



## Complaint lodged against alleged humiliation of Mahabharatta

IT News

Imphal April 15,

A complaint against the alleged humiliation of Hindu's Mythology – epic "Mahabharata" by the BJP while advertising for election campaign at All Indio Imphal in Manipuri Language has been lodged to the Chief

Election Commissioner (CEC) of ECI by one social worker identified as K. Seityajit. In the complaint letter, Seityajit stated that the election campaign advertisement being broadcasted at AIR Imphal has hurt the sentiments of the Hindu of the Manipur and that such is a blatant violation of

Model Code of Conduct. The complaint note stated that the advertisement not only tarnish the image of Kunti, Duryodhanana and Sukhami of the Hindu epic Mahabharata but also is injecting communal hatred to the various communities of the state. The advertisement which appeal the people to

vote for BJP hurts the sentiment of the Hindu and that the AIR Imphal is giving preferential treatment to the ruling party. "This is an utter violation of the Model code of Conduct of 17th Lok Sabha Election. 2019", the complaint note stated and urged the CEC to take up prompt action against the BJP.

## Paona's statue at Bangladesh

IT News  
Dhaka, April 15,

Khongjom Day Observation Committee, Hamom Leikai, Chhanggaon, Kamalganj, Moulvibazar, Bangladesh district has laid foundation stone for installation of a statue of Paona Barjashabi and construction of a hall at around 8.30 am today. The foundation laying ceremony was attended by king of Bhanuganj Rajkumar Birendrajit Singh, Member of 7- Adampur Union Parishad Keisham Manindra, President of Sangathan Hamom Ajit and Nongmaithem Shantakumar and Thounaojam Nirjan.

## UPRFM celebrates first foundation day

IT News  
Imphal, April 15,

UPRFM (United People's Revolutionary Front of Manipur) today celebrates its first foundation day at its General Head Quarter, Divisional and Sectoral areas today. A statement by L. Rolin @ Thounga Meitei, Information & Publicity Secretary of the outfit said that chairman of the UPRFM T. Bhudhi @ Tamangbam and Vice Chairman of the outfit N. Romen @ Nongpok attended as dignitaries on the dais. A two minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect a departed cadre of the outfit Kangeibam Kangleibam @ Kipak besides paying gun salute. Kipak was discharged from the party on October 21, 2018 after sustaining serious injury at an accident occurred on October 14, 2018 and he succumbed to his injury after few days, the statement said.

IT News  
Imphal, April 15,

Mayang Imphal Block Congress Committee has alleged that the BJP had violated the Model Code of Conduct while organizing a public meeting for RK Ranjan, BJP candidate of the Inner PC, at Mayang Imphal Assembly Constituency on April 14.

The Congress alleged that the venue of the meeting was held in the middle of the 'Public thoroughfare Road' of Salamat Bazar to Bashei Leikai (Bengoon Leirak Achouba) blocking commuters on the road side. Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh and MLA of Mayang Imphal Constituency were among

those attended the meeting the Congress said. It alleged that the meeting was held in total violation of the violation of the of the Election Model Code of Conduct of Public meeting with loudspeakers at clause no. 4 (a) as prescribed in the term and condition of permit issued by the district magistrate Imphal West.

## People now reliase the false promises of the BJP - Gaikhangam

IT News  
Imphal April 15,

Congress president Gaikhangam slams BJP saying that the people have now realised the false promises made by BJP.

Speaking in a election campaign for INC Candidate at Mekola Ground, MPCP president Gaikhangam said that there was a great realisation and a great awakening of the people of the state after knowing the false claimed and empty promises made by BJP. He added that such belief in the false promised has led to suffer the nation and the state at a great extent.

Gaikhangam stressed that in previous years people were afraid of the insurgents group but now the people were afraid of BJP as there is an apprehension of getting arrested anytime.

Saying that this election is a fight between the people and the BJP, Gaikhangam said that Congress victory to this election is the victory of the people.

Highlighting the diversion of secular forces he said that they believed such diversion were B team of BJP.

Questioning the BJP government he asked what achievement has been done

by them other than promoting anti people issues and doing anti people works.

He added that the only achievement of BJP is none other than the achievements of failures and again such failures piled up which even formed a mountain of failures.

He further slapped the BJP as a party without a vision, agenda and a dream and added that they have done only the politics of temple, hatred, statues and lies.

He concluded that BJP has been the democratic rights of the nation.

Inner candidate O.Nabashore slammed BJP stating that BJP has made history as the first to misuse National Security Act.

He further reminded the recent incident of Kishorachandra where he was detained under NSA. He added that was very shameful of the BJP government where the NSA charges imposed by the government was again withdrawn by the court. He concluded that BJP government is a government which can't be criticised.

CLP leader O.Ibobi said that he was ashamed of the BJP government's propaganda and advertisement in TV and radios.

