

Sharing and caring a must to bring unity in the State: CM



DIPR
Imphal, Oct. 27

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that sharing and caring among the communities is a must to bring unity and harmony in the State. This was stated by him at the 12th Indigenous Brothers' Meet, 2018 held at AMITY Hall, Adimjati Complex, Imphal today. The function was organised by the League of the Fourth World People, Kangleipak (Manipur).

Speaking as Chief Guest of the function, Chief Minister said, "I wouldn't take any decision of my own without the consensus of the people on any issue that affects the people and State". Meiteis being a majority community should have a sense of responsibility and more liberal towards bringing peace, unity and tranquillity in the State, he added. He mentioned that people of the State are filled with enormous

talent and knowledge and when there is unity among us then no one can compete with us in the entire world. He further said that we must work at grassroots to bring positive change in the society.

Highlighting some of the government's initiatives for the welfare of the people, Chief Minister said that the 'Go to Hills' mission was initiated to reduce the gap

and to bring emotional integration between the Hills and Valley people. Lakhs of people have been benefited from Go to Village, CMHT, CMST, he added. Women's Markets have been constructed in Hill districts to empower the women financially in every district. Helicopter services have been started and State will get Flying Doctors soon, he added. The Sports Medicine

Department would be opened soon at RIMS. He stated that the State has been conferred the best Commendable Initiative Award for the Revival of Manipur State Transport and the State would receive the award on 4th November, 2018 to be held in Maharashtra. Chief Minister said that Water supply schemes would be set up at Senapati, Tamenglong and Churachandpur district with a budget of 30 crores, 45 crores and 25 crores respectively. A Heritage Park having traditional houses of various communities of the state would be developed at an estimated cost of Rs.29 crore at Keibul Lamjao. A Guest House would be constructed for the Hill Chiefs at the premises of Royal Palace, Imphal, he added.

Former Minister R.V. Mingthing, Vice Presidents of League of the Fourth World People, Kangleipak L.N. Issac Aimol, Manganga Keisham Ibomcha, Th. Thumbu Maram, representatives of various Civil Society Organisations and others attended the function.

Department of Consumer Affairs & NCDRC organizes conference to review functioning of State Commissions and District Fora

PIB
New Delhi, Oct. 27

The Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India along with National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) jointly organized a Conference at Vigyan Bhawan New Delhi today to review the functioning of the State Commissions and District Fora. The Conference was attended by Presidents of State Commissions and Secretaries in charge of Consumer Affairs of States and UTs. The Conference was presided over by the Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food, Public Distribution & Commerce and Industry, Shri C.R. Chaudhary, and President, NCDRC, Justice R. K. Agarwal. The Conference is being held at a crucial time, when the Government has introduced a new Consumer Protection Bill, 2018 in the Lok Sabha repealing the Consumer Protection Act of 1986 with substantial changes for meeting the emerging challenges faced by consumers in the new markets.

The Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, Shri Avinash K. Srivastava, while welcoming the delegates mentioned that the Conference is being held to discuss the issues relating to the functioning of the Consumer Fora such as pendency of case and filling up of vacancies in the post of President and Members

of the Commissions. Shri Srivastava also drew attention to the alternate ways of redressal of consumer complaints, computerization of consumer fora and notification of Model Rules by the States. President NCDRC, Justice R. K. Agarwal, in his address mentioned about increasing pendency of cases in various consumer fora including national commission and suggested that the vacancies in these commissions should be filled up expeditiously. Shri Agarwal emphasized that the number of adjournment and appeals should be restricted according to the monetary value of the cases. He welcomed the introduction of Mediation in the Consumer Protection Bill and mentioned that this will also help in reducing the pendency of cases.

The Minister of State of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Shri C.R. Chaudhary, in his address mentioned that enforcement of Consumer Protection Act and allied laws are the joint responsibility of the Centre and the States. Shri C.R. Chaudhary stated that Model Rules relating to appointment, salary/ remuneration and other conditions of service of President/ Members in the State Commission/ District Fora framed by this Ministry in consultation with the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has been circulated to the States and UTs. The Minister

requested all States and UTs to issue notifications adopting these rules as early as possible.

Shri Chaudhary also mentioned that the District Fora should avoid giving any adjournments and should be encouraged to decide cases on the first hearing itself and requested State Commissions to monitor this aspect. The Minister further invited suggestions from the States for strengthening the redressal mechanism and the support required from the Centre for this purpose. He asserted that the Government has already strengthened the National Consumer Helpline as the alternate system for resolving consumer complaints so that the consumers need not approach the consumer fora for resolving their grievances. The Minister expected that this Conference will come out with a future action plan for better strengthening the existing consumer disputes redressal mechanisms.

