

Manipur TSA announces indefinite national highway bandh from November

Imphal Nov 25,

General Headquarters (TSA-GHQ), Thadrou Students' Association has announced an indefinite bandh against the alleged assault of one of its leaders by 12 Assam Rifles. The bandh will be imposed in all the national highways in Manipur from the midnight of November 27. The TSA-GHQ said that the decision to impose the bandh came after deliberate discussion among TSA GHQ and its branches to protest against the "the inaction of authorities in the assault of TSA Secretary General, Michael Lamjathang Haokip, on November 12, 2018 at Sita Lamkhai Check post, Tengnoupal by the 12 Assam Rifles". As per TSA-GHQ, after the incident had expected the authorities to find

ways to resolve the matter in a respectful and acceptable manner. TSA-GHQ said, "Instead of this, the PRO of Inspector General, Assam Rifles (South) (IGAR (S)) issued a highly flawed and crooked media statement on November 20, making unfounded allegations and accusations against the victim, Michael L. Haokip while covering up the highhandedness of their personnel who acted against all norms and rules". It then stated that the TSA units of Chandel and Tengnoupal had issued a counter media statement to the statement of IGAR(S). "Michael Lamjathang Haokip had also on November 21 issued a rejoinder to the statement, detailing the incident of how he was assaulted and mistreated by the

personnel of 12 Assam Rifles and also how he had approached the Tengnoupal Police and Commanding Officer of 12 Assam Rifles at Tengnoupal to address the matter but yielded no positive result," the TSA-GHQ added. "All that we want is respect and justice and a safe and orderly environment where general public and civilians can move free from fear of being harmed or mistreated by security personnel without any valid reason," the TSA-GHQ also stated. It then urged the State government and higher authorities of Assam Rifles and the Union Home Ministry to address its demands "so as to resolve the matter and prevent recurrence of such incident in future in public interest without any further

delay". The TSA-GHQ demanded that the media statement of Assam Rifles by PRO, IGAR(S) be withdrawn immediately as it was a crooked and make-up story to fool and mislead the public, commuters, tourists. It also demanded that the 12 Assam Rifles performs a Thadrou customary apology as demanded by the Thadrou Inpi, General Headquarters (Apex body of the Thadrou tribe) and TSA. It further demanded that the State police bring the culprits to justice according to the law of the land without any further delay.

The TSA-GHQ added that if the demand is not fulfilled on or before November 27, 2018, the TSA will take ahead the indefinite national highways bandh starting from the midnight of November 27.

Wholesale markets in Maharashtra to stay shut on Nov 27

Agency Pune Nov 25,

Wholesale markets in Maharashtra will remain closed on November 27 as traders and commission agents have decided to go on a token strike to protest against the recent changes in the Agricultural Produce Market Committee (Development and Regulation) Act 1963.

The state government, by means of an ordinance, has practically denuded the APMCs of their control over trade in agricultural commodities and limited their sphere of influence. Rajendra Shelke, president of the onion potato traders and commission agents association of the Vashi Market in Navi Mumbai, said they met Minister of Cooperation Subhash Deshmukh last week. "The meeting saw strong participation of leaders of head loaders, traders, commission agents etc. All of us strongly opposed the amendments, which would be detrimental to all stakeholders," he said. The minister promised to discuss



the matter with Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, Shelke said. The ordinance issued last month has brought about a sea change in the way wholesale markets function. Earlier, these markets had the power to regulate the trade in agricultural commodities within their area of operation, which was decided by the government. Mostly, the areas of operation were the tehsils where the markets were located. The market committees were allowed to levy taxes in lieu of services provided, which included basic infrastructure for conducting open auction of commodities, washrooms,

rest houses for farmers, godowns etc. Also the committees ensured farmers got their payment the same day their produce was auctioned. After the ordinance, these markets can't levy cess on trade outside the market yard and their sphere of influence is now restricted to their yards only. Shelke and other traders claimed this will increase the cases of cheating of farmers by unscrupulous elements. Another change effected by the government was to declare markets which see around 30 per cent arrivals from other states

as markets of national importance. Board of directors for these markets would be appointed by the state government. Critics claimed this was an indirect way by the BJP to wrestle control of the markets from the NCP-Congress. Wholesale markets, like the district central cooperative banks, remain in the control of the NCP and Congress. The state government has effected many changes in their functioning, the latest being the move to curb their control over trade. Earlier, fruits and vegetables were delisted from the markets.

