

Clock ticking, Naga talks stuck for long over issue of symbols: Report

Agency
Dimapur, Jan 7,

As the tenure of the NDA government at the Centre nears completion, there is no progress on negotiations for a peace accord with Naga armed groups, with talks stuck for almost a year due to an "intransigent position taken" by the Naga side on 'symbolic' issues, such as a separate flag, *The Indian Express* reported today. Citing its own report on April 26, 2018, it noted that 'substantive' issues

had been resolved between the two sides and a draft agreement was "almost ready" by then. "But a change in Naga position has led to apprehensions that any gains made since 2014 will be lost with a change in political dispensation at the Centre," it added. Quoting sources, the report said that logjam is largely due to issue over "symbols" which the Nagas argue, "are integral to the identity of the Nagas, and that Naga identity would not be safe without them."

However, it is politically "unviable for the Centre to accept demands such as a separate Naga flag, even though, sources said, it has agreed to guarantee protection of the Naga identity," it added. "But if these changes can be brought later through a democratic political process, the Centre would have no objection, sources explained." The Centre's interlocutor and Deputy National Security Advisor, R N Ravi,

however, did not confirm the same. "I would not like to comment on it as we are engaged with the peace process," *The Indian Express*' report said quoting RN Ravi. Ravi has been closely associated with negotiations with Naga groups for decades, first in various capacities as an Intelligence Bureau officer and later as the Centre's interlocutor in July 2014. He signed the framework agreement with the NSCN-IM in August 2015. According to the report, the

Naga National Political Groups (NPPGs), comprising of six influential Naga political groups and the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (Isak-Muivah) or NSCN-IM, had met interlocutors of the Central government last month, and another meeting is scheduled in Delhi this month. "But neither side is hopeful of a breakthrough, in light of the political narrative being articulated in Nagaland," it added.

CM Visits Samadhi of Maharaja Gambhir Singh



DIPR
Imphal, Jan. 6

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh assessed the work progress of the ongoing construction of the statues of Meidingu Narasingh and Sana Heerachandra at the Samadhi complex of Maharaja Gambhir Singh at Langthabal in Imphal West District yesterday. The two statues would be unveiled by the Chief Minister at the 185th Death Anniversary observation of Maharaja Gambhir Singh in the presence of Art and Culture Minister L. Jayantakumar and CAF & PD Minister Karam Shyam on January 9. It may be mentioned that N. Biren Singh while speaking at the 184th Death Anniversary

observation of Maharaja Chandrakirti from 1834 to 1844. After an abortive attempt to assassinate him leading to the escape of Queen Kumudini with her son to Cachar, he became the King of Manipur in 1844. Heerachandra, the son of King Labyanachandra was a dedicated personality of Seven Years Devastation, who tried vehemently to save the lives of common people from the clutches of the Burmese Army in Manipur by using guerrilla warfare. He was a great nationalist who tried to protect the nationalistic spirit of Manipuri people, a symbol of sacrifice for the cause of motherland and a great contributor to the process for the reconstruction of a new Manipur.

PPP model PHC opens at Moirangpurrel Imphal West

IT news
Imphal, Jan. 7,

On January 5, Health and family Welfare minister L. Jayantakumar Singh inaugurated newly constructed Primary Health Centre, PHC Moirangpurrel in Imphal East District. The PHC is the first to be operated under PPP model. Raja medicity is the partner. Speaking at the inaugural function as chief guest Health minister L. Jayantakumar Singh said that the government has been giving due importance to boost the

health sector of the state. The new trend of health services in the present context is moving toward a new direction. He said that with the rapid change and new development of the society various complex diseases come in. We need to prepare to meet the new challenges in the contemporary society, he added. Stating the necessity to improve the health service Jayantakumar maintained that the present government has opened Health and Wellness Centres in most mental wellness of the

people. Minister also appealed the doctors and nurses to maintain their professional ethics while serving the patient. The government also has opened free diagnostic centres at different District Hospitals in the interest of the poor and needy people, he added. Speaking at the occasion as president Forest and MAHUD minister Th. Shyamkumar Singh said that the people of Moirang Purrel and adjoining villages

should take the benefit from the newly opened PHC. The locals should also feel the new facility as their own. Minister also assured for improvement of MDR, road from Nongdam Lamkhai to Maphou Dam before January 20th, 2019. He also assured for improvement of mobile service at Moirangpurrel and surrounding areas. The inaugural function was also attended by Ng. Utam Singh, Director Minority Affairs, Govt. of Manipur, Dr. K. rajo Singh, Director Health Services, Dr. S. Manikanta Singh, Director, State Mission, NHM, Rajen

Haobijam, Managing Director, Raj Medicity, Imphal and Th. Babita Devi, Social Worker as guest of honours respectively. It may be mentioned that Moirang Purrel PHC is constructed by DRDA, Imphal East under the financial assistance from Ministry of Minority Affairs, Govt. of India which is implemented by Directorate of Minority Affairs, Govt. of Manipur. There is a proposal to open PHC which will be as a PPP model between Manipur Government and Raj Medicity.