The Conference had two Technical Sessions. In Session I the functioning of the Consumer Fora, steps to be taken to reduce the pendency of the cases, and implementation of the Model Rules etc. were discussed. In the Session II the matters discussed included progress of the implementation of computerization and networking of Consumer Fora, utilization of funds release under various schemes such as strengthening and Swachh Bharat Action Plan.

Tributes paid to Khelen Thokchom on his 58th Birth Anniversary

Khelen Thokchom Trust announced journalists' fellowship award



IT News
Imphal, Oct 27,

Fitting tribute was paid today to late Khelen Thokchom on his 58th Birth Anniversary at Manipur Press Club today. The birth Anniversary observance was organised by the Khelen Thokchom Trust (KTT) Manipur with the theme "Remembering Khelen Thokchom".

Pradip Phanjaobam, Editor of Imphal Free Press, Irengbam Arun, media advisor to the Chief Minister, Ramkung Pamei, President Manipur Hill Journalists' Union and Thochom Memcha Devi, Founder KTT share dais of the observance function.

On the occasion wife of the departed journalist, Thochom Memcha Devi, who is also the founder trustee of the Khelen Thokchom Memorial Trust (KTT) announced journalist fellowship award to be conferred to young journalists every year.

"The Fellowship award is being announced to encourage journalists of the state in producing quality news which was always wanted by Khelen Thokchom", said General Secretary of the KTT Sobhapati Samom. Memories of Khelen Thokchom filled the room when Flute artist Ibomcha played a melodious flute when friends and family

members of Khelen Thokchom paid floral tribute to the portrait of the departed soul.

"I am touched when the flute was played while we were paying floral tribute to tamo Khelen", said Ramkung Panmei, president of the Manipur Hill Journalists' Union.

Ramkung further recount his association with Khelen Thokchom. He recounted on how Khelen Thokchom had help him in improving his journalism skill.

Prof. Amar Yumnam, while delivering speech described Khelen Thokchom as an exceptional journalist which had the quality to share idea with humours by not hurting anybody. His exceptional skill of reporting always tried to connect meaningful solution by trying to bridge the gap, prof. Amar Yumnam added.

Editor of Imphal Free Press Pradip Phanjaobam while speaking on the occasion also share his days with Khelen Thokchom.

Quoting a few writings by eminent thinkers, Pradip said that human being dies three time.

"Human being dies three time – one when he get a job or settled his earning but stop contributing what he learnt to the society, second when he died physically as no man is mortal and third when people stop

remembering his name after his dead", Pradip Phanjaobam said and added that for Khelen Thokchom he had live the first part and said that he will continue to live the second and the third part.

Media Advisor to the Chief Minister, Arun Irengbam while speaking on the occasion also recalled his days with Khelen Thokchom.

"We started together this profession after I invited him to company me at Huiven Lanpao as Asst. Editor. But after knowing his skill in reporting and presentation I have a firm believed that he cannot be chained in my newspaper as person like him needs to go beyond small newspaper", Arun added.

Moirangthem Oken, the owner of Ginious World record Samballei Sekpil also presented a photo which he took with Khelen Thokchom years back.

About Khelen Thokchom

Khelen Thokchom was born on October 27, 1960 as second son to Nilla Thokchom and Thonchom Ongbi Asangbi Devi at Sagolband Tera Tongbram Leikai, Imphal West. He married his wife Thangjam ngol Memcha Devi on 1st May, 1987. He is MA (Agriculture Economics, from Agra University).

He had served at various newspapers of Manipur and later served as editor of both English and Manipuri Edition Sangai Express. Later he served at Telegraph as Special Correspondent until he breath his last on April 1 this year.

Name changed

I, the undersigned, Edah Kharay, a residence of Phungreitang, Ukhrul district, do hereby declare that I have wholly renounced, relinquished and abandoned the use of my old name Edahla Kharay as I have assumed my new name as Edah Kharay.

Sd/-
Edah Kharay
Phungreitang, Ukhrul district

Due to technical problem Imphal Times have only 2 page publication for some days. We will continue 4 page edition after we solve our problem.

Editor

Army Chief says, India is strong enough to respond if Islamabad continues with its plans against New Delhi

New Delhi, Oct. 27

Army Chief General Bipin Rawat today said the Indian Army has options to respond if Pakistan continued to sponsor planned infiltrations. He accused Islamabad of offering training to terrorists at various base camps. He was talking to reporters after flagging off the Cycle Expedition to commemorate the 72nd Infantry Day in New Delhi.

Gen Rawat said the stone pelters are nothing but over ground workers of terrorists. He said the Army has registered an FIR against stone-pelters after a soldier was killed recently.