

## Fitting tribute paid to Drivers 30th drivers' day; MLA RK Imo calls on government for framing a drivers' policy



IT News  
Imphal, Jan 14,

Fitting tributes was paid today to the highway brave hearts who had sacrificed their lives while transporting essential commodities for the people of the state along the national Highways. Yes, they are drivers who struggled all odds in time of month long blockades, courageously challenge the extortionists and facing all sort of trouble either from the state actors or he non state actors for the sake of the common people.

January 14, every year is observed as the Drivers' Day and many Drivers' and transporters bodies in the state today observed the day. Today is the 30th Drivers' day. Manipur Drivers' Welfare Association, observed the day at the premise of Meino Leirak Maning Leikai Chaokhat Thourang Lup in Imphal West.

MLA RK Imo who attended the observance as the chief Guest expressed shocked o learning that there is no welfare schemes for the drivers. "It is very unfortunate that there isn't any welfare schemes for the drivers of the state", RK Imp said. Highlighting the problem faced by the drivers, MLA RK Imo said that a welfare scheme for the drivers should be a top priority for the government. And even if the labour law doesn't include for

the welfare of the drivers it should also be amended to include them or a new scheme for the welfare of the drivers should be initiated, he added. RK Imo assured that he will urge to propose a welfare scheme for the drivers in the upcoming budget session.

Regarding Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) issue RK Imo said that the Congress Party stand firmly against the Bill and appealed people to stand against the bill knowing its impact irrespective of the differences I political ideology. He also said that it would be better if the bill is discussed in the select committee of Rajya sabha previously and to know the impact of it before passing in the Rajya Sabha. Moirangthem Angamba Meitei Advisor of DESAM, who also attended that observance said that the government

should recognize the sacrifice the drivers of the state had made for the welfare of the state. A welfare policy for them should be implemented by the government at the earliest. Everyone will die of hunger if the drivers sieze to work and Our food supply is brought only through the two national highways, he added. Angamba also said that the drivers should be treated equally like the others who have sacrificed their lives for the welfare of the state.

He also urged people to stand against the CAB and if such bill becomes an act the indigenous people will be wiped out from the state, the people will eventually become a slave in its own homeland.

And if the Trans Asian railway is finished the impact of it will be monstrous, he added.

The observance was also attended by President of Manipur Drivers' Welfare Association Babudhon Shaikhuba as President and President of All Manipur Transport Co-op. Societies Association Ngangom Haridash, President of Meino Leirak Maning Leikai Chaokhat Thourang Lup Singham Ghanasyam and Advisor of Desam Moirangthem Angamba Meitei as Guest of Honours.

## Stop State Sponsored Crime towards Indigenous People - YACPIP

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Youth's Action Committee of Protection of Indigenous People (YACPIP) strong condemnation to the indiscriminate firing by the Tripura Police upon the peaceful Indigenous Youth protestors against the Citizenship Amendment Bill, 2016. The action to fire upon the Indigenous Youths at Madhab Bari, West Tripura is considered as an action to suppress the voice of the Indigenous People solely planned and sponsored by the Government of India and Tripura.

"We learn that on the 8th of January, 2019 taking part in the region wide total shut down called by the NESO, some indigenous youths came out on the street and assembled peacefully adopting the non-violence approach of protest at Madhab Bari area. There were large number of police personnel deployed in the area to control from any unwanted happening during the peaceful protest. While the protestors have gathered on street of Madhab Bari area, two to three police van arrived in front of the area where the people have gathered and started firing indiscriminately toward the protestors on the

street without giving any prior warning to disperse the gathering. No water cannons, batons nor any load speakers were used to warn the protestors instead the police personnel fired upon the civilians soon after they jumped down from the police van", YACPIP statement said. As per the information provided by the GB Hospital one boy namely Mr. Sumit Debbarma was hit by two bullets passing through his two lung and now in critical situation, Mr. Lalit Debbarma was also hit by two bullets on his chest and now in critical situation, Mr. Shakar Debbarma was hit by a bullet on his hips and bullet is still stuck inside the body, Mr. Pahar Debbarma and Mr. Ravi Debbarma was hit by bullets which passed through their legs. All five of them are still under observation at the GB Hospital, Agartala.

The YACPIP said that they received information that while aforementioned injured persons were transporting on the way to the Hospital at Agartala, some miscreants believed to be from Bengali community attacked the vehicle in which the victims were on board. In order to protect the injured persons, five more protestors were left injured by the attack of those

miscreants and now admitted in Kherengbar Autonomous Council Hospital. All these incident took place right in front of the police who were deployed to control unwanted happening of such clash, however, police let loose the miscreants to attacked the injured persons and their team.

One of the media person who was capturing the whole incident was detained by the Superintendent of Police, West Tripura and have ceased the memory chip and mobile phone. Since the late evening on the same day the Internet service and SMS have been shut down in order not to let the information flow outside the state of Tripura. Such an action of discriminating the Indigenous People cannot just be committed by a lay man person but an action fully backed and supported by the Government of Tripura and India to suppress the voice of the Indigenous People and our appeal is to stop immediately and judicial inquiry be initiated against those personnel involved and punish them according to the rule of law.

## Bangladesh RMG workers reject raise, continue agitation

Siam Sarower Jamil,  
Dhaka, Jan 14

Apparel workers in Bangladesh continued agitation in Jamgora and Narasimhapur of Ashulia, on the outskirts of Dhaka, rejecting the revised pay structure for the eighth consecutive day on Monday.

