



## Constitution of India in grave danger – O Ibobi We need 2<sup>nd</sup> Independent movement to free the people – Gaikhangam

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 28

134th Foundation Day of Indian National Congress, Manipur Pradesh Congress party punched a slashing criticism to both the BJP led government at the centre as well as in the state. While, leader of the opposition Oram Ibobi shows serious concern over the fate of the Indian democracy and the safety of the constitution of India, Congress Working Committee member, Gaikhangam held at Congress Bhavan, BT road Imphal. The Congress leader also criticized the BJP government for playing an exclusive politics while ruling the country saying that India is a land of multiethnic community with diverse culture they cannot run the country for the sake of few people. "There is an undeclared emergency, where any person are arrested for any criticism to the government policy and programme. Our fundamental rights – freedom of speech, right to dissent have no meaning", Gaikhangam said. He added that where there is no voice of the people then there lies danger in democracy. Leader of the opposition, Oram Ibobi Singh while speaking on the occasion lambasted the government over the arrest of CPI leader L. Sotinkumar. "Where is the democracy, when political party leader like

anytime, India got Independent from the Colonial British and India needs another independent movement to free the people from the present regime", Gaikhangam said while speaking at the 134th Foundation Day of Indian National Congress held at Congress Bhavan, BT road Imphal. The Congress leader also criticized the BJP government for playing an exclusive politics while ruling the country saying that India is a land of multiethnic community with diverse culture they cannot run the country for the sake of few people. "There is an undeclared emergency, where any person are arrested for any criticism to the government policy and programme. Our fundamental rights – freedom of speech, right to dissent have no meaning", Gaikhangam said. He added that where there is no voice of the people then there lies danger in democracy. Leader of the opposition, Oram Ibobi Singh while speaking on the occasion lambasted the government over the arrest of CPI leader L. Sotinkumar. "Where is the democracy, when political party leader like

L. Sotinkumar have been arrested?" Ibobi asked. He further said that every voice of dissents have been suppressed, media have been shut and democracy is in grave danger. "The Congress party will not remain as silent spectator when the constitution of India and democracy is in grave danger", Ibobi said. Ibobi also questioned the way that the BJP led government was formed in the state of Manipur is constitutional or not. "We are in the Single largest political party in this legislative Assembly but instead of inviting the single largest party the governor of the state under pressure from union minister had accepted an MLA of the Congress party to join them and invited them. Is the constitution safe?" Ibobi asked. A perfect example is the recent statement by Sharat Pawar at which he said that Maharashtra is not Manipur or Goa where they can formed a minority government, Ibobi said highlighting the series of event that took place during the formation of Maharashtra government.

## BJP organises rally in support of CAA Chief Minister N. Biren says – question of discussing CAA in Manipur does not arise

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 28

BJP Manipur Pradesh today organised a mass rally cum public meeting to show their support to the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) 2019 at Basu Ground in Thoubal district today afternoon. Large turnout of BJP workers from Thoubal district including Meitei Pangal were seen joining the pro CAA rally. However, placards thanking the central government for introduction of the Inner Line Permit, which exempted the state of Manipur from CAA were seen carried by the BJP workers.

Chief Minister of Manipur while speaking on the matter said that his government is all set to introduce the Inner Line Permit System under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation here in the state of Manipur and for that he will be holding a final sitting with his cabinet and other related officers tomorrow.

Regarding the CAA, the Chief Minister said, "What is the need for discussing CAA for the state of Manipur? We are working hard for formal implementation of ILP." He however said that the people of India should be the one that decide on who should be allowed to enter the country. Will the decision on whom to allow be given to



Pakistan, USA or any other country? The Chief Minister questioned justifying the BJP led government stand on CAA.

"We should appreciate the visionary leaders of the BJP – PM Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Minister Ram Madhav, for giving us hope for protecting the state and its integrity", Biren said adding that in his life he had never come across any leader who are so concern about the state of Manipur other than Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh.

Pointing figure to those who are against in the state of Manipur, the Chief Minister asked, "Do they know what is CAA? Let's debate? I will surrender if the act violates

the Article 14 because Article 14 says equal treatment to all religions. Is there anything that says that some persons belonging to specific religion will be driven out? There are some leftist people in Manipur too who speak anything they like to create chaos in the state."

"It is only the PM Narendra Modi and HM Amit Shah that can assured the integrity of Manipur", Biren said.

Taking a dig to the Congress party Biren called on the people to recalled on the condition of the state three years from now. Many had been killed in fake encounter, people cannot come out from home during night, he added. PWD Minister Th. Bishwajit while talking on the occasion said that people should know that which political party had ruined the state of Manipur.

## Former Assam BJP chief passes away

NE NOW  
Guwahati, Dec. 28,

Former Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president of Assam Indramoni Bora passed away at the wee hours on Saturday. Bora served as a Rajya Sabha MP from 2001 to 2007.

He breathed his last due to prolonged illness at his residence in Guwahati at around 2 am on Saturday. He leaves behind his wife, two daughters and a son. Meanwhile, BJP leaders of Assam took to social media to pour their message of condolences in memory of the great political leader.

