



## Union Cabinet clears Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 4

A day after the representatives of MANPAC and political parties from the state held consultative meeting with the Union Home Minister Amit Shah in connection with the contentious CAB, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi cleared the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019.

A leader of Siva Sena Manipur state - a political parties after meeting the Union Home Minister at New Delhi yesterday expressed confidence on the assurance by Union Home Minister for protection of Manipur. However, except for the region which has inner line permit system as well as those protected under sixth schedule, no additional clause has been added to the revise Bill, a source said to Imphal Times.

The Bill seeks to grant citizenship to six undocumented non-Muslim communities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan who came to India on or before December 31, 2014.

Quoting a senior government official, National daily *The Hindu* reported that the Bill was one of the items on the Cabinet's agenda for Wednesday and it was given the go-ahead.

The proposed amendment also has provisions to shield

certain areas in the northeast from the impact of the Bill. Last week, representatives of several northeast groups said they had been assured by Union Home Minister Amit Shah that the tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura protected by Sixth Schedule of the Constitution and States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland that are protected by the Inner Line Permit (ILP) will

be exempted from the impact of the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019.

The civil society groups and political representatives met Mr. Shah in Delhi as part of a consultative process to discuss the Bill that is expected to be introduced in the Parliament session on December 9. The session ends on December 13.

Northeast States have erupted in protests against the

Bill. A large section of the people and organisations in the northeast say it will nullify the provisions of the Assam Accord of 1985, which fixed March 24, 1971, as the cut-off date for deportation of all illegal immigrants, irrespective of religion. The groups were told on Saturday that the Bill will have a provision to detect and deport all the illegal migrants who entered after December 31, 2014.

## MANPAC reiterates stands; says will continue various form of agitation against CAB

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News about the clearance of the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2019 by the union cabinet Minister today morning before any visible action on the assurances by Union Home Minister during their meeting on midnight yesterday has created restless to the MANPAC team.

"Even as the Union Home Minister had assure to do the needful more the expectation of the MANPAC and the people of Manipur while passing CAB, we in the MANPAC will have no change to our stand and we will consult the people on

what to continue", a statement of MANPAC signed by its Convenor Yumnamcha Dilipkumar said.

The MANPAC statement called on the people to have an eagle eye to the Bill cleared by the Union Cabinet today. It said that if the Bill is passed against the wishes of the people of the North East region including Manipur, the MANPAC along with the representatives of Political Parties led by Rajya Sabha MP Bhabananda, ex-CM O. Ibobi and other representative of CPI, Congress, Shiva Sena, NPP and NPF met the Union Home Minister Amit Shah at 10 minutes passed midnight yesterday at Assam House in New Delhi.

The MANPAC team comprising of Convenor Yumnamcha Dilipkumar,

Ningthoujam Lancha President NEFIP, Co-convenors of MANPAC Amukamei, Somorendro Thochom and Ph Devan Sharma, Members of the Core Committee Md. Khairudin Shah Moikingmayamum, L. Jadumani, Mamecha Haokip, Thiyam Sgaratchandra along with the representatives of Political Parties led by Rajya Sabha MP Bhabananda, ex-CM O. Ibobi and other representative of CPI, Congress, Shiva Sena, NPP and NPF met the Union Home Minister Amit Shah at 10 minutes passed midnight yesterday at Assam House in New Delhi.

## Governor inaugurates 'Celebrating Sankirtana of Manipur: India's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity'



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Imphal, Dec. 4

Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla today graced the function 'Celebrating Sankirtana of Manipur: India's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity' as the Chief Guest at the Banquet Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> MR, Imphal, today. The programme was jointly organized by Intellectual Forum of North East, Department of Sankirtana, Manipur University of Culture, Department of Dance and Music, Manipur University and Manipur Citizen Forum. The function was held to commemorate inclusion of Manipuri Nat Sankirtana in the UNESCO's intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. In her speech as the Chief Guest, the Governor said that State Level Committee of Nata Sankirtana has been observing Sankirtana Day in the State on this auspicious day commemorating induction of Sankirtana Music in the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in the

sitting of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee in December, 2013.

The Governor further stated that the rich cultural heritage of Manipur is well recognized by the UNESCO and has a respectable presence in the international arena of culture. Manipur is today best introduced to the world through her rich performing arts and culture. It is through the Manipuri culture that the world knows the existence of such a tiny State in this far-flung North Eastern part of the country.

Governor reiterated that Manipuri dance is not the art of Manipur alone, it is also an art of this country as a whole. She said that artistes from this State have already performed thousand shows in our country and several countries overseas and brought commendation and recognition from various foreign countries. The grace and power of attracting viewers' mind is superb in the elegant Manipuri dance which is a delicately sensitive type of classical dance including

Nata Sankirtana music. It is our bounden duty to preserve, nurture and enrich Manipuri culture so that it may continue to enrich the Indian culture, she added.

