

Bomb found at Moreh Town; protest staged

IT News
Moreh, Oct 22,

Unknown miscreants suspected to belong to an armed rebel group operating in the border town Moreh today planted a bomb beneath a parked truck used by Workers and Traders Association Moreh (WATAM) for collecting garbage this morning. Women workers of WATAM suspected some miscreants belonging to an armed rebel group whom they refused to name to be behind the planting of the bomb. "Last evening at around 7.30pm some of them, numbering around 6 to 7 came and vandalized the truck used by WATAM for collection of garbage", said a member of WATAM



while talking to reporters. She added that the truck was handed over for collection of garbage through the ADC by MAHUD. The incident happened while it was parked on the roadside near Kondong Lairembi

Haraubung. She added that the miscreants also reportedly acted rough with some women folk. Unable to tolerate the excessive and abusive behaviour of the

perpetrators the women folk and members of WATAM reported the matter to police. Today morning a bomb resembling a rocket bomb was found beneath the truck. Members of

WATAM suspected those miscreants who vandalized the truck the previous evening to be behind the planting of the bomb.

Decrying the planting of the bomb, members of Nupi Khunai Chaokhat lamjing Lup, Khanongpok Apunba Nupi Lup and Workers and Traders Association Moreh staged a sit-in protest at Ima keithel Moreh. Placards with slogan denouncing the horrifying incident were displayed during the protest staged today afternoon. "We are not your enemy", "don't terrorize civilians by placing bomb", do not repeat this kind of acts in future", etc were some of the slogans written on the placards.

TSA objects to construction of settlement area at Chikmi Village in Moreh

IT News
Imphal, Oct 22:

The ongoing works for construction of new houses or quarters at Chikmi Village in Moreh of Tengenoual district has been strongly objected by Thadou Students' Association (TSA). A statement of the students' body said that the plan to construct houses at tribal land for allotment to non tribal residents has to stop as such activity in tribal land sharply contravenes the tribal peoples' right to their land.

The TSA said that their volunteers had visited the site and confirmed that earth-work activities to build hundreds of houses for non-tribal population in tribal land at Moreh Chikim village is going on in full swing. It further added that a house under construction at the site belongs to one Colonel Nectar Singh, Commanding Officer of the Assam Rifles battalion at Tengenoual.

The master plan or the plan lay-out of the colony, showing map of the settlement with demarcation of roads and distribution of house plots said to be up to 500, has spread on social media with community members voicing their anger and concern. It is possible that the army officer might have used his position or influence to acquire the land in connivance with some unscrupulous government officers and anti-social elements from within the community, but this is without the consent of the community and is unacceptable, the TSA added.

"We have not yet established the facts in certainty of how the said tribal land, where a huge settlement of non-tribal population is currently being constructed, landed in the hands of non-tribal valley people. However, mention may be made that back in the early 1990s some valley people requested for a piece of

land to build a temple, later named Kondong Lairembi, in the area where the said settlement is now being built. In good faith, community leaders (MTC, now HTC) at the time agreed to give a small piece of land with the condition that it has to be used only as a place of worship or for construction of a temple, but not for residential purpose in any manner or under any circumstances", the statement said.

The TSA claimed the land to be theirs. It added that the rights of owners of this traditional tribal land on which the land grabbing in question is happening must be respected. The TSA also urged the Government authorities to investigate into the matter urgently and to take up appropriate actions against any wrong-doing officers and any other individuals or parties involved in this unlawful transfer of tribal land to non-tribals.

Adim Panmei kicks start campaign as BJP Candidate

IT News
Imphal, Oct. 22,

Even as the Bharatiya Janata Party is still yet to announce its candidates for contesting at both the outer and inner Manipur Parliamentary constituencies for the upcoming Lok Sabha election scheduled in early 2019, Adim Panmei, the vice chairman of Manipur State Disaster Management Authority (MSDMA) expressed confident that he will be the BJP candidate for the upcoming election in Outer Parliamentary constituency. "If I win in the upcoming MP election, MP Local Area Development Fund will be handed over directly to the public of the 28 constituencies to take up development works". Adim Panmei said while delivering speech at Hiyanglam Makha Leikai Community Hall in Kakching District yesterday in an election campaign cum reception function. Adim Panmei also tried to touch the sentiments of the Kakching district people saying the the most important problem of the people in some constituencies is that some people has voting right but do not have right to contest election.

