

Various rebel group including ASUK call total shut down tomorrow in protest against the merger of Manipur to Indian Union

ITNews
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Various rebel group operating in the region including the Alliance for Socialist Unity Kangleipak (ASUK), CorCom, KCP war group among others has called a total shut down all over Manipur from 6 am to 6 pm of October 15 in protest against the merger of Manipur to the Indian Union.

Alliance for Socialist Unity Kangleipak (ASUK), a conglomerate of proscribed group KYKL and KCP observed the day as 'National black day'.

In a stated, ASUK said that October 15, 1949 was the day Kangleipak lost its independence.

"It was on this day that the newly formed country called India allegedly annexed Manipur in the name of a merger agreement", said a press release issued by ASUK publicity committee convenor S Mangal.

The statement further added that the Government of India

does not want the people of Manipur to know that Manipur was forcibly merged into the Indian Union.

That is why, the landmark event of October 15, 1949 is not included in any history text books taught to students. On the contrary, they have been claiming that India is a very ancient country and Manipur has been a part of India since early ages, ASUK said and remarked that this is a case of abusing history.

The history of India has been beguiling the people of Manipur with an ulterior motive to suppress Manipur for good, it alleged.

Overlooking or forgetting the event of October 15, 1949 will erase the fact that Manipur was merged into the Indian through deceitful and coercive means from the collective memory.

This will ultimately render the people of Manipur as a group of people who do not have a proper identity or a country of their own, ASUK continued. ASUK alleged that this is

deliberately orchestrated to subdue the collective spirit of Manipuri people.

"The right politics at the moment is paving a collective future for all of us and there is an intrinsic relationship between our past and our present. Again the present should lay the foundation for the future", it asserted.

The facts stand that Manipur existed as an independent country for thousands of years, it had its own civilization and it was forcibly merged into the Indian Union constitute the past of Manipur, alleged the outfit further.

"If we don't remember that Manipur was an independent country before 1949, then it is just like we were never a free people", it said.

To pave the way to a glorious future, the people of Manipur must remember the glorious past as well as the event of October 15, 1949, it asserted. Emergency services will be exempted from the purview of the total shut down, it added.

Governor inaugurates seminar on 'skilling the youth in the wake of India's act east policy – from NE Perspective'

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Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla yesterday stated that Manipur and the region are poised on the threshold of an exciting phase of economic activities under the Act East Policy of the Central Government. She was speaking as the Chief Guest at the inaugural function of the 1-day Seminar on 'Skilling the Youth in the Wake of India's Act East Policy – From North-East Perspective'. The seminar was held at the Manipur State Assembly Auditorium organized by Integrated Talent Development Mission 'Blossoming North-East' with an objective to identify the potential and develop the skill of the youths of the State.

Addressing the gathering Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla stated that India is heading towards becoming the World's fastest growing economy and is expected to become the youngest country by 2020 with 64% of its



population in the working age group. The Government of India has ambitious plans to transform India into a competitive, high-growth, high productivity middle-income country by using this young workforce which accounts to only 2.3 per cent receiving some formal skill training at present. To address the issue and bridge the gap, skill development has emerged as a priority sector, she added.

The Governor further said that North-East region has the prospects to grow into India's economic power-house considering its lively source of energy, oil, natural gas, coal and limestone, apart from being gifted with its prime perennial water system of rivers and their tributaries. The region's boundless tourism prospects, unique performing arts and varied cuisine and handicrafts gives it the perfect position for its development as a centre for dealing in trade and commerce with India's eastern neighbours while augmenting scope of entrepreneurship, she added.

Asserting that growth of the North-East region will not only enhance the Indian economy but will also cultivate two-sided assimilation amongst the East and South East Asian neighbours, the North-East region expects a massive boost in trade and commerce under the Policy, she added. In the light of this development, North-East States need to develop an ambitious yet meaningful Skill Development and employment plan for its youth, she further added.

The Governor said that North-East region urgently needs to take up initiatives for skill training in the fields of Railways, Highways, Logistics and Warehousing, Cold Storage, renewable

energy sector, Business Management and Banking & Finance, with quality training of international standards, state-of-the-art infrastructure in the form of 'Multi-Skill Training'. Skill development especially in service industries like Tourism & Hospitality, Retail and IT & IT-enabled services can be the thrust areas.

Further she added that nature has gifted rich flora and fauna to the North-East region and the region could become a hub for developing agriculture, horticulture, floriculture and food processing and there is a huge potential to create local enterprises and local employment around these sectors. As the trade and commerce is booming in the region due to connectivity with ASEAN and China, youth of the region need to get skill development training in relevant trades to support the cross-border trade and business. The Multi-Skill Training centres need to have 'Language Labs' to deliver training on Burmese, Mandarin and other oriental languages which will be of immense help in penetrating business and maintaining diplomatic relations with Myanmar and China, she said.

During the function the Governor also highlighted various schemes taken up by the Government of India for the benefit of the youths of the country such as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana, Skill India which is to train over 40 crore people in India in different skills by 2022 and Standup India which is a scheme to support entrepreneurship among women and people who belong to scheduled tribe and caste. She urged the people to make effective use of the Government schemes for the

benefit of the youths of this State and region. She added that she had initiated the Mission for Economic Empowerment of Traditional Artisans and Craftsmen (MEETAC) for promotion of the traditional art and crafts of Manipur as well as economic upliftment of our traditional artisans and craftsmen.

Expressing her belief that all the academics, researchers, practitioners, scholars and industry experts participating in the seminar will have ample opportunity to exchange and share their views for skill development of the youths in the wake of India's Act East Policy, the Governor said that the recommendations will be coming forth for a way forward for skilling the youths of the region appropriately.