Senior Journalist B.B. Sharma, in his Key Note address highlighted the origin of Nat Sankirtana and the philosophy of the Sankirtana tradition. Prof. N. Lokendra Singh, Dept. of History, Manipur University & President, NE India History Association deliberated on the topic 'Safeguarding and Promotion of Sankirtana' and suggested to take initiative to promote research work in Sankirtana. Noted Gurus were also felicitated as a mark of respect for their dedication in safeguarding and promoting Sankirtana of Manipur. Dr. Ch. Chandramani Singh, Convenor, Manipur Citizen Forum, Distinguished Nata Sankirtana Gurus and Artists, faculties and staffs of Manipur University of Culture & Manipur University and members of Manipur Citizen Forum and Intellectual Forum of North East attended the function.

## Winter Exhibition for Differently Abled Persons

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 4

National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (Divyangjan) organised "One Day Parents Training Programme for parents on Home Base Training for Children with Intellectual Disabilities" in connection with International day of Persons with Disability as a part of 7th Winter Exhibition for Differently Abled Persons (Divyangjan) at Kakching District, Langmeidong Dramatic Hall, in association

with Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Abled Persons and State Commissioner for Persons, Govt. of Manipur. Speaking on the occasion Resource Persons, Ravi Prakash Singh, Lecturer in Special Education, NIEPIERC, Navi Mumbai, explained NIEPID as an autonomous body that operates under ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and its headquarters is located at Manovikas nagar Secunderabad.

He said that with the objective of empowering person with mental retardation NIEPID is

extending various training programmes and services in many part of India from the past 34 years. As a part of it the services are reaching in all North East States. The hardest thing for any parent to hear is that their child has a physical or mental disability. It may come as a complete shock; you may have thought that your child was just a little slower than others their age. After the fear subsides and you realize you are not alone and your talk it out in counselling and with your partner, the guilt and confusion is likely to set in.

You wonder if it's caused by something you did while you were pregnant and you wonder why on earth this has happened to your child and elaborated on various topics such as types of disabilities, causes, prevention, inclusiveness of persons with disabilities in the classroom, society and home, etc. There are also many causes and volunteer works done to promote greater awareness of disability situations all over the world. Every year, celebrities, athletes, philanthropic organizations, civic groups and many others stage events to bring the limelight to various disabilities.

## Book fair to nurture reading habit underway

IT News  
Imphal, Dec 4

The Readers Book Store in collaboration with Walking Book Fairs is holding a week long book fair offering buy one get one book free on selected titles for the first time in the state with a mission to culture reading habit among the people of the state.

The Book fair started from December 2, 2019 and will continue till December 8 at the premises of the Readers Book Store, Manipur University. Speaking to reporter, Coordinator of The Readers Collective Furkan Makmakmayum stressed that the main idea of such book fair is to create a reading circle in the state and also to encourage the readers to read

outside world of syllabus. He further said that such increase in the reading habits of the hoi polloi will eventually increase the consciousness of the masses. The book store offers a discount of 30%, 20% on selected titles during the fair and a discount of 10% is given in all the books even during the normal days.

## Assam Rifles Conducted swachh bharat abhiyan at sehlon

HQ IGAR  
Imphal Dec. 4

Sehlon Battalion of 28 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of HQ IGAR (South) organised a Swachh Bharat Abhiyan in Sehlon village of Khengjoi Sub Division, Chandel District on 03 Dec 2019.

The aim of this initiative was to initiate cleanliness drive in the villages. The Cleanliness Drive/Abhiyan received an overwhelming response from the local population wherein approx 250 villagers participated in



the cleanliness drive. This was followed by a Grand-feast organised by the Sehlon Battalion for the villagers.

Simultaneously, a church programme were also organised at the company operating base of Sehlon battalion.

## 18 selected for the Orange Queen contest

IT News  
Tml. Dec. 4

Altogether 18 contestants were selected out of 21 contestants who participated for the audition for the 16th State level Orange Queen contest which was conducted today at the Sangai Hall, Hotel Imphal. Shri. Namlung Gangmei, SDO, Noney give a brief introduction about the orange festival and orange queen contest before the screening of the queen contest.

This year orange queen is choreograph and manage by



the Blue Wings. Those contestants who could not make it at the screening in Imphal can come for the audition at Tamenlong which is scheduled to be held on 7th December at the Amphitheatre, DC Bungalow,

Tamenlong District Headquarter added the orange queen organisers. This year screening for the orange queen contestants were also conducted at Nagaland and New Delhi. This year the theme for the

queen contest is "Beauty with Purpose". Sheline Saikhom, Orange queen 2018, Sangeeta Thiyam, Orange Queen 2017, Raina Sharma Laimayum, Miss Manipur 2018 and Rossa Naorem, BUKKM Literature Face of the Year 2019 are the jury members of today's audition.

District Administration of Tamenlong will be celebrating the 16th State level Orange festival cum Centennial's celebration at Tamenlong District Headquarter under the theme "Tamenlong Oranges The Centennial's Pride" on 16th-18th December 2019.