

TSA conducted Scholarship Test for IAS Coaching at ALS Institute

By- Michael L. Haokip
Imphal, May 28,

The ALS IAS Institute (Training Steel Pillars of the Nation) in association with TSA (Thadou Student Association) conducted IAS Scholarship Exam on 27th May in Imphal and Churachandpur. More than 500 students from across Manipur including 350 in Churachandpur at Churachandpur Government College and 200 in Imphal at Modern College representing more than 20 colleges of Manipur participated in this exam.

ALS and TSA would like to thank Education Minister Radheshyam, Social Welfare Minister Smt Nemcha Kippen, Chief Secretary of Manipur Suresh Babu, IAS, Secretary General of TSA Michael Lamjathang Haokip and all the other TSA leaders, volunteers and Siaminpawli (SSPP) leaders for the valuable support they extended for the



success of the scholarship programme.

The Results of the exam will be declared on 10th June 2018 with more than 100 Scholarships worth Rs. 25 Lakhs to be given by ALS through TSA for the Manipur civil service aspirants. The selected students can opt to enrol at any of the 6 ALS Centers in Manipur (Imphal, Churachandpur, Ukhrul, Kangkopi, Tamenglong and Maram).

Meanwhile, ALS in collaboration with TSA will be conducting a Scholarship Test for 2 Years Foundation Course (NEET and IIT-JEE) for Class XI going students who are interested in the field of Medical and Engineering in the month of July in the interest of the student community.

The scholarship test has a break-up with two topper (both from male and female) will get a scholarship of 100%

fee exemption, 3 students with 75% fee waiver, 5 students with 50% fee waiver, 10 students with 50% fee waiver, 15 students with 40% fee waiver, 20 student with 30% fee waiver, 25 students with 20% fee waiver and 30 students with 10% fee waiver. TSA and ALS hopes that this initiative will produce many more IAS, IPS, IRS and IPS officers from Manipur in the coming years and help in the development of the state.

Scholarship and Awards distributed to meritorious students

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Meritorious students belonging to Akoijam and Koijam clans were distributed for the first time under "Ebudhou Akoijam Keitan Scholarship and Youth Support Initiative, 2018 at Thoubal Nongangkhang where the clans deity is located yesterday.

The awards and scholarship distribution function organised by Ebudhou Akoijam Keitan Scholarship and Youth Support Initiative committee was attended by Deputy Director AYUSH AK Lokendro and former Chief Minister Radhabinod Koijam among others as dignitaries on the dais.



The 3 top meritorious students were conferred award in recognition to their achievements are 9th position in the Class XII examination conducted by the COHSEM Akiom Badal of Thoubal Bimol Leirak, 2nd position

holder of the Class XII examination conducted by CBSE in Uttarkand, Akiom Panthoiba of Thoubal Mela Ground and Manipuri subject topper in Class X examination conducted by BOSEM .

Union Ministry of Home Affairs adopts new scheme for surrendered NE militants

By-R Dutta Choudhury

Courtesy: The Assam Tribune

In a bid to lure away "misguided youths" from the fold of the militant outfits, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has come out with a revised surrender cum rehabilitation scheme for North East with additional incentives. However, to prevent misuse of the scheme, state level screening committees have been formed to examine the credentials of the militants before they become eligible for the benefits under the new scheme. Special Director General of Assam Police, Special Branch, Pallab Bhattacharyya told *The Assam Tribune* that as per the provisions of the previous scheme, the surrendered militants and the militants under cease fire agreement used to receive a stipend of Rs 3,000 each per month and they used to get one time grant of Rs 1.50 lakh each after the signing of the memorandum of settlement (MoS) between the Government and the concerned militant group. But

as per the new scheme, the militant who come over ground for talks with the Government would get Rs 6,000 each as monthly stipend and an additional incentive if they deposit arms and ammunition depending on the weapon that they deposit. Moreover, an amount of Rs four lakh would be kept in fixed deposit against each militant and they would get the money after the signing of the MoS. However, if any surrendered militant is found to be involved in any criminal activity during the period, he or she would not get the money. Bhattacharyya pointed out that such a clause would definitely prevent surrendered militants from indulging in any unlawful activity when they are under cease-fire agreement.

To prevent bogus surrenders, the new scheme has a provision for screening of the militants who express desire to come over ground and the State Government has already formed a screening committee headed by the Special DGP of the Special Branch. The screening committee also comprises of senior officers from the Army, Assam Rifles,

Central Reserve Police Force, SSB, Border Security Force, Subsidiary Intelligence Bureau etc. Bhattacharyya expressed the hope that the new policy announced by the MHA would definitely encourage a good number of misguided youths to return to the mainstream and already a 12 member group of a Kuki militant outfit expressed their desire to come over ground and they deposited six AK series rifles among other weapons. The outfit was active in Karbi Anglong and Dima Hasao districts of the State.

The Special DG said that the monthly stipend would be deposited in the bank accounts of individuals, while, at the same time, efforts are on to provide self employment opportunities to the surrendered militants by providing them with skill development training. Citing one such example, he said that one Manoj Basumatary, a former bank officer, has developed modern methods of piggy and a group of surrendered militants are now receiving training under him. At present, there are around

3,500 militants of different outfits are under cease fire agreement in Assam and they would also be eligible for the benefits under the new scheme.