In a tweet, Assam chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal stated: "Saddened to learn about the death of former @BJP4Assampresident & RS MP Indramoni Bora. His demise is great loss for @BJP4India family."

"His role in strengthening the party under stalwarts Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji & Lal Krishna Advani ji is invaluable. My heartfelt condolences," Sonowal added.

Assam finance minister Himanta Biswa Sarma also expressed his sadness for Bora's demise. He tweeted:

"I am deeply saddened by the death of former state BJP president Indramoni Bora. He has been instrumental in taking the BJP party of the state to great heights. His death is an irreplaceable loss for the party. May his soul rest in peace."

## Mary Kom Beats Nikhat Zareen in 51kg Trials to Represent India in Olympic Qualifiers

Agency  
New Delhi Dec.28

MC Mary Kom defeated Nikhat Zareen in the summit clash of the 51 kg category at the ongoing women's boxing trials for the Olympic qualifiers in New Delhi on Saturday. The six-time world champion and Olympic bronze medalist got the better of her 'challenger' with a 9-1 split decision victory.

With the win, Mary Kom will now represent India at the Olympic qualifiers, which are scheduled to be held in China in February next year. Both had won their respective

first-round bouts on Friday

indecision over the selection policy. She had also demanded that the trials be telecast live which the BFI rejected stating that there is no precedence for it. While Mary Kom always stated that she would abide by whatever selection policy the BFI has, she had indicated an aversion to a trial, taking the example of other sports in which athletes don't have to give trials. "Even in other games like badminton, who gives trial? Have you seen



what ever selection policy the BFI has, she had indicated an aversion to a trial, taking the example of other sports in which athletes don't have to give trials. "Even in other games like badminton, who gives trial? Have you seen

Saina Nehwal and P.V. Sindhu appearing for trials? But in our case it is different," she had said in August.

In other results, two-time world silver-medallist Sonia Lather (57kg) was upstaged by a swift-moving Sakshi Chaudhary. Lather, also an Asian medallist, couldn't cope with Chaudhary's relentless attack. In the 60kg category, former world champion L. Sarita Devi lost to national champion Simranjit Kaur. It was once again a battle of pace as Kaur outwitted Sarita with her precise hitting and quick reflexes.

## We are trying to preserve our culture and CAA is a threat: Artists of Manipur

By: Cecil thounaojam

A group of artists has come together with other concerned citizens of Manipur in the series of protests against CAA. In a short conversation with the participating artists, some of them expressed their views on the role of artists in the current issue of CAA. Cultural dancers and langden performers, Nirupama and Telish also participated in the protest. Nirupama said, "The people of Manipur have been worried that the indigenous community is at the verge of

disappearance." She further added, "As artists, we have a huge role to play. The implementation of CAA is a threat to our culture, language, and tradition, which we, as artists, have been trying to preserve." Tellis said, "Apart from the usual forms of protests, art should be used as a medium to reflect the issues of the state and educate people with a touch of entertainment, just like sumang leela." They requested all artists, cultural activists, and teachers to come out and protest against CAA. According to them,



"We should boycott to participate in any kind of festival organised by the state, only then the central

government will show interest in finding out the reason. Otherwise, it will be like us agreeing to the

implementation of CAA." Akhu, singer and songwriter of Imphal Talkies, said, "As per my understanding, the creativity of an artist stems from the soil of their land and surrounding, be it a poet or singer or any artist who has been my inspiration." He further added, "This time, it is very fortunate to have independent artists come together and even write a song for the protest. It is rare, but I believe it has strengthened the bond among us artists and also has helped in making each other aware of the political situation

of Manipur." He said that art has always been inspired by his environment. "As a responsible citizen and an artist, I want to express our happiness and sorrow using art as a medium." Another singer, Silheiba said, "Everyone has their own interpretation of art, but before being an artist, we are humans living in our society. For me, I do not ascribe to the idea that art should not offend anyone and should focus only on its beauty. We should all voice out whenever there is any kind of oppression or suppression in our society."

## "Jio" users no longer allowed to recharge old prepaid plans

By Raju Vernekar  
Mumbai, dec 28

As a sequel to directions by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), "Reliance Jio" has stopped the tariff protection service, with which the prepaid customers were able to get the benefit of previous plans, earlier. The tariff protection was

available only to Jio's prepaid customers who were not on any active prepaid plan. The removal of tariff protection means every Jio prepaid customer will have to recharge the newly launched plans. The new Jio prepaid plans starts at the same Rs 98, but the plans with bundled off-net calling starts at Rs 129, whereas the same plans from "Vodafone Idea" and "Airtel" starts at Rs 149. On the same note, "Reliance Jio" is still charging six paise per minute for off-net calls, whereas "Bharti Airtel" and "Vodafone Idea" are providing unlimited voice calls without any charges.

## Bomb blasts

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Imphal, Dec 28

A blast (suspected to be of IED) was took place at Ngari gali (a lane along which fermented fish is sold) of Imphal bazaar, P.S City', distt. Imphal West at about 0500 hrs today. There were no casualty or injury in the blast except some damage to the shutter door of a shop owned by one Kishore.