

## Indian Consulate at Mandalay flag off Myanmar team for Sangai festival



**IT News**  
**Imphal, Nov 20,**  
Consulate General of India, Mandalay, Myanmar Sarva Shree Nandan Singh today

flagged a 20 (twenty) Myanmar Nationals from Mandalay who were visiting Imphal to take part in the upcoming Sangai Festival. The team is expected to reach tomorrow afternoon here in Imphal and may be able to participate in the inaugural function of the Sangai Festival.

## World Diabetes Day observed at Thoubal



**IT News**  
**Thoubal, Nov. 20,**  
As in other parts of the world, Non Communicable Diseases (NCD) Cell, National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke (NPCDCS) Thoubal, in association with District Health Society Thoubal have observed World Diabetes Day 2018 today at Seminar Hall of District Hospital, Thoubal. On the occasion held under the theme "The Family and Diabetes" DSP of CDO Thoubal, K. Dhananjay MPS attended as chief guest, Paediatric Doctor of DH Thoubal Dr. Ruhinikumar as president, DLO/DNO of

NCD Cell Thoubal Dr. Kh. Homeshwor and District Programme Manager, District Health Society, Thoubal, Ch. Basanta Singh attended as guests of honour. Dr. Kh. Homeshwor, DLO/DNO NCD Cell delivered the welcome and keynote address. Speaking as chief guest at the observance function K. Dhananjay said that diabetes is a kind of a dreaded disease called 'slow and sweet killing'. It is very dangerous, women should be very much concerned about this disease as it affects them a lot. Meanwhile, Dr. Kh. Homeshwor DLO/DNO NCD Cell, Dr. K. Nandinibala DNO NCD Clinic DH Thoubal and N. Sunitibala Devi

Dietician NCD Clinic DH Thoubal spoke on the occasion as a resource person. As a part of the World Diabetes Day, a rally was also organized in which hundreds of People's, ASHAs took part. The rally which started from DC Office Complex Thoubal culminated at Seminar Hall of District Hospital Thoubal in Khangabok where they joined the function. A consultation cum interaction programme regarding the disease was also held in the function. The programme was attended by the ASHAs and Diabetes Patients of this district and a free Blood Sugar Level check was conducted as a part of it.

## TSA Chandel & Tegnoupal also condemns assault of TSA secretary AR

**IT News**  
**Kakching, Nov 20,**  
After Jiribam branch, Thadou Students' Association - Chandel & Tegnoupal (TSA - C&T) branch also condemns the barbaric act and highhandedness of 12 Assam Rifles personnel involved in the assault of Michael Lamjathang Haokip, secretary general of TSA GHQ, at Sita Lamkhai, Tegnoupal while returning from Moreh to Imphal on November 12. This kind of unruly and

violent behaviour is least expected from government security personnel who are supposedly trained to provide safety and security to civilians and work with people with a sense of duty of care and respect and high level of discipline and professionalism. This irresponsible act of the 12 Assam Rifles posted at Tegnoupal is against human rights and freedom and runs sharply contrary to the motto of Assam Rifles, "Friends of the Hill People". This is not the first time

such incidents occurred. Assam Rifles personnel at Khudenthabi check post had assaulted former president of KSO Chandel, Doumang Haokip in the past. Security personnel who are deployed to ensure security and safety on national highways, especially Imphal to Moreh road, have turned out to be a nightmare when they hold people to ransom or engage in assaulting or harassing civilians and blocking the highway to their whims and fancies.

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## New construction inside Kangla Fort should be done after consultation with experts

In the South, it reached upto Chakkaba Udolok, the last northern corner of Mongba Hanba Irel. In the southeast, it was upto the Wakran Panthong. The area surrounded by the above area was the boundary of Kangla. During the period of King Marjit, the area of Kangla was extended upto Khurai Soibam Leikai Road which runs northward from Nongmeibung Nambam Chuthek to Khurai Telipati". The ACOAM Lup elaborated that most of the construction done

upto the period of King Marjit were totally destroyed by the Burmese during the Seven Year Devastation (1819 to 1825). Other building and works of development in the Kangla area upto the period of King Chandrakirti were destroyed again by the British as the result of the defeat of the Meites at the hands of the British troops in the last war of independence, 1891. The Kangla Development Board form by the Government of Manipur appears to have been

done in a hurry after handing over of the complex between the DG AR Shillong and the CM of Manipur on 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2004 at Imphal. The Assam Rifles/ Army assets created in 113 years of stay inside Kangla appears to have been sized as no reference is made any where in any documents as to what happens to removable and irremovable assets and about the maintenance, or upkeep other than opening of new offices and removing some important landmarks from military

history point view at random. Following that, the sacred place of Kangla Fort has been carried out with new project of development, construction, restoration, preservation and conservation of the Kangla without the recommendation of competent experts and committee, which has rendered with the undermining of the historic Kangla Fort. The ACOAM Lup said that the historic Kangla Fort should be developed, reconstructed

and beautified by the government of Manipur only after a proper excavation of the Kangla Fort by archaeological experts, only after recommendation of a specially appointed committee in order to maintain the significance and importance of the Kangla Fort. It appealed to maintain the present Kangla Fort which is also a sacred place for Meiteis in particular, may be upgraded and developed to the standard of a world heritage in the near future.

