

Many villages in Tamenglong are yet to connect electricity

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Despite of many promised to electrify from various quarters many villages in Tousem Sub Division of Tamenglong district is yet fulfill the promise.

Atleast 12 villages including Charinapang village, Taijiang, Tongtao, Zeiladjang, Tuisenphai, Katiang, Impa Ningdi village etc. are yet provide electricity in Tousem sub-division of Tamenglong district. People of sub-division of Tamenglong district is facing untold suffering due to lack of electricity, road connectivity, and poor health facility in the area.

This was found out during the touring to some villages by media persons in the

Tousem area. Speaking to media person Charinapang village chairman Ajang Riamei said that the department has promised to provide electricity to the village, however it has failed to put into action.

He said that on the promised and to the instruction of the concerned department, the villagers had cleared the jungle for electric wire line in 2017.

Moreover, the department had requested the villagers to transfer the electric posts and the villager is even ready to help the transport the electric post from Imphal to the village.

However, the aspiration to get electricity is not fulfill till date, he stated. Ajang Riamei also appealed

the concerned authority to provide electricity as early as possible.

In the meantime many villages in Tousem sub-division is also facing miserable lives due to lack of electricity, bad road connectivity and poor health facility in the area.

In a shocking manner electric bulbs are hanging without electric connection as if electric bulbs are hanging for house decoration in Longjon village.

Source informed the media persons that Longjon village has been electrified in 2015. However they had stop supply power after few months in 2015. Despite of repeated appealed for resume of the electricity to the concerned authority, it went into deaf years.

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The Usoipokpi Hills of the Waithou Protected Forest is fast depleting due to the unregulated and illegal mining of hill earth from the area. The Usoipokpi Hills was ones a healthy forest with greeneries all around but the present is heart touching with its extremely denuded and barren look.

Information culled from the authorities reveals that there have been instances when the forest field staffs got manhandled by the offenders and also being warned of dare consequences if they ever try to stop them again. There have also been instances when pictures and videos taken on the mobile phones by forest field staffs were forcibly erased at the site by the offenders along with women and children.

The officials also continued that stopping the illegal activity at the Usoipokpi hills has been the most difficult task so far by the Forest Department due to the stiff resistance and peculiar behaviour of the locals. The source also continued that even woman and children would come shouting and surrounding whenever the officials visit the site and try to stop the activity.

The forest officials, along with the District police, have stopped the activity many times and had also charged the law breakers as per law but without much dividends as the perpetrators of law would continue their illegal activity in late night hours with flash

Usoipokpi Hills in Thoubal District Gradually Loosing Grips of Authority



lights and also in the early morning hours in a clandestine manner.

It may be recalled that the Usoipokpi area is still under the promulgation of Section 144 of CrPc by the District Magistrate of Thoubal. The Superintendent of Police,

Thoubal had also deployed police personnel at the site through an official order. On 30th December 2018, a team of forest officials were overpowered at Usoipokpi by the locals including women and children when they went there to stop the illegal

activity.

The offenders even warned the officials of dare consequences including costing their lives if they ever try to come back to stop them. A combine team of Range Officer, Thoubal and Beat Officer, Koirengei have been trying to stop and seize the trucks on their way towards Imphal on the National Highway.

During the last two days, two trucks have been seized and others have escaped taking the advantage of the forest field staffs being unarmed. An FIR has also been lodged at the Singamei Police station against a truck which has speed away and fled even after being stopped by the forest field staffs.

The forest field staffs are finding it difficult to curb the menace without being armed and the District police, with ever increasing work load in the field, are not available for the purpose all the time. Thus, enforcement of the directives of the Order of the Hon'ble High Court of Manipur in PIL No. 25 of 2017 is still an uphill task.

NSUI appeals Manipur Chief Minister to oppose Citizen Amendments Bill

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National Students' Union of India (NSUI) strongly condemned the statement in the parliament by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to pass the citizen amendment bill as quick as possible.

Speaking to media persons at Congress Bhavan at BT Road here in Imphal today afternoon, State General Secretary of NSUI N. Shyamananda said that they consider the bill as a continuation of the previous manifesto of BJP to protect the Hindus residing in Pakistan. He strongly condemned the steps taken up on the basis of religion in a secular country.

Shyamananda enquire the hidden agenda of the bill to classify the refugee as migrants and condemned on such. He added that the Citizen Amendments Bill is a bill is a big threat to the constitution of India and it will greatly affect the whole of India and North East in particular.

Shyamananda questions to BJP whether they don't know the consequences of such a bill which will give a big impact even on the bilateral ties with the neighboring countries.

He further said that the future of minority communities of India is not certain if the bill is passed on the parliament. And the existence of the indigenous people of Manipur will be in a peril state. The different movement that has been going on for the protection of the indigenous people of Manipur will be in vain, he added.

Manipur which hasn't even recovered the impact of NRC bill of Assam will affect to a great extent on the people of Manipur if the Citizen Amendment Bill is passed. Even in places

which have Inner line Permit to protect the indigenous people like Nagaland, there is a great issue of non locals even in such a state also. He questions the faith of the people of Manipur where Even now there is not a perfect mechanism to cope in safeguarding the indigenous people of the state.

NSUI appealed to both the hill and valley people of Manipur to be aware and conscious both the pros

and cons of the bill.

Lastly State Gen Secy Shyamananda of NSUI draws the attention of the Chief Minister of the Manipur N.Biren to take decision in the cabinet or the house to oppose the bill which will have a great impact to the people of Manipur.

It can be mention that North East Students' Union also called an 11 hour general strike over the north east on that issue.

