

## Assam Rifles Recovers Weapons Of Foreign Origin

IT News  
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After seizing a huge cache of contraband drug worth Rs 5.78 crores on 13 January 2019, Tengenoual Battalion of 26 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South) once again proved its might and on 17 January 2019 the battalion successfully recovered weapon of foreign origin from area near Khudengthabi. Assam Rifles is committed in ensuring that no weapon, contraband or illegal items enter into the state. On 17 January 2019 at around 1530 hours while carrying out area domination around area Khudengthabi - Pillar track junction - Village



Chalwa track, the team of Tengenoual battalion spotted an individual carrying a bag of charcoal, who was climbing up towards the track. Upon seeing the security forces, the individual threw the charcoal bag and ran down towards the nallah. The entire area was sanitized and the party searched for the individual. However, he could not be located and

had disappeared in the thick undergrowth of the nallah. On checking the charcoal bag a total of three weapons of foreign origin including two rifles and one pistol along with two magazines were found hidden inside the bag in disassembled condition. The weapons were further handover to Manipur Police authorities for further investigation.

## Manipur gears up for the 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha Election - 2019

DIPR  
Imphal, Jan 18,

In the upcoming 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha Election - 2019, voters across the State will exercise their franchise at 2,861 polling stations out of which 603 are in the urban and 2,258 in the rural areas. A total of 19,30,912 photo electoral rolls have been registered for the 60 assembly constituencies of the State, out of which 9,39,926 are male, 9,90,960 are female and 26 are third gender voters. This is for the first time that trans-genders have done registration. The number of male voters has increased to 7,135 and that of female to 8,508.

Addressing the media persons at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, Lamphelpat, Shri PK Singh, CEO Manipur said that the figures of the final electoral rolls published on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 will change as intensive revision/updates are being done which will continue till the day of the nomination. Stating that Manipur was the first State in the country to publish the electoral rolls and upload it on ERO



Net, he informed that the Election Commission of India (ECI) praised the Office of the CEO Manipur for the job. He announced that for the first time in the State in the 17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha Election, the Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) will be used for the Service Voters who are at present registered at 16,643 and the final list of the service voters will be published on 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2019. He informed that for the first time VVPAT (Voter Verifiable Paper Audit

Trail) will be used across all the polling stations. He informed that the ECI has lowered the limit of cash transactions by candidates for campaigning purposes from Rs 20,000 to Rs 10,000 per day. The candidates and parties will have to make payment using cross cheques, drafts or electronic means, including NEFT/RTGS, through the account of the candidate opened for electioneering which will be monitored, he informed. Informing that special focus has been given to

the Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) who are marked at above 4,000 in the electoral roll, he said that for the first time EPIC and Voters Slip will be printed in braille for the blind voters apart from giving preferences to the PWDs to exercise their franchise, mapping them with volunteers and providing transportation. He informed that above 800 blind voters have been marked till date. He informed that a single toll free helpline number 1950 will be launched on National Voters Day on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 and a model polling station will

be set up with basic amenities in every constituency. Stating that the State has achieved 100 percent photo electoral rolls and issued 100 percent EPIC, he said that the distribution process of remaining 53,000 EPIC cards will be done by National Voters Day. Stating that citizens can download Android based cVIGIL App from the Google Play Store, he said that the App allows voters to send geo-tagged videos and photos of any violations of the model code of conduct that take place during the election. He said that political parties will appoint booth level agents to check and solve any problem in collaboration with the Booth Level Officer (BLO). It is worth mentioning here that the Election Commission of India (ECI) has assigned the CEO Manipur to develop the creative multimedia campaign for the print and social media for the upcoming Lok Sabha Elections 2019 after the grand success of the SVEEP campaign "I am ready" prepared by the CEO Manipur in the print, electronic and social media.

## ISRO to share its expertise in space sector, train 45 countries in nano-satellite making

AIR  
New Delhi, Jan 18,

India will train participants from 45 countries in nano-satellite making through a new capacity building programme. The programme named Unispace Nanosatellite Assembly and Training by ISRO (UNNATI) was flagged off by Minister of State in Department of Space Jitendra Singh in Bengaluru yesterday. Speaking on the occasion, ISRO chairman K Sivan said, the programme allows India to share its knowledge and expertise in space sector with other countries. ISRO will train 90 officials from 45 countries in three batches. The first batch will have 30 participants from 17 countries. The programme is the space agency's initiative to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE50) in 1968. The participants will receive a training of eight weeks in Bengaluru in technologies related to making nano-satellites. Nano-satellites are small satellites weighing between 1-10 kg. The course will include theoretical work, as well as training on assembly, integration and testing of nano-satellites.

## Voter Awareness Forum Launched

IT News  
CCPUR, Jan 18

Deputy Commissioner and District Election Officer, Churachandpur Shri Shyam Lal Poonia Yesterday launched Voter Awareness Forum at the Conference Hall of DC Office, Tuibong. During the launch programme, the District Nodal Officer briefed all

the members present on how to register and check their names in the electoral roll online. All the members also participated in 'Build the Ballot' activity during the launch function. Voter Awareness Forums are informal forums for generating awareness around electoral process through activities like discussion, quiz,

competition and other engaging activities. All employees of the organization are expected to become members of the VAF with the head of the organization acting as Chair of Voter Awareness Forum (VAF). It is part of electoral literacy club programme of ECI launched on the 8<sup>th</sup> National Voters' Day, ie, January 25, 2018.