At least 20 of the agitating RMG workers- numbering more than 1,000 sustained injuries when law enforcers lobbed tear gas shells and charged baton on them during an attempt to blockade Dhaka-Tangail Highway.

The workers of about 10 readymade garment factories are demonstrating on the spot since 9:00am.

However, many RMG workers had joined their workplaces in Savar and Ashulia, said superintendent of Dhaka Industrial Police Sana Shamimur Rahman adding, 'Law and order situation in other areas is normal.' On Sunday, after nearly one and half months of protests, the government revised the pay structure for the apparel workers giving a raise between Tk 15 to Tk 786. This revision was the raise from the new wage board put into effect from December 2018.

## SSUM says Manipur CM mislead people; mass sit-in-protest announced from Jan 20

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Imphal, Jan 14,

Socialists Students Union of Manipur (SSUM) in a press statement has stated that the Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren Singh has mislead the people of the state by stating that the Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 will be implemented only in Assam as the Manipur Peoples'

Protection Bill 2018 will protect the people of the state. The said Bill which the Chief Minister had high hope in keeping the people clam is still yet to give assent by the president of India.

SSUM said that the Citizenship Amendment Bill 2016 will reduce the indigenous people to minority and the so call Manipur Peoples' (Protetion) Bill will have nothing to do

with the people. The SSUM also recalled on how the Chief Minister had compromise the Manipur's territory along the Indo-Myanmar border in Tengenpaul district as an appeasement policy to the central leadership.

SSUM said they will organised mass sit-in-protest at various part of the state from January 20 until the Bill had been withdrawn.

## Delhi Police Charge Sheeted Kanhaiya Kumar, Umar Khalid and 7 other JNU students

IT Desk  
Imphal, Jan 14,

The Delhi Police had filed a charge sheet against former Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) student's union president Kanhaiya Kumar, Umar Khalid, Anirban Bhattacharya, almost three years after it began its probe into the controversial sedition case against some JNU students. Police is also all set to charge sheeted against 7 others students of JNU. India Today reports said that Kanhaiya is accused of

leading the supporters on the evening of February 9, 2016. The police probe found that the formalities required to obtain permission for organising an event at JNU were not completed. When the gathering was informed that it did not have the required permission to proceed with the conduct of the event, Kanhaiya came forward and led the mob while raising slogans, the investigation team found.

The investigation team of Delhi Police has completed the probe and found that seven

Kashmiri students raised anti-national slogans and they were in contact with Umar Khalid. Khalid was also invited to the event, the report said, adding they have been charged under section 124A, 147, 149 and 120B of the IPC. The charge sheet has the names of 36 accused in Column 12, including former student leader Shehla Rashid and CPI leader D Raja's daughter, Aparajita Raja. All the accused under this section have been suspected of being involved in a crime but police investigation could not gather

evidence against them.

Kanhaiya, Khalid and Bhattacharya were earlier arrested on charges of allegedly raising anti-national slogans in the university campus.

Kanhaiya and other students are accused of organising an event in JNU campus in protest of the award of capital punishment to Parliament attack mastermind, Afzal Guru. These students have also been charged with other relevant sections of IPC for allegedly inciting the crowd with their speech.

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In a Press Released signed by publicity Secretary of South East Asia Cultural Organisation (SEACO) Thangjam Inaacha states that the controversial Citizenship amendment Bill should not be implemented in North East. Said the bill will surely intensify in the wiping out of the indigenous people of North East states including Kangleipak. So the people of Kangleipak should stand firmly and opposed this unjust bill, SEACO added.

He also appealed the government that if they love the land and its people dearly then they should stand against the unjust bill proudly

and they also should withdraw from their respective position of their MLA's and Minister. He finally said that the bill if becomes an act cannot be implemented in the North East. He said that with their inner agenda, the government should not try make North East a Hindu state. He assures that SEACO will stand for the North East. SEACO also wishes the people of Kangleipak a happy

and a prosperous life with the coming of Emoinu festival a celebration for the goddess of wealth on the 18 of January 2019. The organisation also urges the people to not organise House and lottery at the worshipping places and also not to perform dances and music which is not related with the culture. SEACO also urges to not use sindur which is for other religions in the worshipping places.

## ABVP supports CAB

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As the parent body of the Akhil Bharatiya Janata Party (ABVP) had extended full support to the passing of the Citizen Amendment Bill 2016, the Manipur ABVP too seem left with no choice but to support the Bill even though almost all students' organization of the state have been opposing the Bill. A released of the ABVP Head Quarter had openly back the passing of the CAB and the silence of the Manipur ABVP branch showed that the ABVP Manipur support the Bill. Unlike in Assam where an ABVP leader quit the group and joined the AASU to agitate against the Bill no one from the Manipur ABVP had so far comes up against the Bill.

In a statement the Akhil Bharatiya vidyarthya Parishad (ABVP) stated that they

welcomes the passing of the Citizenship amendment Bill 2016 in Lok sabha addressing concerns of the persecuted minority refugees from our neighbouring countries, still languishing for basic human rights for decades starting since India's Independence. This bill will enable the Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, hindu, Parsi and Christian refugees from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan to get long awaited justice of being treated as equal humans when for years they have got shelter in various places across India. These very minorities have been reduced to a fraction of population at the hands of religious fanatics duly protected by the theocratic state. The ABVP also term the uprising against the Bill in North East as the result of the false propaganda by the anti social element.