Fitting tribute paid to departed journalists on 44th Foundation Day of Manipur Press Club

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Forest and Environment Minister Thounaojam Shyamkumar today said that media has a great role to play in promoting good governance in the State. He made the statement at the observance of the 44th Foundation Day of Manipur Press Club organised by the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union (AMWJU). Speaking as the chief guest of the function, Th. Shyamkumar said that the aspects of good governance are facilitated by a strong and independent mediascape within a society. He opined that only when journalists are free to monitor, investigate and criticize the public administration's policies and actions, good governance take hold.

He further suggested that all the journalists in the State must follow the basic principles of journalism which is to follow a balance reporting taking accounts and feedbacks of all the stakeholders rather than reporting a one-sided story. As media often highlights the problems and flaws of the Government likewise it should also highlight the good work

and journalists must do reporting from the interior parts of the State for effective implementation of the various welfare schemes and programmes. Stating that media should act like a guide and a tutor to all, he said everybody has flaw which can be corrected with timely intervention.

Heisnam Balkrisna Singh, Director, DIPR said that the Directorate is committed and working for the welfare of the media persons of the State. Announcing that the non subscriber senior media persons will be covered under the Manipur State Journalists' Pension Scheme with one time relaxation, he said that a meeting regarding the matter will be held soon with the representatives of the Editors' Guild Manipur (EGM) and AMWJU. He also informed that the proposal to increase the pension amount will be introduced soon in the Cabinet.

He said that the Government is committed for the journalists of the State as recently the Chief Minister had announced the coverage of journalists and hawkers under the Chief Minister-gi Hakshelgi Tengbang (CMHT). He further

announced that an insurance policy is in the pipeline for the hawkers of the State and invited genuine suggestions from the journalists.

Brozendro Ningomba, President, AMWJU spoke about the decline in the ethics, morality and discipline among few journalists of electronic, print and digital media recently. He advised the journalists of the State to follow discipline and ethics in order to succeed in life and for development of the society. Announcing that a house will be played for fund raising for the Yaoshang Sports, he also welcomed all the persons related to the media to participate in the sports event. Ahead of the function, floral tributes were offered to the departed journalists of the State. During the function veteran journalists and families of the departed journalists were honoured with shawls.

Hemantakumar Ningombam, Editor, Sana Leibak and Vice President, Editors' Guild Manipur; N. Rajendro Singh, social worker, former president ICHAM, veteran journalists of the State, journalists of different media organizations among others attended the function.

AR indecent frisking on civilian women draws flak; Villagers protest

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Indecent frisking by some personnel of 17th Assam Rifles, Litan Outpost, on civilian women and young girls in between Sangkai and Thowai village anger the locals in the area. The locals rose up in protest the indecent frisking and chased the AR personnel. The incident occurred at Sangkai village Ukhrul district along Imphal - Ukhrul road on Saturday.

According to source some personnel of 17AR from Litan Outpost led by Captain(/major) Dheeraj rashed Sangkai village around 4:30pm. After stopping their vehicle at the periphery of Sangkai village, the AR personnel hide themselves and loom for any suspect. The AR personnel

halted innocent civilians and conducted frisking in between Thowai and Sangkai village.

The locals alleged that at dusk the AR personnel, without lady police, resorted to body search on many women and young girls who were coming from paddy fields. Angered by the attitude of the AR personnel, residents of Sangkai and surrounding villages gather themselves and chased the AR personnel who fled the area. The locals also vandalised glasses of AR vehicles.

The said AR personnel who flee towards Yaingangkopki side in a Gypsy were halted and apprehended by the women folk of Gwaltabi and Mongneljang at Gwaltabi. They were detained at Mongneljang village court. On receiving information CO

17AR Shangsak rushed the spot and held talks with CSOs. At the meeting the locals and CSOs inform CO that the AR personnel, on the pretext of checking illegal activities in the area, had been terrorizing the local populace and Saturday incident was not the first time. The locals had been bearing the attitude of Assam Rifles in silent for long. But they rose up in protest as the AR personnel cross the limit and resorted to indecent frisking on innocent women and young girls.

The CO reportedly assures locals and CSOs that he will instruct his boys and no such incident will be occur in future. The CO also agreed to tender apology under Kuki Customary Law today at Sangkai village court.

Do not Force us to Restore the Pre Merger Status- YACPPI

IT News
Imphal, Jan 7,

Youth's Action Committee for Protections of Indigenous Peoples (YACPPI) expressed shocked to the statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered on January 4, here in Imphal at which he stated that the government will move ahead with Amendment of the Citizenship Bill 2016 by passing in the parliament as mentioned during a poll rally in Assam's Silchar on his campaign for 2019 general election beside many protest have been carried out by various CSOs, NGOs, students' unions etc across the North East Region against the CAB, 2016.

YACPPI, expressed concern over the serious threats imposed upon the indigenous people of North East by the Prime Minister of India who never have the ground experience and stationed in New Delhi.

"We strongly opposed steps for the amendment of the citizenship bill 2016 which is set to be passed in the parliament. This bill will not be benefiting to any of the indigenous people of the North East rather it will severely affect to the cultural, social, linguistics, identity, demography of the North East People", a statement of the Committee said.

It further question on why these huge number of

population is not absorb in the main land India?

"If Mr. PM believed on Ma Bhariti than why only to indigenous people land and why to North east region? If this is all about concerning the humanity then why the Govt of India refused to absorb Muslim Rohingya who were made stateless by the Myanmar Army which is against the International Law", the statement added.

The committee appealed the Government of India to withdraw its stand to pass the Amendment Citizenship Bill 2016 before the people of North East took an alternative step for restoring the Pre-Merger Status.