

Defence Minister spends 40 minutes more from schedule departure time, while Governor Najma Heptulla steals the show on the inaugural function of Sangai Festival

IT News
Imphal, Nov 22,

While Union defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was put to halt without blinking her by the elegant cultural performances on the inaugural day of the Sangai Festival at Bheigyachandra Open Air Theatre (BOAT) at Palace Compound yesterday evening, Crowd gathering at the open air auditorium could not take their eyes from her Excellency, the governor of Manipur, Dr. Najma Heptulla as she walks along with other VVIPs in traditional Manipuri attires.

The 40 minutes none stopped performance at the performing space of BOAT, which was choreographed by Gurumayum Loken Sharma, put halt the Defence Minister for over 40 minutes from the scheduled time which she was supposed to leave. The inaugural part of delivering speech by the Chief Minister, Governor and the defence Minister ended before 6 pm and the scheduled for departure of Defense Minister Nirmala Sitharaman was at 6.05 pm, an official source confirmed this newspaper. However, the mesmerizing - none stop performance which highlighted the mosaic of Manipuri culture made her forgot the scheduled time for

departure and keep watching the festival for another 40 minutes.

Her admiration to the cultural performance of the show showed that the term she coined Manipur as a "gem" is not a simple lip service to get applause from the public but she really does sees Manipur as a "gem".

On the other hand almost all eyes seem to have focused on Dr. Nazma Heptulla as she came with the one of the most aesthetic Manipuri Traditional attires. What makes the head of the state picked traditional attires is a matter still to be answered by her Excellency, Dr. Nazma Heptulla.

At almost all public occasion Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla was seen attending with the most aesthetic Manipuri traditional attires. When women of the state (those holding high profile government job) have almost forgotten or perhaps neglected due to ignorance of the real essence and aesthetic beauty of Manipuri traditional attires, Manipur Governor is once more bringing notice to the beauty of Manipuri attires. What surprises more is the colour combination of her dresses? Does she hire some fashion designer every time she make-up herself? The answer from the Raj Bhavan is 'No'.



"Sometime her Excellency ordered the traditional weaver to make cloths of her choice, but most Manipuri dresses were gift from various Manipuri fans that she were", a staff from Raj Bhavan said. Born in Bhopal, in the present

Madhya Pradesh, Bollywood actor Amir Khan is her cousin. She is a painter, musician and admirer of aesthetic culture besides being an experienced politicians who hold many important position in the Union Government. Her

passion for art and music is perhaps the reason for choice of dress that drew attention of every spectator. It is not about Meitei traditional dress but she like to wear all traditional attires of each community of the state.

"Participation in the Sangai Festival by the Governess of Manipur with attiring on full traditional dress signifies her commitment in exposing off the world the rich tradition of Manipur and promotion to the nearly three lakhs of weavers living in the handloom sector"

- Bhubon

"I had seen her wearing the best Tangkhul attires while attending a function of the community," a reporter said to this writer.

Board Director of Manipur Apex Handloom weavers' and Handicrafts' Artisan Co-operative Society, Sougrakpam Bhubon Singh while talking to this newspaper praise the governor for promoting the Manipuri traditional dress with an understanding of value base.

"Participation in the Sangai Festival by the Governess of Manipur with attiring on full traditional dress signifies her commitment in exposing off the world the rich tradition of Manipur and promotion to the nearly three lakhs of weavers

living in the handloom sector which extends second largest employment next to agriculture in Manipur. Her intention with putting on traditional dress may further mean to give message to the people of the state to consume the heart and hard bound products of the state's weavers and it also exemplifies the fact that the governess is truly love the textiles of Manipur as under her initiative the Mission for Economic Empowerment of Textile Artisans and Craftspersons (MEETAC) was recently instituted in the state. Governor's participation with traditional dress was well plan to convey her real intention to promote the textiles sector of the state.", Bhubon Said.

'Death of Pravish Chanam and the response of the Government of Manipur'

IT News
Imphal, Nov 22,

Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) highly appreciate the government of Manipur for the assurance given by the Chief Minister during the meeting which was held on the 20th of November, 2018 along with the members of the People Action Committee informing that the Government of Manipur will assist the PAC in taking further course of action at the legal forum or other forum if the CBI fails to take up legal action on the latest proposal in the next 20 (Twenty) days.

Since the last 1 year and 2 months, the death of Pravish Chanam is yet to be probe or investigated by the Government of UP neither the CBI as the CBI, Lucknow Branch had earlier informed in its letter date 20th Sept, 2018 that *"the UP Police is well equipped and has professionally trained STF, CBCID and other specialized branch to either assist or undertake the investigation of better professional management of investigation. Hence the case was not found suitable to be taken up for the investigation by the CBI"*.

Learning from the same the government of Manipur have resolved in its Cabinet meeting and *"Approved to recommend for a CBI investigation"* on the 6th of Nov, 2018. However, it is still in dilemma whether the matter will be investigated by the CBI or not as in the earlier recommendation made by the UP Government for the investigation clearly mentioned in its CBI Memo or Performa that *"there is a probabilities of involvement of people from the neighbouring state like Delhi, Haryana and Rajasthan etc"* but the recommendation made by UP government was rejected by the CBI.

