

Memories of March 11, 1996 still haunt villagers of Huishu; *Go to Hill* programme yet to reach the border village of Ukhrul district

By - Sh Ajit
Imphal, Nov 19,

Memories of March 11, 1996 incident at which Indian Security force burnt down the entire village as retaliation by cadres of NSCN-IM still haunted the villagers of Huishu, a village of Ukhrul district, located in Indo-Myanmar border. There were no motorable road to reached the village which is about 65 Kilometre from the Ukhrul district head quarter.

Talking to correspondent, a Village head man said with tears and trembles recounted on what had happen on that day when the armed rebel group NSCN-IM was yet to sign cease fire agreement with the Government of India.

"I still remember the incident of 1996 March 11", he said. "There was heavy exchange of fire between the troops of 20 Assam Rifles and NSCN-IM cadres which was once

posted at Huishu Village. The gun battle lasted for around 3 hours", he said.

He further stated that the panic ridden villagers who were caught unawares by the burst of rapid fire of the encounter and the subsequent explosive of a few inch mortars in the civilian area ran for safety leaving behind all their belonging to the Church building. Some villagers manage to reach Ukhrul town and some ran inside the forest and nearby Poi Village due to fear of unwanted consequences.

Villagers who went for medical assistance to the Huishu AR post were beaten up for no reason.

What still haunted the villagers and the Chief till today is the burning of the greeneries of the Villages piled up for the years along with other houses.

"From the Church Building where we were taking shelter



we show all our property burned, we were left with no choice but to watch the happening helplessly", the old man who is the head of the village narrated. On the hand Chief Minister N.

Biren Singh auspicious project "Go to Hill" turn out to be a joke of Huishu Villagers as they never seen any such programme.

The devastation that took place in 1996 is not the end.

Even as Narendra Modi led NDA government has claimed to have electrified all villages in India, Huishu village, in Chingai Assembly constituency inhabited by around 1800 people in around

200 families never knew that electricity exist even as there was electric connection log time back. Of course some who went beyond the village knew but those who have been in the village never knew that electricity exist as the Village is not yet connected by electricity.

Health care service is a joke, and government run education institution like Primary school and secondary school are just for name sake. Thanks to the Christian Missionaries who run one school called "Jon Christian English School" which was established in 2005.

The road condition from Huishu River to the Village is which is about 7 kilometer is in the most dilapidated condition that only two wheeler vehicle with four stroke engine can reached. That too is impossible during rainy season.

Aganwadi Center, which the

department of Social Welfare Govt. of Manipur is claiming to be successfully running is a fairy tale for Huishu Village as it does not reached the village. Table work of the department may have report of its existence but the reality is that there is no Anganwadi Center in Huishu Village.

PDS items, development works which are suppose to be taken up under MLA Local area fund is a far far away dream for the Huishu Villagers as many did not even know who is their local MLA. The Villager never shows any MLA in their village.

As of now the village transportation is done by one Saktiman truck, and one small suspension bridge to cross the river on foot. During rainy season the river water raised too high that even Saktiman truck cannot cross the river and the village have to remain cut off from the district head quarter.

Manipur Mail reporter N. Bishwajit passes away

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19.

Senior Reporter of Manipur Mail daily newspaper Ningthoukhongjam Bishwajit passed away yesterday evening due to an illness.

Editors' Guild Manipur and All Manipur Working Journalists' Union paid floral tribute to the portrait of the departed soul today morning at Manipur Press Club.

A two minutes silence was also observed as a mark of respect to the departed soul. Imphal Times staffs also condole the demise of Senior reporter N. Bishwajit.

AR apprehends UGs

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19.

In two separate operations the Battalions of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South), apprehended two cadres of proscribed UG groups. In a joint operation, troops of Keithelambi Battalion along with a team of Imphal West Commandos apprehended a PREPAK Cadre near Standard Roberth School Canchipuram 17 November 2018.

In another joint operation, Mantripukhri Battalion along with Imphal West Commandos apprehended a women cadre of proscribed group UNLF from general area Lamboi Khongnangkhang. Both the apprehendees were handed over to Police for further legal action.

