

We need change in grassroots to bring inclusive development: CM

DIPR
Imphal, May 15,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that if we want positive change and inclusive development in the State then it should start from the grassroots level. He was speaking at a 'Go to Village' camp held at Govindagram Laiharapung, Wangoi A/C in Imphal West today. The camp was organised by District Administration, Imphal West. Speaking as Chief Guest, Chief Minister said that the essence of doing politics is to serve the people of the State and that's why the present government, since its inception, decided to reach out to the people of the State. Now, under the initiative of the present government 'Go to Village' mission, most of the government services are being delivered at the doorsteps of the people. The people would no more face the inconvenience of visiting different Government offices for enrolment of different schemes or registering their grievances, he added. Such mission is one of the steps to

make a corruption free society, he mentioned. Chief Minister informed the gathering that around 80,000 applicants were received on the inaugural day of the 'Go to Village' throughout the State. Mentioning that there is around 40,000 drop-out students in the State, Chief Minister stated that the newly launched 'Lairik Tamhanlasi' scheme would encourage those students who are enrolled in government schools to get education by providing the cost of admission/examination/tuition fees, uniform and text books to all the students in the State, he added. He announced that bathrooms and toilets especially for women and girls would be constructed near village ponds in every villages of the State. A budget of Rs. 3.5 lakhs would be allocated for such construction in each and every village, he added.

More than 25 different Government Departments including Agriculture, Fishery, Handloom and Handicrafts, Education etc. opened stalls to address people's grievances at the camp. Chief Minister personally visited all the stalls being opened at the camp. During the inspection, Chief Minister directed the officials of the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to provide gas connection to the 50 eligible beneficiaries on the spot. On the occasion, Chief Minister distributed benefits under different social security schemes to selected beneficiaries. Minister Karam Shyam, MLA O. Lukhoi, Imphal West Adhyaksha Smt. R.K Tarumi, Additional Chief Secretary Dr. Suhel Akhtar, Additional Chief Secretary Lethkugin Haokip and Imphal West DC Ningthoujam Geoffrey were also present at the occasion.

Students' body threatens boycotts of 2 MLA over rape issues

IT News
Imphal, May 16:

Demanding justice for the rape victims with the rising rates of crime against women in the state, Socialist Students' Union of Manipur (SSUM) has threatened to boycott of two MLAs – one from Thanga and the other from Thangmeiband Assembly Constituency if they fail to stand for the rape victim and deliver justice to the victims who happened to be from their respective constituencies.

Speaking to media persons in a joint press conference organized by SSUM, POFM and Thangmeiband Apunba Nipu Lup (THANIL) at the office of SSUM, Bhushan Longjam, Co-Convenor SSUM expressed disappointment over MLA of Thanga A/C for failing to notice the problems faced by the recent rape victims of their constituencies on the interference by politicians. Victims family has informed that the condition of their daughter is worsening day by day.

Boy Drown; 1Dead Body Recovered

IT News
Imphal, May 15:

One 14 years youth drown today at Imphal River at around 7 am today while trying to fetch a ball which fell in the river while playing at the bank of the river at Singjamei Wangma Kshetri Leikai. The youth is identified as Ningthoujam Mahesh, son of Ongnam Ningol Ningthoujam Ongbi Memtombi of Mongkhlang Lambi, Singjamei Wangma Kshetri Leikai. Mahesh is a student of

Catholic School, Chanchipur, studying in 9th standard. On the other hand, a dead body was found near Wangbal Fishery Gate in Wangbal early morning around 5:30 am today. The dead body has been identified as Soibam Bishwanath (23 yrs), son of Soibam Khongamani Singh of Wangjing Heitupokpi Leikai in Thoubal District. Police personnel of Thoubal police recovered the body and deposited at JNIMS morgue for post mortem.

48 hours cease work strike by Diesel Auto is an opportunity of the government to decide the fate of Imphal city

IT Desk
Imphal, May 15,

48 hours cease work strike by passenger Diesel Auto and Tata Magic vehicles perhaps is an opportunity for the concern government authority to check its impact to the Khwairamband Keithel as well as to the other business sectors leaving aside the traffic congestions and noise pollution issue. Well on the second day of the 48 hours cease work strike by the passenger diesel auto service and Tata Magic Vehicle, traffic police personnel seem to be relaxed this morning as they are not facing hardship in maintaining vehicular flow in a systematic way. An independent survey conducted this morning by Imphal Times team, number of



street vendors has been reduced to almost 70%. However, there is no dearth for vegetable in the market. There are adequate numbers of vendor lady seen in the Khwairamband Keithel today

morning. There were less congestion in the selling site and traffic was almost free, even making ways for the city bus service introduced by the state Transport department. Nandini, a vendor lady when

talk to Imphal Times said that she didn't have problems in her business. She sold little amount of business by buying them from the whole seller market at Nagamapal and Temporary Market set. One problem she narrated is the increase of price in the name of the ongoing cease work strike by the diesel auto. "We are doing well and good and the consumer are happy as they could park their small vehicles as the road is not congested", Menaka another vendor woman said. She however expressed worried about her colleagues who used to sell vegetable along with her by coming early in the morning from far away villages like Kodompokpi, Yumnam Huidrom, Nambol, Wangoi, Patsoi etc. (Contd. on Page 3)

North East Dialogue Forum opposes Citizenship (Amendment) Bill; urges to withdraw the Bill