Mann Ki Baat LIVE: Kartarpur Corridor opening an important decision by govt, says PM Modi

Agency New Delhi Nov 25,

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the nation in the 50th edition of his monthly radio programme 'Mann Ki Baat' today. The Prime Minister in his address shared his thoughts on various issues with the people

through an All India Radio broadcast that started at 11 am today. The PM's speech was aired on All India Radio, Doordarshan and the Narendra Modi mobile app. The YouTube channels of the Prime Minister's Office, information and broadcasting ministry and allindiaradio.gov.in also

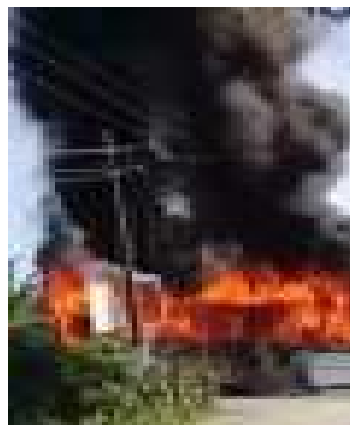
aired the speech. All India Radio will broadcast the programme in regional languages immediately after the Hindi broadcast. In his last address that aired on October 28, PM Modi evoked the legacy of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and credited him with uniting India after partition.

Bus carrying 40 students catches fire; 8 injured in Assam

Guwahati Nov 25,

A bus ferrying around 40 students caught fire at Baksha in Bogamati Ambarish Nagar. The incident took place at around 9:00am on Saturday morning. According to reports, as many as eight passengers have sustained burn injuries. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained however, it is being suspected that an electric short circuit might have initiated the fire. The bus with Assam registration was carrying students of Routs's Serenga Foundation College to Bagamati.

In the incident, the students and teachers were immediately evacuated from the bus



thus averting any major tragedy. The students were travelling to Bagmati near the Indo-Bhutan border for a picnic. Locals rushed to the spot and took the injured to the hospital, while fire engines

doused the flames after fighting for nearly an hour, the police added. Police have initiated an inquiry into the incident and sought details from the regional transport office (RTO).

Tripura Couple held with banned drug in Sepahijala district

Agartala Nov 25, (UNI)

In a joint operation BSF and police has seized a large quantity of Yaba tablets used by youths for tranquilization and arrested two drug peddlers from bordering Boxanagar village under Sepahijala district in West Tripura. Police said based on specific information, last evening BSF contingent and police team of Kalamcherra police

station raided the house of one Ashiker Rahman (37) of the village. During the raid, the search team noticed the pungent smell of Yaba tablets in the air. On opening an Almirah, kept inside the bedroom, packets of Yaba Tablets were found. Sensing that the narcotic items hidden in his house have been found, Rahman fled from the spot only to be chased and caught by the troops.

Sikkim Protester blocks Pakyong Airport; demands compensation

Gangtok Nov 25, (UND):

The newly commissioned Pakyong Airport faced some disturbance on Saturday when around 30 people staged Dharna. They sit out in front of the main entrance led to traffic jam outside the Airport as the Gates remained shut and blocked.

The protesters demanded compensation, as per the rules and rates applicable for the land sold by them for the Airport. They claimed that the compensation paid to them is not appropriate. Sub-Divisional Magistrate visited the spot and summoned Police.