On the issue of withdrawal of cases against the surrendered militants or militants under cease-fire agreement, Bhattacharyya said that the issue is considered at the time of signing of the MoS with the respective groups. Giving details of the scheme, he said that the cases of heinous crimes would not be withdrawn but the Government would consider withdrawal of the cases relating to non heinous crimes. He said that a district level committee comprising the DIG of the range, Superintendent of Police, one Additional Deputy Commissioner and legal experts would review the cases in each district and send report to the Home Department. A high level state level committee again reviews the cases and the cases, which are non heinous in nature, are sent to the concerned public prosecutor for starting the procedure for the withdrawal of it through the legal process.

ECI says Political parties are out of the purview of RTI

Agency
New Delhi, May 28,

Political parties are out of the purview of the RTI Act, the Election Commission has said in an order which is contrary to the Central Information Commission's directive bringing six national parties under the transparency law. The poll panel statement, which may prove to be controversial, came while deciding the appeal of an RTI applicant seeking to know donations collected by six national parties who were brought under the ambit of the transparency law by the CIC in June 2013.

"Requisite information is not available in the Commission. This is related to political parties and they are out of purview of the RTI. They may submit information of donation/amount collected through by Electoral bonds in their contribution report for the financial year 2017-18 in the ECI for which the due date is September 30, 2018," the appeal order citing comment of the Central Public Information Officer has said.

Pune-based Vihar Dhurve had sought to know through RTI the details of donations collected by the six national parties—the

BJP, Congress, BSP, NCP, CPI and CPM—and the Samajwadi Party through newly introduced electoral bonds.

The First Appellate Authority in the Election Commission KF Wilfred, the Senior Principal Secretary in poll panel, wrote in the order that he agrees with the view taken by the CPIO. Six out of seven political parties—the BJP, Congress, BSP, NCP, CPI and CPM—for which information was sought by the applicant were brought under the ambit of the RTI Act by a full bench of the commission on June 3, 2013.

The order has not been challenged in the higher courts but the political parties have refused to entertain the RTI applications directed at them. Several activists have approached the Supreme Court on the grounds of non-compliance of the CIC order and the matter is pending.

When it comes to the RTI Act, the Central Information Commission is the only appellate authority which may declare a body as public authority if it is convinced that the organisation fits into the criteria for being under the Right to Information Act.

"When the Central Information

Commission has declared six national political parties as public authority, the Election Commission cannot take a position contrary to that unless the order of the CIC has been overturned by the Supreme Court or High Courts. The order of EC has no merit," former Chief Information Commissioner AN Tiwari told PTL.

Venkatesh Nayak, a noted activist on RTI matters, said the public information officer of the election commission has exceeded his limits in giving this order. "The June 2013 order of the CIC bringing six national political parties under the RTI Act remains in force even if the political parties do not obey it. It has not been stayed or set aside by any court. Therefore, as far as national political parties are concerned they are squarely covered under the RTI Act," Nayak said.

He added that all the information about state and national parties fall under the RTI Act which is held by the Election Commission of India and the CPIO is bound to make disclosure about them rather than taking position that these political parties are out of purview of the RTI Act.

Assam Rifles organises choir singing competition at Kana Valley

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4 Assam Rifles of 28 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a Choir Singing Competition at Kana Valley under Chakpikarong Sub-Division, Chandel District on 26 May 2018. The event was organised at Assam Rifles ground in Sajik Tampak Village and was in continuation to the Musical Concert organised at Haika Village few days back, marking the beginning of new era of peace in Sajik Valley. Singers of all age groups participated with great spirit and enthusiasm in the event and showcased their talent and passion for music. On the



melodious tunes of Jazz Band of Sajik battalion the singers belted out soulful numbers of genres including English Rock and favourite Kuki numbers which instantly struck a cord with the music lovers and the entire gathering of more than 400 people.

The conduct of the event included solo and group performances. Out of a total of 47 performances, Mr Jamlunmang and Ms Chongneo were adjudged the best talent amongst boys and girls respectively. The musical group of Tuleilon Village Baptist Church was

adjudged the best closely followed by the group from Chahkap Village Baptist Church and Sajik Tampak Village Youth Fellowship. The event was well appreciated by the locals and youth who are now closely associated with Sajik battalion and share common moments of fun and frolic.

AR organises community security meet; provides solar street lights

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On 27 May 2018, 11 Assam Rifles of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) conducted a meeting on "Community Security" at New Mongjiang village, Moreh, Tengenoual District. The meeting was held to discuss issues of mutual importance and benefits for the security of all communities in the village and society.

Chiefs of all villages and Secretaries under the area of responsibility attended the subject meeting with a total strength of 34. Garbage disposal plan, tree plantation drive to be organised in company area of responsibility and details of licensed

weapons held with various community members were some of the major agendas discussed in length at the meeting. All the villagers were satisfied by the discussion and unanimously desired such a meeting to be a regular feature, since it promotes mutual understanding and friendly relations between the Assam Rifles and the local populace. At the end, the villagers were served with tea and snacks as refreshment.

On the other hand 11 Assam Rifles of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organized the inauguration ceremony of provisioning of 12 solar street lights at Chongjiang village, Moreh, Tengenoual District, Manipur under BADP (Border

Area Development Programme) for the financial year 2016-17 on 27 May 2018. Under this project, 12 solar street lights were installed outside the houses of the villagers, which negated the problems of safety and security being faced by the villagers due to irregular power supply in the area after sunset. This welfare scheme was inaugurated by 11 Assam Rifles and this endeavour received huge appreciation from village chief of Chongjiang and the local populace for the assistance provided by Assam Rifles to the villagers and for ensuring lighting up the streets of the village and maintaining peace and tranquillity in the area of responsibility.