

Fasting month of Ramadan begins

IT News
Imphal, May 17,

The fasting month of Ramadan has begun across the country today. The worshippers thronged mosques last night, as soon as the sighting of moon was announced, to offer special night prayers called "Traweeh", which will continue throughout the month. Ramadan is the ninth month of Islamic calendar and Eid-ul-Fitr is celebrated at the culmination of this month. In Gulf countries also, today is the first day of holy month of Ramadan.

Thanga gang rape and Thangmeiband rape case:

SSUM demands termination of BJP leader interfering the investigation

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A day after family members of the Thanga Gang Rape Victim's family revealed the identity of the politician who has been hindering the investigation process for taking up action against those guilty rapists, Socialist Students' Union Manipur, (SSUM) today demanded immediate expulsion of the politician from the political party. Peoples' eyes were to Thanga Assembly constituency MLA T. Robindro until he himself clarified the matter yesterday and until the family members of the minor rape victim disclose that the politician who have been threatening and interfering to the investigation of the case is the

present Vice President of BJP Manipur Pradesh M. Ashinikumar.

While talking to group of reporters yesterday at the victims residence, father of the victim girl said that on April 25, one masked men also came to the campus of chief judicial magistrate, Bishnupur and threatened the victim by showing a gun, while she was waiting for her hearing to give her statement, sitting inside a vehicle.

He further revealed that the then investigation officer (IO) of the case, Ningboy said that the alleged accused, H. Bungoba, 25, son of H. Sanatombi of Thanga Heisnam Leikai, who is not yet arrested is the brother-in-law of the BJP state, vice president, M. Asnikumar, and asked him not to let her daughter

disclose his name as threat may come to the family and to the IO himself.

The alleged accused Ningboy is the eldest among the five accused and he himself is the driver of the van which is used in kidnapping and raping the minor girl, claimed the father. SSUM convenor, N. Tanoranjana, while speaking to media persons today said that the present government should act irrespective of the status of any persons found guilty.

"When 2 Ministers of the BJP who were involved in the Kathua rape case in Jammu and Kashmir were sacked, why the state government headed by the BJP could not take any action against the State Vice president of BJP who is not even an MLA.

'Appointment of Rapist MLA as Chairman of a labour board is an insult to women community'

IT News
Imphal, May 17

Socialist Students Union Manipur (SSUM) and Proletariat Feminists Movement (POFM) today said that appointment of a rapist MLA as the Chairperson of the Manipur Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board is an insult to not only to the women community of the state but also to the people of the state in general. Talking to media persons, Naoem Tanoranjana, Convenor SSUM, said that FIR has been lodged against the MLA by the victim girl and following the complaint a case hearing is being underway but have been delayed as police

still fails to submit charge sheet against the MLA.

The students body convenor said that the victim girl complaint to the Women Police Station of Imphal West alleging rape and cheating on June 19, 2017. As per the FIR No. 12/(6)2017 the accused Heikham Dingo, who is now the MLA of Sekmai Assembly Constituency is punishable under section 376/417 of the Indian Penal Code.

The court case is still pending as the police still is yet to submit a charge sheet regarding the case.

SSUM and POFM while talking to reporters said that all those culprits responsible in rape crime should be punished as per the law of the

land while adding that in certain case which involved high ranking powerful people are involved the two bodies will not remain quiet. Both the bodies threaten stern agitation if the government fails to expel Sekmai Assembly Constituency MLA before 20 of this month.

Tanoranjana also appealed all sections of people to support in rendering justice to the victim of rape.

The two organisation also announces series of agitation that will be taken up in the following days in consultation with other like minded civil bodies and also with political parties of the state to bring the issue to the notice of the Prime Minister of India.

Civil societies in Manipur protest RN Ravi's statement published on Indian Express

IT News
Imphal, May 17,

Representatives and volunteers of United Committee Manipur (UCM), All Manipur United Club Organisation (AMUCO) and CCSK today staged a protest demonstration demanding clarification of the statement reported in National Daily Indian Express in its April 26 issue.

Based on official source, The Indian Express had reported that the Naga Accord is nearly final. The report also stated that the agreement will not change the boundary of states but will provides autonomous Naga territorial councils for Arunachal and Manipur; a common cultural body for Nagas across states besides setting up of specific institutions for state's development, integration and rehabilitation of non-state Naga militia and the removal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act.