## Northeastern states need to be dependent on their own resources, says 15th Finance Commission

Agency  
Ghy, Jan 18,

The 15th Finance Commission chairman Nanda Kishore Singh on Thursday said that the states of Northeast India need to be more dependent on their own resources in future including Tripura which should attract private capital, he said. He further added that sole dependency on the public outlay would extend the state's debt and fiscal deficit profile. After a two-day meeting with the stakeholders including both private and government sector, Singh in a press conference said that the Government of India has prepared a policy to make the states dependent on their own resources that

need to be continued in future. He said, Tripura has the second highest density of population after Assam. Tripura government has a plan for development of the human resources that will help to utilize the human resources talent. The state government submitted a memorandum to the fifteen member delegation of the Finance Commission seeking for hike of devolution to set up infrastructures in sectors of health, power, education, IT, tourism etc. The memorandum mainly emphasised on connecting Tripura with Chittagong sea port in Bangladesh, increasing tourism through improvement of road connectivity, launching

of pro-indigenous developmental projects, hike of devolution to manage forest cover etc. "We support the vision of the new state government to make a model state. They gave us a memorandum. We are aware of the challenges of the state and we will give a sympathetic view to this state's need and economy," he said. Singh added that Tripura has the potential to become a healthcare hub and also can attract patients from Bangladesh, but termed chief minister Biplob Kumar Deb's dream to make the state an IT hub as 'imaginative plan'. The Finance Commission would soon visit other northeastern states like Meghalaya, Mizoram and Sikkim.

## Assam CAB Row Lies & misinformation is being spread over bill, will talk to allies: Ram Madhav

Agency  
Guwahati Jan 18,

BJP leader, Ram Madhav said that he will talk to other allies regarding the bill on Thursday. He said that lies and misinformation are being spread over Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2016 but there were some "genuine concerns". While addressing a press conference in Guwahati, Madhav said there are some genuine concerns and we respect those concerns but some people are doing it just for political expedience, he said. He added that an atmosphere is being created where fear of violence is breaking out.

Madhav said organisations like ULFA are trying to disrupt peace in the state by opposing the bill. He specifically mentioned ULFA(I), the banned insurgent outfit which is opposed to the proposed amendment to the Citizenship Act, 1955, passed by the Lok Sabha. Both the pro-talk and anti-talk factions of the ULFA are against the proposed amendment. After a low-intensity bomb blast in Guwahati last year, ULFA(I) commander in chief Paresh Barua told local channels that it was triggered as a mark of protest against the proposed amendment. The bill is pending in the Rajya Sabha and Madhav said till the matter was in Parliament there was no need for the Centre to think about bringing an

ordinance even as it was confident of passing the bill. This despite the fact that it does not have a majority in the Upper House.

The recent spate protests over the bill in the northeast have gained momentum since January 7 as the news of the Joint Parliamentary Committee submitting a favourable report came in.

In Assam, the Asom Gana Parishad, which fought the assembly elections in a pre-poll alliance with the BJP pulled out of the government. Allies in other states, the National People's Party (NPP) in Meghalaya, the Mizo National Front (MNF) in Mizoram, and even the Nationalist Democratic Progressive Party (NDPP) in Nagaland have opposed the proposed amendment. Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh said the BJP-led government would oppose the bill if it does not have a clause to protect indigenous people, PTI reported on Thursday.

And in Assam, some BJP MLAs have also come out against the bill. The BJP general secretary said he has requested the AGP to reconsider its decision and, as of yet, the resignation of its ministers have not been forwarded to the Governor by chief minister Sarbananda Sonowal. Explaining the rationale of the bill, Madhav said how Assam has been lucky to not have been affected by partition.

"But if those who suffered during partition, if they face religious persecution, where will they go? They will look to Hindustan," he said. Madhav assured the Centre would take all measures to preserve and protect the identity of the indigenous people of Assam as he mentioned the Union government's recent decision to appoint a committee to implement Clause 6 of the Assam Accord which he called the "soul of the Assam Accord".

The committee has failed to take off, with at least five members refusing to join. Madhav said the bill has December 2014 as the cut-off date for migrants who can apply for citizenship and their claims will be checked by the district administration and vetted by the state government. Earlier, chief minister Sonowal also tried to address concerns over the bill. "As a son of the soil, I would like to assure everybody that there is no need of being apprehensive in Assam," he said in a statement. Sonowal said the BJP government has taken steps to implement clause 6 of the Assam Accord and passed a bill in the Lok Sabha to grant Scheduled Tribe status to six communities from Assam. The decision to grant ST status, too, has infuriated existing groups. Madhav, however, reassured, existing reservations would not be affected.

## Sikkim CM Chamling urges administration to be responsible & pro-common people

Agency  
Gangtok Jan 18,

Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling on Thursday urged the administration to be responsible and pro-common man so as to ensure effective implementation of schemes.

Highlighting the milestones achieved by the state in the last 24 years, the Chief Minister said it is not a political party alone who takes care of the people, but the administration as well. Addressing the crowd after inaugurating the Janta Mela here, Chamling urged those in the administrative sectors to be responsible and provide and cater to the common man for the schemes to be

implemented effectively. He spoke on the stable socio-political status of Sikkim, and said it is important to safeguard everybody's democratic rights and the state under the present government has never had any conflict or insurgencies. He said even when neighbouring states have had strikes and agitations, Sikkim hasn't been affected in regard to food and ration, safety and security within the state. Chamling handed over token grants/cash benefits, as also various other goodies including electronic rice cookers, water filters, compost bins and sound system.

Required airport ground staff, airhostage, airticiting, fly radio officer, mechanical ITI diploma, Ex-man, driver salary 29000 to 76000+ other facility.  
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