Flights, trains delayed in Delhi amid fog, air quality slips to very poor

Agency
New Delhi, Jan. 7

All flights at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International airport were delayed and at least 13 trains to the national capital were running late because of poor visibility, officials said on Monday, as air quality was recorded at 'very poor' level in several areas. Several airlines also reported delays in their flight schedules in Bengaluru and Bhopal. Jet Airways and Indigo issued travel advisories on Twitter as several of their flights were hit by bad weather condition. "Due to adverse weather

conditions (fog) at #Delhi, #Bengaluru and #Bhopal, some of our flights have been affected," Jet Airways tweeted. Delhi International Airport Limited said around 1045am that flight operations were disrupted from 9am to 10 am on Runway 29 after visibility saw a sharp decline. However, flight departures continued from Runway 28. Operations have returned to normal with visibility improving, DIAL said. Officials said 13 trains, including Kafiyat Express, Poorva Express, Magadh Express, and Rewa-Anand Vihar Superfast Express, were rescheduled after

getting delayed by at least two hours. The Gaya Anand Vihar Garib Rath Express, Brahmaputra Mail Express, Swatantra Senani Superfast Express and Purushottam Express by three hours, five hours, three hours, four hours and four-and-a-half hours respectively owing to low visibility, they said. The light downpour that hit some areas of the national capital and its adjoining regions on Sunday failed to improve the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) on Monday. AQI at Mathura Road

was docking at 340 in the morning, at Dhirpur it was 372 while in Pitampura area it dipped to 'very poor' category at 385. The AQI between the range of 51 to 100 is considered as satisfactory, 101-200 is moderate, 201-300 falls under the category of poor, 300-400 is considered as 'very poor' and range between 401-500 falls under the category as 'hazardous'. AQI near Pusa Road, Airport Terminal 3 and Chandni Chowk stood at 304, 319 and 307 respectively. The minimum and maximum temperatures were 8 degree Celsius and 19 degree Celsius respectively on

Monday. The humidity in the region throughout the day will oscillate between 95% to 97%, said India Meteorological Department. The haze and fog will continue to persist during the early mornings and late evenings for the next couple of days. Private forecasting agency Skymet Weather said dense to very dense fog is expected to over the northern plains from Monday and the intensity of fog will be much more and visibility may drop down to zero. The reason for the foggy mornings has been attributed to the scattered rainfall in the region.

AR distributes water storage materials



IT News
Churachandpur, Jan. 7

In yet another measure to reach out to the villagers of border region, Singhat Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of

Churachandpur Sector Assam Rifles today handed over 15 Water Syntaxs along with connecting pipes to village L Kanan under Singhat Sub Division. The measure is a part of Army's Op Sadhbhavana Project. that L Kanan is one of those villages along the Indo-Myanmar border where there is scarcity of water and no proper water storage facility. The measure is a part of Army's Op Sadhbhavana Project.

National Integration Tour to Delhi and Agra for Border Area Students from Manipur

IT News
Churachandpur, Dec. 7

Singhat Battalion Assam Rifles under the aegis of Churachandpur Sector Assam Rifles is organizing a National Integration Tour for a team comprising of 15 students and 02 teachers from various schools of Singhat village, Manipur. This tour is a part of the Assam Rifles Civic Action Project and the underprivileged children and orphans belonging to various tribes of the state of Singhat Sub Division are its beneficiaries. They represent the rich

diversity that exists in the region and are a fine example of unity within diversity. The tour was flagged off from Khuga by Commander, Churachandpur Sector Assam Rifles in a formal ceremony on 06 Jan 2019. During the flagging off, Commander Churachandpur Sector Assam Rifles motivated the students to do well and encouraged them to learn as much as possible during the tour. The students were visibly excited during the flagging off and were eagerly looking forward to visiting various places



of national and historical importance in Delhi and Agra. The 14 day tour is being conducted with an aim to educate the students about the heritage, diversity and the

developmental strides made by our country in various fields. It will also give the students an opportunity to appreciate the vastness of our country and give them a glimpse into the facets of

urban life hitherto unknown to them. The tour will be helpful for the students in expanding their horizons and will make a positive impact on them during their formative years.

Rajya Sabha adjourned till 2 pm after opposition uproar

Agency
New Delhi, Jan 7

Rajya Sabha proceedings were adjourned till 2 pm on Monday after an uproar by opposition parties over various issues, including a CBI probe against Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on alleged illegal mining. Members of the SP and the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) were up on their feet as soon as listed official papers were presented, crying "political vendetta" in the CBI initiating a probe

into alleged irregularities in the mining of minor minerals during 2012 and 2016 when Yadav held the mining portfolio in the Uttar Pradesh government. Left party members, too, got up to raise the issue of violence by the BJP in Kerala over the entry of women in Sabrimala temple while Congress MPs sought a debate on the Rafale fighter jet deal. Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said he has received notices from some members under rule 267 for suspension of business to take up discussions on issues but has not allowed any of the notices. He asked members to resume their places and allow the House to function. "This is not the parliamentary way of functioning," he said. "You can discuss all the issues under relevant rules." Repeated pleas by Naidu asking members to go back to their places went unheeded, forcing him to adjourn proceedings till 2 pm.