He added that the developmental works can't be

covered if they truly did it. Reminding the previous MU issue he slammed that BJP is a party who even handcuffed the teachers of MU like a terrorist.

It can be mentioned that as 17th Lok Sabha election for the inner parliamentary is at the door step election campaign mushrooms at every nook and corner of the inner constituency.

## KCP observes 39th Foundation Day

IT News  
Imphal, April 15,

Armed rebel group Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP) observed 39<sup>th</sup> foundation day on April 14. A press statement issued by S. Mangal, Secretary -in-Charge, Information and Publicity of the proscribed group said that the foundation day was observed at its Central Head Quarter, GHQ, Training Centre, Technical Head Quarters, Mobile Unit, Special Task Unit, 141 Battalion, 131 Battalion, Special Elite Unit and at other places of the region.

Main function was held at 131

## Three Women killed in Thunderstorm; many houses destroyed

IT News  
Imphal, April 15,

At least three women were killed and several houses including a makeshift for public meeting of the BJP at Thanga in Bishnupur district was destroyed in a fierce thunderstorm today morning. As many as 40 people, including 30 students, were also injured in the natures wrath. Two women were crushed to death after a house collapsed at Churachandpur district, while another woman, who ran a tea shop in the Wari area in

Kakching district, was killed when a banyan tree fell on her. The two women died at Churachandpur were identified as Nemdom (74 years) w/o Ngulkhomang and Chenkhohla (50 years) w/o Sehkholen. The tragic incident happened at K. Salemjang village, Kulbung, TD Samulaman block, in Churachandpur. The two women were reportedly taking shelter at a house in T.Munjang village Cepur when heavy storm destroyed the house. The women died at Kakching district has been identified as Yengkhom Nungsitombi

@Memcha (56), wife of late Angangcha. She runs a hotel at Kakching Wairi Senapati Leikai, Lairam Parem. The incident happen when a banyan tree falls on her hotel by the storm. The 30 students were injured when a building collapsed at Kwakta. All were rushed to a hospital and are said to be out of danger. There were reports of destruction of houses and shops from many parts of the state. Chief Secretary Suresh Babu has sought information from all District Collectors on casualties and damage.

## SC to test ECI claim of 'toothlessness' against hate speech

Courtesy- the Hindu  
New Delhi, April, 15,

The Supreme Court on Monday gave the Election Commission of India (ECI) exactly 24 hours to explain its lawyer's submissions in court that the poll body is largely "powerless" and "toothless" to act against religious and hate speeches by candidates during the 2019 Lok Sabha election campaign.

**Questions ECI's powers**  
During the hearing, Chief Justice of India Ranjan Gogoi even threatened to have the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in the courtroom within

the next half hour if the court did not get clear answers to its questions on the poll body's powers under the law against candidates who spew vitriol.

The court found that the ECI had issued notices for hate speeches and campaigning for votes on the basis of religion in only three cases so far in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections. The three include Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) supremo Mayawati.

The ECI, represented by advocate Amit Sharma, said Mr. Adityanath had been issued an advisory.

Ms. Mayawati, the ECI said, had asked for votes in the name of religion.

**'Answer us'**  
"So what about Mayawati? She was supposed to reply to you [the ECI] by April 12... Today is April 15. She has not replied. What does the law permit you to do in such cases? Answer us... What will you do now? What are you empowered to do?" Chief Justice Gogoi asked the ECI.

"We will issue an advisory... We may file a complaint," Mr. Sharma replied.

Mr. Sharma tried to reason, saying, "There is a procedure... We have to give them time to reply."

"So you are basically saying you [the ECI] are toothless and powerless against hate speeches. The most you can do is send a notice to the offending candidate. If the candidate replies, send him or

her an advisory. Despite this, if there is violation of Model Code of Conduct, you may then file a criminal complaint.. That is all? Those are your powers under the law?" Chief Justice Gogoi asked Mr. Sharma.

**'No other power'**  
Mr. Sharma concurred that was "no other power" with the ECI. "We [the ECI] cannot de-recognise or disqualify the person. This is the only power," he submitted.

Hearing this, the court decided to examine in detail the issue of the ECI's powers to deal with hate and defamatory election speeches, and violations of the Model Code of Conduct. It ordered an ECI official to be personally present in the court on April 16.

Mr. Sharma tried to explain that the ECI had "standing instructions" to act against hate speeches and the violation of the Model Code.

"What do you mean by 'standing instructions'? You are duty-bound... In certain matters like this, time is limited. You have to act promptly. Whether the outcome is good or bad, you have to get into it immediately," Chief Justice Gogoi addressed the counsel.

**Petition by NRI**  
The court was hearing a petition filed by a Non Resident Indian (NRI) Harpreet Mansukhani, highlighting the increase in hate and divisive speeches in the name of religion in the Lok Sabha elections of 2019.