Dr. S. Ibocha and Oinam sunil take oath as state Information Commissioners at Raj Bhavan

DIPR
Imphal, Oct 22,

Dr. Soibam Ibocha Singh, IPS (Rtd) and Oinam Sunil Singh were today sworn in as State Information Commissioners of Manipur at Raj Bhavan, Imphal. Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla administered oath of office to the two State Information Commissioners. Speaking to media persons after the swearing-in-ceremony, Dr. Soibam Ibocha Singh said that as the Information Commissioner of the State, he will work whole heartedly and provide information sought by the people regarding their grievances. He also said he will try to forge better relationship with the all the community members. Notably, Dr S Ibocha Singh, IPS retired from service as IGP (Administration). Oinam Sunil praising the State Government stated that it is a proud moment for the Journalist fraternity not only in Manipur but the entire North East for appointing a journalist as the State Information Commissioner. With his appointment the State has achieved the distinction of appointing a Journalist as State Information Commissioner for the first time. He further added that he is hopeful that with the appointment, in due course of time every govt. in other North East States will also appoint qualified Journalist as State Information Commissioner. The Commission consists of three members including



Chief Information Commissioner and two State Information Commissioners, Shri Oinam Sunil began his career in Journalism in 1988-89 and at the time of his appointment to the coveted post, he was working as the Senior Assistant Editor (North East) with national

newspaper-The Times of India. Mentioned may be made that Th. Ibochi Singh is the Chief Information Commissioner of the Manipur Information Commission. The swearing-in-ceremony was attended by Chief Minister Shri N. Biren Singh, Deputy Chief

Minister Shri Yumnam Joykumar Singh, CAF & PD Minister Shri Karam Shyam, Speaker Shri Y. Khemchand, MLA Shri N. Indrajit and others. Top ranking Civil and Police officials, family members of the newly sworn-in State Information Commissioners also attended among others.

Workshop on Amur Falcon begins at Tamenglong

From a Correspondent
Tamenglong, Oct 22,

A two day Workshop on Amur Falcon (Falco Amurensis) and conservation of wildlife was inaugurated here at the Zeliangrong Evangelistic Fellowship hall at Tamenglong town, 150km west of Imphal on Monday.

The workshop was organized by Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS), Mumbai, Centre for conservation of nature & cultivation of science Manipur (CCNCS) in association with Rainforest club Tamenglong and Tamenglong forest division Manipur.

Chief medical officer Dr Chambo Gonmei and Nehmia Pamei both

honorary wild life warden, Rainforest Club Tamenglong, Range officer Kh Hitler of western forest division, Rainforest club Tamenglong president Gaisui Gonmei led club functionaries, associate Prof RK Birjit, managing trustee of CCNCS, associate Prof N Sony meitei of Moirang college, CCNCS functionaries including winner of 'NE body can sing 2014' H Rahul, village chairmen and village authority members of Dailong, Bhallok and others took part in the inaugural session. In the day's technical session of the workshop, Dr Neha Sinha, policy officer of BNHS Mumbai talked about Amur falcon and its production

estimate while associate professor RK Birjit spoke on diversity of birds. Vishal Santra, reptiles expert of Simlata conservation Kolkata spoke on reptiles and amphibians and associate Prof N Sony on fish diversity. Earlier, those who worked on conservation activities in Tamenglong were given recognition by United Kingdom based BirdLife International by handing over certificates by Dr Neha during the day's event. Managing trustee of CCNCS RK Birjit also handed over a binocular provided, by Royal Society for Protection of Birds, UK to the functionaries of Rainforest Club Tamenglong.

Owlet-Nightjar – A Rare Migratory Bird rescued

IT News
Thoubal, Oct.22,

Staffs of Kakching Range office today rescued a very rare and beautiful migratory bird with whiskers just like those seen on the cats. The bird was spotted and caught by M Inakhunbi Devi, Ex- Chairperson, Kakching Municipal Corporation while the bird was about to be eaten by a dog. Onlookers were really fascinated at the sight of such a beautiful and rare bird with whiskers which are the

natural inhabitant of Australia and New Guinea of the Southern Hemisphere in our State Manipur.

Australian Owlet-nightjars (Aegotheles cristatus) are medium sized with 8 to 10 inches in length. They usually nest in cavities of tree and below of the nests are lined with green leaves but owlet nightjar are very intelligent and hence to avoid from harmful insects, they used leaves with insecticide power like Eucalyptus leaves etc. In one season, a pair gives



3-4 eggs and after incubation by both sexes for about 25-27 days it hatches. The parent takes care of the young ones only for about a month. The Australian Owlet-nightjar is hardly counted during the last many bird census in Manipur but

luckily as the onset of this year's season for the migratory birds, the presence and joining of this beautiful migratory birds in Manipur is a good sign for a bright year for our winged visitors who do not have political boundaries.

Most of the migratory birds in our state are from Northern Hemisphere like Siberia etc. but we are lucky by the arrival of the owlet nightjar from Australia which proves the latitudinal migration to our state. The most attractive part of the owlet nightjar is the stout like feathers called Whiskers on the face pointed downward on both sides of the beak. These small nocturnal birds are widespread across the Australian mainland, New Guinea and also found in Tasmania.

They are common in suitable habitat, especially woodlands where there are suitable tree hollows in which to spend the day roosting. Also holes in bankments and cliff faces may be used. In winter they often sun themselves at the entrance of their roosting hole. Finding them at night with a light is almost impossible for unlike most nocturnal animals which have large light reflecting eyes, Owlet-nightjars, while they do have large eyes, do not reflect light at all.