Indefinite Bandh in NH-2: Sekmai people now demand suspension of escort who assaulted Dhana

IT News
Imphal, Nov 19,

State government efforts to cool down the anger of the Sekmai people by sending MLAs fails as the people stand firm with their demand for apology from the side of the MLA Sorokhaibam Rajen, in addition with the suspension of those escorts who had assaulted Laimayum Dhana, the general Secretary of Sekmai Protection Committee. In a closed door meeting between the representatives

of the Sekmai civil bodies and some MLAs the matter could not be solved as the Sekmai civil body stand firm with their demand for unconditional apology from the Lamsang AC MLA as well as suspension of the escort who were involved to the assault of Committee General secretary, besides an agreement to the construction of the Community Hall in the jurisdiction of Sekmai Assembly Constituency by Lamshang AC MLA. As no amicable solution could be reached, the Sekmai

Protection Committee reaffirmed their decision and imposed bandh from 6 am today. "This time it will be indefinite," said a committee member while talking over phone.

Meanwhile, inter-state bus service and heavy trucks stay of the road due to the bandh at Sekmai. However Dimapur bound mini passenger transporters like Tata Winger taxi service continue its service by diverting route from Ikou village and then by passing through sapermeina.

District Level Healthy Baby Show Competition Held in Thoubal



IT News
Thoubal, Nov. 19,

District Health Society & District Family Welfare

Office, Thoubal under the aegis of National Health Mission, organised a healthy baby show competition at Thoubal CMO's premises

located at Thoubal Wangmataba today.

The programme was attended by CMO/Director, DHM Dr. N. Jayantakumar Singh, DFWO/member secretary DHS Dr. Ksh. Memcha Devi, SMO/Block Medical Officer Dr. Y. Nukul Singh and DPM, DHS Ch. Basanta Singh as the chief guest, president and guests of honour respectively.

L. James Singh, Kh. Langamba and A. Korounganba won the first, Second and 3rd prize in the 6-12 months category; K. H. Korounganba, Kh. Merinda Chanu and Ch. Nanaomacha won the first, Second and 3rd prize in the 12-23 months category while Lanchenbi Sairem, S. Purnachandra Singh and Ch. Araba Singh was adjudged the first, Second and 3rd prize winner in the 24-35 months category.

The winners will represent Thoubal district in the State level competition to be held at Imphal on Nov 22.

Quami Ekta week observed; Nothing is greater than motherland: CM



DIPR
Imphal, Nov 19,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has said that every citizen should make their contribution towards protecting the sovereignty and integrity of the country and stated that nothing is greater than the motherland.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the Quami Ekta Week observance organised by the State Government at the Banquet Hall of 1st Battalion Manipur Rifles today.

The Chief Minister recalled former Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi's roles in maintaining the integrity of the country. He opined that the whole country is still remembering her crucial decision of carrying out Operation Blue Star at Golden Temple in Amritsar to flush out armed militants.

The Chief Minister said that the NDA Government at the Centre under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has started giving due recognition and respect to unsung heroes of Indian freedom movement and other unknown nationalists. In the State as well, the BJP-led Government had started

observing Irabot Day at State level from this year onwards apart from taking a Cabinet decision to erect a statue of the great leader near Manipur Legislative Assembly complex.

N. Biren Singh also mentioned about State Government's ongoing efforts to erect statues of Maharaja Gambhir Singh, Maharaja Nara Singh and Heerachandra, who took pivotal role in reclaiming Manipur from the hands of Burmese invaders during the time of *Chahi Taret Khuntakpa* (Seven Years Devastation), as well. Stating that one can never overlook history, the State Government had started conducting research to identify those unsung heroes, who had actively worked with dedication in building up the present day Manipur and keeping the integrity of the State intact.

The Chief Minister also said, very few people know that some Nagas were also exiled to Kalapani along with Maharaja Kullachandra and other Manipuris.

Expressing serious concern over low attendance of high ranking Government officials in today's observance, the

Chief Minister asked the authority concerned to do the needful to avoid such instance in other important State level functions. Stating that nothing can be achieved without discipline, the Chief Minister said that Ministers and high ranking administrators especially civil servants should not only discharge their duties with utmost sincerity and commitment but also always try to do exemplary works during their service tenure. Elected leaders and administrators should be the role models for common people, he observed. Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh, who attended the observance as functional president, remembered the contribution of Indira Gandhi to the cause of national integration. He also recalled the former Prime Minister's role in defending threats of Chinese aggression in the North East with her unstinting support to the liberation of Bangladesh.

Later, the Chief Minister administered the National Integration Pledge to the gathering. Cabinet Ministers, MLAs and top civil and police officials also attended the function among others.