Centre's interlocutor, R N Ravi, who signed the framework agreement with National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Isak-Muivah) or NSCN-IM in August 2015, while talking to Indian Express had stated that the accord is nearing final stage and the Indian Express quoted him as saying "Yes, we are pretty close to finalising the (Naga Peace) accord" without saying any comments to the report about the formation of the autonomous Naga territorial councils for Arunachal and Manipur. Which indicated that the report stands true. President of AMUCO Ph Devan while speaking to media persons said that the civil society organisation in the state have been waiting for a clarification regarding the statement of RN Ravi which was published in



Indian Express, but as there comes no clarification the UCM AMUCO and CCSK staged a protest demanding immediate clarification on the matter while threatening another mass uprising if any modalities to segregate the territorial integrity of the state has been affected. Devan also calls on all political party to stand unitedly over the issue as it is for the future of the state and also urged the state government to make a clarification.

Sunil Karam, the new president of the United Committee Manipur while speaking to media persons said that if the reported

statement of the interlocutor RN Ravi stands true than people of the state will not remain quiet. Saying that the statement is against the interest of the people and already the UCM, AMUCO and CCSK had opposed any form of division among the people of the state. The civil society bodies staged protest at Keishampat leimajam Leikai using banner with slogan to clarify over the statement of RN Ravi.

Placards which urged the Chief Minister of Manipur to clarify the matter as well as threats for June 18 like uprising if the accord affect

the territory of the region were displayed during the protest.

Later at around noon the protestor marched a rally towards the Chief Minister Bungalow however they were put to halt in front of Nupi Lal Memorial Complex. After a bit confrontation with the police team 8 representatives including president of AMUCO Ph Dervan, UCM President Sunil Karam and President of CCSK Jitendra Ningomba were allowed to meet the Chief Minister. A memorandum demanding immediate clarification have also been submitted to the Prime Minister of India through the Chief Minister.

Ministerial team inspects illegal River banks encroachers

DIPR
Kangpokpi, May 17,

A team of Cabinet Ministers including Revenue Minister, KaramShyam, Water Resources Minister, LetpaoHaokip, TA & Hills Minister, N. Kayisii and Social Welfare and Cooperation Minister, NemchaKipgen, today inspected illegal encroachers at river banks located in and around Kangpokpi District.

Briefing the media during the visit, Water Resources Minister, Letpao stated that the new government is committed in clearing any illegal construction in riverbeds for long-term safety of the masses. On the other hand, the government, through respective DCs has given prior notice that no construction should be set up in river beds under the Manipur Flood Plain Zoning Act 1978. He appealed the general public to take the initiative of the government in a positive light and to co-operate with the government in this constructive and developmental work.

And, for those areas that have not been covered, it is due to the reason that the inhabitants have brought

their land documents (pattas) and due verification of the papers is being done, hence the delay in the completion of dredging in some areas, Letpao asserted.

Minister Letpaoalso reminded the public that no constructions can be made in the river bank under the Manipur Flood Plain Zoning Act, 1978 and the Manipur Land Revenue Reforms Act. He appealed the public not to dispose garbage and plastic materials in the river and to dispose it at the proper places given by the Municipality. He also asserted that the public must support and co-operate with this initiative of the government in the larger interest of the general public and to achieve the objective of preventing floods for long term.

He further stresses on the fact that the government always has serious concern for the frequent floods he faced by the state, especially during last year and has been discussing for a long term plan to combat this problem. The dredging work is a result of that discussion. The dredging is almost completed for valley area and has now reached to Nambol side and WaiselMaril stretch, he

added. But, full result of it cannot be seen due to blocking and narrowing of the river at YangoiKarong and Upokpi area. So, cleaning of river bed in that portion will also be done soon.

Revenue Minister KaramShyam expressed that under the leadership of the Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh, the government have recently taken up dredging works to prevent floods and today's visit is being carried out to check the illegal encroaching and constructions in and around Kangpokpi District as this area is the starting point of the Imphal river and to further prevent the river from contamination. He also informed that the inspection is planned after the strong instruction from the Chief Minister and the visiting Ministerial team have assured co-operation in the common goal of cleaning the river-bed. He also added the execution of the clearing out of the encroachments will be carry out with the help of respective DCs, SPs, SDOs and other top officials. The Ministerial team was today accompanied by Kangpokpi District's DC, SP, SDO, village authority and concern officials.

Guv Prof. Jagdish Mukhi visits Moreh

IT News,
Moreh, May 17,

Governor -in-charge of Manipur Prof. Jagdish Mukhi today inspected the condition of the Integrated Check post and Indo Myanmar border trade at Border town Moreh today at around 11 am. After checking the condition of the Integrated Check post

the Governor inspected the condition of the Indo-Myanmar Border Bridge. The governor then inspected the Indo-Myanmar Friendship Gate No. 2.

Later after the inspection the governor Jagdish Mukhi held a meeting with various representatives of Civil Society bodies and community leaders at Convention Hall Trade Center

Moreh.

The governor also interacted about the issue and problem of the traders.

Grievances of the people due to lack of proper infrastructures of the district hospital Moreh as well as deteriorating inter-village road connectivity were brought to the notice of the governor by the leaders of the various communities.