Expressing that the Forum believed that it is a white collar crime committed as a result no concern investigating agency is willing to investigate but those criminal should not forget the **Peoples Voice and Power the Forum** appealed to the people of Manipur that to stand united until the justice is delivered to the deceased soul and this will forum will always support like earlier in every steps taken up by the PAC to fight for Justice for Pravish Chanam and racial discrimination towards the North East People.

Scientists are tracking Amur Falcon migration route successfully

IT News
Imphal, Nov 22,

Scientist of the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehradun has been successfully tracking the migration route of the Amur Falcon which have been visiting the Tamenglong district every year. The scientists have installed transmitter to the Amur Falcon and released them to track their route. Recently one Amur Falcon fitted with transmitter

was reportedly killed by poacher in Tamenglong district. Following which the state Forest and Environment department have taken up serious action to stop hunting of wild bird. There were also report of seizing air gun by Tamenlong district administration authority following the killing of the bird. Message from Dr. Suresh Kumar, Senior Scientist, Wildlife Institute of India,

Dehradun said that both Tamenglong and Longleng are doing well and are currently making their incredible journey across the Arabian Sea.

"The transmitters are working fine and am happy to tell you we have been getting fantastic data", he said in a message. Data collected by the scientist showed the migration routes

of the two Amurs Tamenglong and Longleng on their way to Somalia.

"Tamenglong" started on 19 November early morning and has now covered 3500 km. Her last location came today 21 November at 19:08 hr.

"Longleng" a female Amur Falcon tagged at a roost site in Yaongyimchen village in Longleng district of Khamaland and on 30.10.2016. Longleng has been actively transmitting data since then and arrived for

the third time in Dimapur in middle of October this year. After a stop-over for a month Longleng also started on its migration on 19 November and its last location was received yesterday 20 November at 23:00 hr and had covered 3000 km. They are expected to arrive in Somalia in the next two days.

The two birds have been flying non-stop and are currently flying over the Arabian sea.

New events of Sangai festival inaugurated

IT News
Imphal, Nov 22,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today inaugurated the Manipur Polo International, 2018 at Mapan Kangjeibung. Later at around 2.30 pm much awaited Sumo Wrestling was also inaugurated at Khuman Lampak Indoor Stadium.

Gun Battle

IT News
Imphal, Nov 22,

Heavy gun fight between suspected cadres of the NSCN-IM and the ZUF was reported from Khoupum area in Noney district around 11.30 am today.

Manipur-Myanmar friendly football matches on Nov 25

By a Correspondent
Imphal, Nov 22,

With the objective to promote friendship with Myanmar, Manipur Women's Team will play friendly football matches with their counterparts from two different provinces of Myanmar in Imphal on November 25, according to Myanmar media Mizzima. Sagaing Region Women's Team and Mandalay Region Women's Team will participate in the upcoming matches, it said.

The Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh and Sagaing Region Chief Minister Dr Myint Naing will attend the friendly football match aimed to promote friendship between the two nations, the Mizzima report said. The Sagaing Region Chief

Minister Dr Myint Naing, Sagaing Region Security and Border Affairs Minister Colonel Than Tun Aung, Sagaing Municipal Minister Myint Kyi, Sagaing Social Minister Dr Zaw Win and Sagaing Region government secretary Tin Maung Swe will leave for Manipur on November 25 to attend the Sangai Festival.

Earlier Manipur women's football team visited Myanmar and played friendly football matches with their counterparts in Myanmar's Mandalay and Saigang province from January 27 to 30. Similarly Mandalay women football team from Myanmar along with officials visited Imphal on November 23 last year and played exhibition

matches on November 25 and 26 with Manipur women's football team as part of exchange programme at the Main Stadium of the Khuman Lampak Sports Complex during the Manipur Sangai Festival 2017.

Interestingly a four-member team of Mizzima Media Group, Myanmar led by its Editor-in-Chief Soe Myint is on a trip to the State to cover the 10-day Manipur Sangai Festival, 2018 held at five different locations with Hafta Kangjeibung in Imphal East district as the main venue.

On their arrival, Soe Myint met Chief Minister N Biren of Manipur at Chief Minister's Secretariat located in the heart of Imphal on Wednesday. Even the Mizzima Media

broadcast live the opening ceremony of the Manipur Sangai Festival 2018 in Imphal in Manipur in Northeast India. Manipur Sangai Festival is being held from November 21 to 30.

Other remaining locations are Lamboikhongnangkhang in Imphal West district, Khuman Lampak sports complex in Imphal East district, Keibul Lamjao in Bishnupur district and Mao in Senapati district. The festival has been organised to promote Manipur as a world class tourism destination.

The Chief Minister Biren will host a dinner to honour the visiting Myanmar delegates including the Chief Ministers of Saigang in Imphal on November 26.