Dr. Swaran Anil, Patron, ITDM, Guest of Honour of the function said, the Mission is involved with the youths and to enhance their skills with the coming of the Act East Policy. She said with skill development, traditional culture should also be taken into account as the culture of the State is quite rich.

Kongkham Robindro Singh, Deputy Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly, President of the inaugural function, said that the youths should take the opportunity of the seminar and try to help in the development of the region. North East region is the gateway of trade and commerce with the neighbouring countries which requires skilled workforce. Even though we have many manpower there is lack of skills amongst the youths, he added.

In the technical session moderated by Professor Ch. Priyaranjan Singh, Department of Economics, Manipur University, Professor Ch. Ibohah Meitei, Director, Manipur Institute of Management Studies, Dr. N. Ranjana Devi, Director, Institute of Co-operative Management, Manipur and L. Niranjan Singh, MD & CEO, JCRE Skill Solutions, Imphal deliberated their lectures focusing on the importance of Skill Development in Northeast States for a successful Act East Policy of India. Scholars, Researchers, Students of Manipur University and representatives of Integrated Talent Development Mission 'Blossoming North-East' took part in the seminar.

Banks collect more than Rs 3,000 crore as fine for no minimum balance

Agency,
New Delhi, Oct 14,

Banks continue to harvest a windfall at the cost of those who don't have resources to maintain prescribed minimum balance in their accounts.

As high profile borrowers dumped almost Rs 10 lakh crore worth non performing assets (NPAs) in 2017-18, public sector banks (PSBs) collected Rs 3,551 crore as charges from saving bank account holders for failure to maintain the required minimum balance.

These charges are collected primarily to recover a part of the cost incurred on servicing the accounts.

An official in the Ministry of

Finance said that in last four years (2014-15 to 2017-18), 21 PSBs and three private sector banks (ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and HDFC Bank) collected over Rs 11,500 crore from customers who did not maintain a minimum balance in their savings accounts.

The largest lender in India, State Bank of India (SBI), alone collected almost Rs 2,500 crore in 2017-18. Among the private players, HDFC Bank charged customers nearly Rs 600 crore for not maintaining minimum balance.

Now, the banks want to end a negative perception which has been building since the practice of penalties was

launched after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a circular on July 1, 2015 that empowered banks to fix services charges on various services rendered by them.

Since then, banks have been charging different penalties for the same default. SBI savings account holder who failed to maintain minimum balance is charged between Rs 5 and Rs 15 (plus GST) for various levels of shortfall. SBI customers are compulsorily required to maintain an average monthly balance of Rs 3,000 in metro cities while in semiurban cities the minimum level is Rs 2,000 and Rs 1,000 in rural areas.

The customers of private

banks like HDFC Bank are required to maintain an average monthly balance of Rs 10,000 in urban cities, Rs 5,000 in semi-urban cities and Rs 2,500 in rural areas.

The banks have now changed gears. With interest rates on saving deposits dipping and instruments like mutual funds outperforming, the percentage growth in bank deposits has reduced. As a result, cash availability with banks has been declining. The heads of government banks had recently met in Delhi to set targets to raise the liquidity available with banks by attracting more people to make bank deposits.

N. Surendra Singh Memorial MU Inter-College Weight-Lifting, Power-Lifting(M/W) & Best Physique(M) Tournament, 2018-19 Concludes

DIPR
Imphal, October 14

The N. Surendra Singh Memorial Manipur University Inter-College Weight-Lifting, Power-Lifting(M/W) and Best Physique(M) Tournament for the year 2018-19 was held at the indoor stadium of Regional College, Lilong Chajing yesterday.

Around 14-15 colleges of the University participated in the tournament.

The function was attended by Hon'ble Minister, CAF & PD, Revenue, Karam Shyam as the Chief Guest; Principal, Regional College, S. Tilakchand Singh as the President and Vice-President, G.B. Regional College, W. Gomdoro Singh as the Guest of Honour.

Drawing attention the minds of the youths on the importance of sound health, Minister K Shyam stated that sports lays foundation for good physical and mental health that in turn breeds moral values, discipline and all-round development in us.



Thinking positive thoughts and inculcating discipline and good behavior also help in effective governance of the State, he added.

"Be it sports, education, social service or any other field, it is important for students to imbibe the spirit and stamina of excellence in their works for a successful life in future", Minister K Shyam said.

We need proper education to lead a meaningful life. There

is no need to focus prime time of our youths on money and run after it, he also added.

If we live our lives based on positive, ideal thoughts with sound knowledge, we will easily be able to shoulder our responsibilities successfully later on in any walks of life, whether politics, community service, State service or even in leading students' organizations, emphasized.

I want the students to know that sports bring love and

harmony, mutual understanding and trust amongst one another, he also said.

Prizes were distributed to the winners of the N. Surendra Singh Memorial Manipur University Inter-College Weight-Lifting, Power-Lifting(M/W) and Best Physique(M) 2018-19 during the function.

Teachers, students and other concerned officials took part in the function.

Mister Pari Shajou 2018 contest

ITNews
Thoubal, Oct 14,

6th Mister Pari Shajou 2018 contest will be held on October 22 this year at Table Tennis Hall Thoubal. Royal Fitness Academy Gym Thoubal, organises the mister competition in memory of Ak. Kener Singh with the association of All Manipur Body Builders Association and Body Builders

Association of Thoubal. The contest will have categories such as -State Level Junior and Senior Open Body Builder and Open Thoubal District level Fitness Contest as well as Open Best Poser.

The contest is being organised to fulfil the dream of late Ak. Kener Ak. Kener who wanted to see youth of Manipur healthy and prosperous.