

Govt. to organise 'Irabot Day' from this year: CM



IT News
Imphal, Sept. 29,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that the State Cabinet has decided to organise the birth anniversary of Hjam Irabot on September 30 by the Government of Manipur as a State function from this year. This was stated by him at the launching function of Swachh Survekshan theme song at the Chief Minister's Secretariat today. Briefing the media persons, Chief Minister stated that the State level function would be held at near Saheed Minar, Imphal at 3:30 p.m. tomorrow. A Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of Irabot Statue would also be held at Irabot Square, Thangmeiband near Manipur Legislative

Assembly building at 3:00 p.m., he added. Eminent persons would deliver lecture on the life and history of Irabot. Chief Minister said that the objective of the Swachh Survekshan is to encourage large scale citizen participation and create awareness amongst all sections of society about the importance of working together towards making towns and cities a better place to live in. Cleanliness is of great importance in the prevention of many kinds of diseases and it is our responsibility to keep our environment clean, he added. Chief Minister appreciated the efforts of the officials of government offices and schools authorities for making cleanliness drive

regularly in their office premises and schools. During the function, Chief Minister also launched the Google Toilet Locator and Swachhta App. The Google Toilet Locator would enable people to locate the nearest public toilet for use when needed from the mobile. The Swachhta App is a complaint redressal mobile and web platform wherein a citizen can upload the photos of garbage in any part of the State, thus helping the Municipal authorities to remove the garbage. Minister for MAHUD Th. Shyamkumar, Secretary MAHUD N. Gitkumar, Joint Director MAHUD Ng. Uttam and other officials of MAHUD Department attended the function.

Centre wants top court judge off fake encounter case after 'murderer' remark

Agency
New Delhi, Sept. 29,

The Centre on Friday asked a Supreme Court bench to recuse itself from hearing the Manipur encounter cases on the grounds that one of the judges had termed certain security personnel as "murderers", thereby vitiating the proceedings. During the hearing of the matter, Attorney General KK Venugopal said that Armed forces in Manipur are facing difficult times fighting insurgency, and alleged reported remarks by the bench that these policemen were "murderers" have affected the morale of police. A PIL pertaining to 1,528 allegedly fake encounter cases by 350 security personnel in the northeastern state from 2000 to 2012 is being heard by a bench

of Justices Madan B Lokur and UU Lalit. It is claimed that Justice Lokur had castigated CBI Director on July 31 with these words: "According to you, there are 14 murderers in these cases and they are loafing around Manipur freely. You have not arrested any of them. What happens to society? If somebody commits rape, what is there to recover? So you (the CBI) will allow him to roam free?" A petition filed by the security personnel has termed the remark "unbecoming of a Supreme Court judge", and objected to Justice Lokur comparing them to rapists. They have also asked the judge to recuse himself from the case to ensure a fair trial. Mr Venugopal told the court that

more Armed forces personnel die in troubled areas of the state than insurgents, and there was fear in their minds. "The court can make mistakes too," he said. "Yesterday, the Supreme Court corrected itself on adultery. The court also corrected its mistake on the privacy issue." The bench clarified that the remark was not aimed at any particular individual, but was only responding to the CBI Director on issue of charge sheets. The petitioner has opposed the Centre, and asked the bench to continue hearing the case. A petition filed by the security personnel on August 14 had held that exposing them to CBI and police prosecution in matters concerning operational encounters will endanger

"national security". They also asked the court to not dilute the controversial Armed Forces Special Powers Act (AFSPA), so none of them are harassed through arrests or criminal proceedings for actions carried out as part of their duties. Besides this, they wanted a set of guidelines aimed at protecting the "bona fide action of soldiers" under the law. The petition was filed in the aftermath of police filing FIRs against serving Army officers in disturbed areas such as Jammu & Kashmir and Manipur. AFSPA, which grants special powers to the armed forces in disturbed areas, has often been termed by rights activists as a draconian law aimed at oppressing the people.

Meghalaya NGOs lash out at sports authorities over assault of two girls in Shillong

TURA, September 28,

The recent fracas, involving sports persons from both the Garo Hills and Khasi Hills region, which saw two young women injured in Shillong has not gone down well with residents and NGOs in the Garo Hills region. The incident, widely condemned for the lack of control by authorities as well as the absence of supervision has made quite a few NGOs question the sports authorities who were supervising the event being held at JN Stadium in the capital. According to sources, the incident occurred on September 26, after the conclusion of the match between a Shillong based team and another one from Rongjeng in East Garo Hills (EGH) at about 8:30 pm in the under 15 division. The assault on the children did not go down well with residents with most seeking answers on how such a thing

was allowed in a national level school tournament. "Children were throwing water at each other and pulling chairs when they were supposed to be having dinner. When one group of children asked the other to stop an altercation took place leading to two children from Rongjeng suffering minor injuries and being taken to the Shillong Civil Hospital," said one of the teachers accompanying the group from Rongjeng. The incident, which is being downplayed by authorities, begs the question as to what were the children doing unsupervised. "Where were the sports authorities during the incident and how was this kind of group fight allowed to happen? Why are they now trying to wash their hands off the incident where as there should have been introspection and the guilty officials taken to task? The act

itself is condemnable and the officials washing their hands off their responsibility, is even more so," said AIJIF director, Alex K Sangma. Another group of NGOs from Rongjeng who were in Shillong at the time and paid a visit to the children have also condemned the incident and the officials. "We are appalled at the lack of discipline and control shown by the authorities. This was a simple thing that was allowed to foment and now they are saying nothing happened. While the physical pain will be overcome, the psychological damage done to these young players will not heal so easily and it is all the blame of the authorities," said the NGO group from Rongjeng which included the GSU, FKJGP AAYF among others. Worried parents of the players immediately called their children back home after getting information of the incident.