## National & International News

### Leak of CBI director's confidential reply irks SC

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, Nov 20**  
In a sudden development, the Supreme Court Tuesday agreed to hear CBI Director Alok Kumar Verma's plea challenging the government's decision to divest him of duties and sending him on leave, minutes after adjourning the case to November 29. Earlier in the day, the alleged leak of Verma's confidential response to the Central Vigilance Commission's findings on corruption charges against him irked the top court, which said none of "you deserve any hearing".

Senior advocate Fali S Nariman and lawyer Gopal Shankaranarayanan, who represent Verma, mentioned the case again before a bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and sought hearing during the day itself. The bench agreed to the submission and said it will accord them a hearing after finishing the day's work. On the leak of Verma's confidential reply in the media, the bench, without divulging the name of the news portal, which allegedly carried a story on the CBI director's response, handed over

to Nariman, a copy of the news report. "It is only for you Mr Nariman and not as a counsel for Alok Verma. We have given this to you as you are one of the most respected and senior member of the institution. Please help us," the bench also comprising justices S K Kaul and K M Joseph, told Nariman. Nariman, after going through the news report, said it was totally "unauthorised" and he was very "disturbed and shocked" with it. The chief justice then told Nariman that Shankaranarayanan, who is also representing

Verma, had on Monday mentioned the matter before the court and sought more time to file a reply on behalf of the CBI director. "Nobody had asked him (Shankaranarayanan) to do so. It was totally unauthorised. I was never informed. Nobody asked him to mention the matter, I am very disturbed," Nariman told the bench, adding that he and his junior had worked late in the night to prepare Verma's response. Referring to the media report, Nariman said, "This gives a new twist to the word responsible press and

freedom of press", and added that the news portal and its journalists concerned be summoned by the court. "How can this come? It's a leak. I myself is shattered the way it has been done," he said. The CJJ then adjourned the hearing to November 29 and said the bench does not want to record any reasons for it. At the end of the hearing, the bench observed, "We don't think any of you deserve any hearing". The court was hearing Verma's plea against govt's decision to divest him of duties and sending him on leave.

## Army wants more on field, plans to reduce headquarters strength

**Agency**  
**New Delhi, Nov. 20**  
Indian Army is considering a plan of cutting about 20 percent of its manpower in all departments at its central headquarters in Delhi. The idea is to have more officers and jawans available for field formations. The move aimed at enhancing the army's combat capabilities and turn it into a better fighting machine is part of an internal study to restructure the headquarters. It was a main point presented to senior army veterans during a seminar organised in Delhi on Sunday on Army Chief General Bipin Rawat's initiative. At the seminar, whose outcome was to draw from the experiences of the veterans, Rawat interacted with them on four internal studies that transform the army, including the one to restructure the headquarters. Veterans who participated in the seminar explained that they gave their views on the changes planned by the army to meet operational requirements and future challenges. Officials explained that the

veterans were presented the plan to cut manpower at the headquarters, to make it more "responsive and improve its efficiency". A veteran, on condition of anonymity, said, "We learnt that its not cut back in the army, but optimum utilisation of manpower from areas which have lost relevance in the changing dynamics now." Explaining the current status of the plan, officials said discussions are being held on reducing the manpower by up to 20 percent. Some departments have finalised the manpower to be cut and sent to field formations. The cuts are planned to take place over a few years by not replacing officers who have finished their tenure in the departments. Eventually, this will bring down the numbers. The move also looks at merging departments having similar tasks. This too is for optimum utilisation of manpower. For example, merging the Directorate General of Military Training (DGMT), located at the central headquarters, with the Shimla based Army Training Command (ARTRAC). Both have similar roles, like the

DGMT executes training plans for operations, war games, joint training, while the ARTRAC controls the training establishments and writes training pamphlets. The army top brass at its commanders' conference last month had agreed on this. "The plan is to ensure that the number of officers will reduce at army headquarters and increase at units and formations, where most of them are needed," explained an official. It gains importance due to creation of new structures at the headquarters and the need to integrate them. Some departments, however, have objected to

the plan, claiming that they need more manpower for the tasks assigned to them. Other important proposals, such as merging the ranks of Brigadier and Major General were also discussed at the veterans' seminar. The idea behind this is to ensure faster career growth for officers. It would mean that Colonels who are approved for promotions would directly become Major Generals without being Brigadiers in between. The concept of having Integrated Battle Groups (IBGs) in the army was also discussed. An IBG will be bigger than a

brigade (about 3000 personnel), but smaller than a division (about 10,000 personnel). It will have elements of infantry, artillery, armoured and support units. An IBG is tasked to split an enemy's strike elements in mechanised warfare. "Therefore this is more of a defensive posture, instead of looking at offensive roles. They will do well in terrain meant for mechanised warfare such as deserts, but won't be of much use in mountains due to restricted spaces," said another veteran. However, the changes being proposed will have to be cleared by the defence ministry before implementation.



Getting ready for Sangai Festival - Full rehearsal of 'Eikhoi amatani- Punna Chatminnasi Chaokhat maikai pangna, a choreographic presentation by G. Loken Sharma, Sr. Lecturer, Govt. Dance college in the presence of Minister (Art and Culture) L. Jayantakumar Singh with Commissioner and Director of Art n Culture deptt. held at Bheigychandra Open Air Theatre (BOAT).