IT News
Imphal, May 15,

Terming the Citizenship (Amendment) Bill as another agenda to suppress the voice and to violate the rights of the Indigenous people North East Dialogue Forum has urged both the Government of India and the Government of Assam to withdraw the Bill. In a press statement, the Forum said that since the last many decades the Indigenous people inhabited in the North East are threatened in their own land due to the domination by the large number of illegal migrants from the neighboring countries which the Government of India had failed to control during the time of migration. "Citizenship (Amendment) Bill is another agenda to suppress the voice and to violate the rights of the Indigenous people by violating the United Nations Declaration on Rights of the

Indigenous People, 2007 by granting citizenship to persons belonging to minority communities namely Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh which is a clear threat to Self Determination over the Indigenous people's land", the Forum stated. The statement further added that based on Assam Accord, at the intervention

of the Supreme Court of India and on the instruction of the Central government, the Government of Assam is engaged in intensive updating of the National Register for Citizens (NRC) to include people permanently residing in the state till 24th March 1971 and to treat them alone as genuine citizens of the country. The Forum also condemn

the updating of NRC in Assam as it will give another threat to the Indigenous People of Assam and North East in general. The Forum blamed the Government of India over failure to recognize and protect the rights of the Indigenous people but. It said considering the illegal migrants as the citizen of India is a clear violation of Rights of the Indigenous people.

Blood donation camp held at RIMS

IT News
Imphal, May 15,

The College of Nursing, RIMS, Imphal in collaboration with department of Immunohematology & Blood Transfusion (IHBT) organized awareness cum voluntary blood donation camp at the IHBT, RIMS, Imphal today. The program was sponsored by the State Blood Cell, National Health

Mission, Manipur. More than 50 B.Sc, Nursing, MBBS and BDS students took part in the blood donation camp. During the program, the principal of the College of Nursing, RIMS, Imphal Prof. H. Jamuna Devi mentioned that the awareness cum voluntary blood donation camp was held in connection with the observance of International Nurses week. She further

said that blood donation is one of the most significant contributions by the human being. Whichever person contributes the blood for donation; they make the huge respect towards the society. Blood donation is the big contribution in the whole life of people. The faculty members, staff and students of Nursing, Medical and Dental attended the program.

Tlanglungbung Leikol or Langol Peak garden- A potential Tourist destination

By- Laishram Ranbir
Imphal, May 14,

Once a peak in the legendary myth Khamb-Thoibi of Manipur, where Thoibi came to pick the very special flowers known as Thoibi-Lei from this peak and a historical site for the World War 2 where allied force put up their camps, Langol Peak or Tlanglungbung is now becoming one of the favourite tourist centres in Manipur.

Surrounded by beautiful landscape, hillocks and breathe taking sceneries, Tlanglungbung Leikol or Langol Peak garden lies in the Langol Village of Machi Sub-Division in Chandel District about 60 kms drive from the heart of Imphal city along the Indo-Myanmar road.

"Hearing the folktales told by our elders and forefather of our village Machi since ancestral times about how important is the peak to the people of Manipur and about the mythological tales of Khamba-Thoibi attachment to the peak, I came up with an idea to preserve and built up a garden for the people of Manipur otherwise I wouldn't have never dreamt off in my entire life," D.K Tolshilthang, Proprietor Tlanglungbung

Leikol or Langol Peak garden.

We all know that most of the parks and gardens in the state are set up to provide comfort for the people who wish to visit a place where they can relax and enjoy for sometime but Tlanglungbung Leikol or Langol Peak garden, which is yet to complete is especially set up with a dreamt to preserve its historical facts of the peak and its surrounding areas. D.K Tolshilthang said "looking at the inspiration of the elders of the villages established in and around the Machi sub-division, the garden is being built up so that one



who visits can relax and enjoyed the breath taking views and sceneries surrounding the four corners of the peak as well as the historical tales." Tlanglungbung Leikol or Langol Peak garden, located in one of the oldest Maring Villages that is flooded with elements of historical importance, began its construction with four entry points in the year 2013 and before the end of the year 2017, it was officially declared open for the public.

"As told by our forefathers, there used to be a huge stone at the peak while the peak was called Kaadanching during the ancestral periods but disappeared after the peak was named Tlanglungbung by the villagers. We have underwent search for the stone and it was discovered at a different location between two hill slope not so far from the peak though naked cannot see it from the top of the Tlanglungbung Leikol or Langol Peak garden, we cannot deny the historical facts," said D.K Tolshilthang. Except for eye-witnessing

the beauty of the flowers grown at the garden, looking back at the myth of the Khamba-Thoibi, the flowers known as the Thoibi-lei, the proprietor is working at her best level to preserve and grow as much of the special variety of the flower like it was once blooms at the peak so that visitors can witness and with the customary one who pluck and garland the flower in their body has downfall future, as per the historical myth connected with the flower.

Michael, a visitor with family said "never knew that such an amazing place can be set up with breath taking views and sceneries, the fresh air, it's very relaxing and coming here, we even witness the Thoibi-lei that was once heard only in the folktales told by our grandparents. If a lot more unique related to the history can be establish in the garden, this will be a whole new level of tourist spot for the people of Manipur and for tourist from different states and countries to thrive here." During the holidays and festival seasons, the garden is a centre of attraction among the locals and people of Manipur and being a large area around seven to eight staffs has been employed to look after the garden though requirement of more staff can be witness.

(Contd. on Page 3)