"Meghalaya is going to hold the National Games in 2022 and if this is how they are looking to gather sport persons from the state, then God bless our state. Which parent will want to send their children to any place if there is a chance of physical and psychological harm? The authorities must be held accountable," demanded the NGOs. "Garo Hills does not see youth taking up sports due to opportunities, facilities and other reasons. When parents have dared to dream, this happens. The matter should be dealt with as per law as if these are not settled in Court, such incidents will not cease to occur. Discipline is the basic requirement and if such assault is not acted on, then no sane parent will send their children anywhere to participate. An assault has taken place and the matter should be dealt with as per the law," said DAYA member, Changme Sangma, after speaking to the victims.

Supreme Court verdict vindicates our stand against urban Maoists, says Fadnavis

Agency
Mumbai Sept 29,

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday said the apex court decision to not interfere with the arrest of the five activists in the Elgaar Parishad case "vindicated our stand against urban Maoists", while BJP president Amit Shah demanded an apology from the Opposition. "Today's Supreme Court verdict has vindicated our stand against the urban Maoists. In fact, this was absolutely a conspiracy against the nation. And the

Supreme Court has pointed out that it is not a political move or political conspiracy," Fadnavis told reporters after the decision. The Supreme Court had put the five human rights activists, accused of links to Maoists, under house arrest after police arrested them on August 28. The police were probing an alleged Maoist link to a meeting of Elgaar Parishad in Pune on the eve of January 1 violence in Bhima Koregaon. "The police crackdown was not confined to a single case of Bhima Koregaon. While investigating the case, multiple aspects came to the fore which necessitated strong action," said Fadnavis. "I think those plotting to assassinate the Prime Minister of India are enemies of the country. And therefore Pune police took the action. We have enough material to convict them," he said. Critics of the BJP-led governments in the state and Centre had dubbed the crackdown on activists as an attempt to muzzle dissent. However, the apex court said it "was of the considered

opinion that it is not a case of arrest because of mere dissenting views expressed or difference in the political ideology of the named accused, but concerning their link with the members of the banned organisation and its activities". The ruling BJP used the Supreme Court decision to attack the Opposition parties, particularly the Congress. The party demanded an apology from the Opposition. "India is a vibrant democracy with a healthy culture of debate, discussion and dissent. However, plotting against the country with the intent to harm our citizens is not one of these. Those who politicised the issue need to apologise," BJP president Amit Shah tweeted. In another tweet he said: "Those who stooped down to the level of politicising an issue of national security have been exposed by the Honorable Supreme Court's decision today. It is high time that the Congress now clears its stand on this critical issue of Urban Naxalism". On Shah's demand for an apology, Congress communication department head Randeep Surjewala said:

"Let first Narendra Modi and Shah apologise to the nation for inviting the dreaded Pakistani ISI to our sacred Pathankot air base. Let Shah apologise for reposing confidence in the ISI which is the benefactor, protector and harbinger and exporter of terrorism from Pakistan to India." "What the Supreme Court has decided is that the police will conduct its investigation. I do not think the law or the Constitution permits anybody to be held guilty without the verdict of a court. Shah was extorted (from Gujarat) by the Court once and has been in jail for long time, he should know... that it is only on conviction that anybody is found guilty," Surjewala said. Shah slammed Rahul Gandhi and described the Congress as the center for "idiocy". "There is only one place for idiocy and it's called the Congress. Support 'Bharat Ke Tukde Tukde Gang', Maoists, fake activists and corrupt elements. Defame all those who are honest and working. Welcome to Rahul Gandhi's Congress. #BhimaKoregaon," Shah tweeted.

Corrigendum

New report appeared in this paper yesterday under the heading "Extremepore Speech" which was held at a High School at Khoubum area has been mistakenly linked with a report of proscribed UG group. The Extremepore Speech was organised by the Principal of the school and village authority and has nothing to do with the PLA or RPF. We apology for the mistake committed.

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LAMYANBA IRABOT NINGSING THABUM
1st Sept. to 30th Sept. 2018
Lamyamba Irabot-ki Uklam-na Yaifare
Manaba Khunnal Semlasi

Manipur Proletariat Peoples Democratic Union - MPPDU
Socialist Students Union of Manipur - SSUM
Proletarian Feminist Movement, Manipur - PoFM
Socialist Women Association - SNA Manipur