Assam At least 7 temples looted overnight in state

Courtesy Guwahati Nov 25, (UND):

In a series of thefts on Friday night, at least seven temples were targeted by thieves in Assam, looting away centuries-old idols and cash, among other valuables. The centuries-

old Siddheswar Devalaya in Sualkuchi in Kamrup (rural) district was targeted by thieves for the third time last night. The thieves took away two antique idols and other valuables from the temple. The temple authorities

said similar burglaries had taken place in the temple twice earlier, but police had been unable to nab the culprits or recover the stolen items. In main city Guwahati, as many as five temples in close vicinity in Maligaon area were looted last night.

Meghalaya RTI attack case: Cong questions police's delay to arrest accused NPP leader

Shillong Nov 24,

A day after the NPP working president from Jaintia Hills, Nidamon Chullet has been identified as the 'main accused' in the attack on RTI activist Agnes Kharshiing and her colleague, Amita Sangma, the Congress today questioned the delay of the police to arrest the NPP leader. "I want to know what is stopping the police to arrest the accused involved in the attack of the two social activists," Congress spokesperson, Himalaya Shangpliang said. Besides Chullet, the

police are also looking for his two accomplices, Rangbah Shnong of Tuberkmai Graham Lyngdoh and Rangbah Shnong of Pamrakmai village, Lukas Shylla. It may be mentioned that Chullet had joined the party in December last year in the presence of NPP president Conrad Sangma, party leaders James Sangma, Comingone Ymbon and others. To a question if the party would demand for an independent inquiry, Shangpliang said that they will not demand for an independent inquiry as they will closely watch how the Government will

proceed with this case. He however said that the Government has been continuously denying the practice of illegal mining in the state. "However, the attack on the two social activists confirm that illegal mining is going on," he said. Meanwhile, the Additional District Magistrate of East Jaintia Hills today recorded the statement of CSWO member Amita Sangma in NEIGRIHMS. The ADC however could not record the statement of Kharshiing since her health condition is still unstable. The ADM at the same time also took the statement of doctors of NEIGRIHMS. Meanwhile, there is

strong indication that the ADC might seek more time before submitting his report. The DC has given 15 days time to submit the report to East Jaintia Hills Deputy Commissioner. Meanwhile, Agnes's brother, John Kharshiing said that his sister will take some time to recover. Sources informed that the doctors want to conduct an orthopedic surgery on Kharshiing on Monday. However the hospital authorities want the consent of the family before going ahead with the treatment. "We will take sometime before taking a final call whether to go ahead with the treatment or not" he said.

Tripura: INPT announces massive protest against Citizenship Amendment Bill in December

Agency New Delhi Nov 25,

Indigenous Nationalist Party of Twipra (INPT) has decided to go for a massive protest against Citizenship Amendment Bill on December 10. They are set to call for a National Highway Blockade, Railway Blockade and other roads connecting to the state capital- Baramura-Khamting, Ambassa-Raipasa, Mohanpur-Hezamara. INPT in a press conference last night announced to go for a

massive protest against Citizenship Amendment Bill. The decision was taken in a Central body meeting of the party which included all the office bearers of the party. While addressing the media, INPT President, Bijoy Kumar Hrangkhawl said, "Earlier we thought of organising a protest rally but tonight it has been decided that instead of protest rally we will conduct a 12 hour roadway, railway and highway blockade." Hrangkhawl also assured that their blockade will be

peaceful and will be organised after informing all the concerned departments such as police, North East Frontier railways etc. INPT also called other Indigenous parties as well as Indigenous departments of Congress party and CPI(M) to join the blockade as a protest against the Citizenship Amendment bill. "All the Indigenous parties of the state has been opposing the Citizenship Amendment bill. Our party INPT had

discussed and sent several fax messages to the Central government. So, we request all other Indigenous parties and Indigenous units of other political parties to join us in this blockade. Though we have not yet contacted with any other party," said, Jagadish Debbarma, General Secretary, INPT. Essential services such as Ambulance, Milk van, Defense Vehicles, Wedding Cars etc will not be stopped at any point during the blockade informed Debbarma.