Democratic Alliance on Wednesday decided to field former minister Tokheho Yephthomi to take on opposition Naga Peoples Front (NPF) nominee C Apok Jamir in May 28 by-poll for lone Lok Sabha seat of Nagaland. The bypoll has been necessitated due to vacation of the seat by Neiphiu Rio after becoming Chief Minister of Nagaland. The official declaration and formal handing over of the party

tickets to both the candidates were held in Kohima on Wednesday.

Both the candidates will file their nomination on Thursday, it was announced.

Speaking on the occasion, CM Neiphiu Rio said being in the government, the PDA consensus candidate has the advantage of winning the polls but he called up all alliance partners not to be complacent as the opposition though not strong has 26 elected members, which is a good number.

He also called upon the 36 elected representatives of PDA and all those defeated

candidates of the February state assembly election to take care of their respective constituencies.

Maintaining that the ensuing election will bring the PDA partners closer while it will be a test for them, Rio said we should work hard for PDA not only complete this term but also provide a stable government to the people of the state for development and progress.

Deputy Chief Minister Y Patton, State BJP President Visasolie Lhoung, JD(U) Minister G Kaito Aye and Independent Minister

Tongpang Ozukum asserted their fullest support to the consensus candidate.

In his acceptance speech, Tokheho, a veteran politician asserted that going to Parliament he would take up the Naga political issue for an early solution as the state has been lagging behind because of the unresolved issue.

He also clarified that the by-poll was necessitated as Rio had to resign as MP because the state and people was going through bad times under then NPF government and his service was required here.

At the NPF ticket distribution ceremony, Leader of Opposition, T R Zeliang said the bye-election for the lone seat was compelled upon the Naga people because of the misadventure of former MP and incumbent Chief Minister, Neiphiu Rio. He lamented that Nagas were not represented in Lok Sabha for the last more than three months, during a period when Naga political issue is at its peak because of Rios resignation.

Expressing that NPF and the Nagas in general are forced to face the extraordinary

situation and premature LS bye-election, he said NPF being the single largest party in the assembly, all the elected members and defeated candidates should come together to start the party candidate to Delhi. NPF president Shurhozelie Liezietsu said the bye-election is an opportunity for the party to go to the people once again and share the guiding principles and objectives.

In his acceptance speech, Jamir expressed confidence that with the support of the NPF elected members and also the Naga people he would