

## Chief Minister N. Biren appeals to conserve rain water and ground water

DIPR  
Imphal, June 27,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that we all should work collectively at grassroots to conserve and preserve rain water and ground water in the State. This was stated by him at the meeting with the elected members of the Panchayati Raj Institutions held at Chief Minister's Secretariat today. Speaking at the function, Chief Minister announced that the top performing Panchayat on the harvesting of rain water would be rewarded a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakhs. The concerned officials, Pradhans and Zilla Parishad members will be honoured in a State level function, he added. Mentioning that Rain water harvesting mission is the brainchild of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister said that we must find ways to harvest the rain water for farming purposes during lean season. He stated



that the present government has initiated rain water harvesting schemes in hill areas such as Tamei, Chandel, Senapati, Ukhrul, Churachandpur etc. Such schemes have been constructed with an approximate cost of Rs. 2 crores each by Minor Irrigation Department. Chief Minister mentioned that the Building By-Laws has been amended so that the

newly constructed buildings should install a rain water harvesting system. He appealed the elected representatives of the Panchayati Raj Institutions to keep an eye on the illegal sale and purchase of land property in their respective areas. He stated that a State Level Committee would be formed to check the illegal sale and purchase of land in the State. He also urged the elected

leaders to restrict the construction of buildings on the paddy lands in the State. Chief Secretary Dr. J. Suresh Babu, Addl. Chief Secretary Shri Lethkoghin Hoakip, Adhyaksha of Bishnupur Zilla Parishad Dr Romabai Leirenjam, Deputy Commissioners of Valley districts, Adhyakshas and various Panchayats attended the function.

## Manipur Human Rights Commission observes 21<sup>st</sup> Foundation Day

IT News  
Imphal June 27,

Manipur Human Rights Commission (MHRC) today observed its 21st Foundation day at family court hall, Lamphel today. Speaking in the observation Acting Chairperson of (MHRC) Khaidem Mani said that the government has always neglected the Commission. Recalling the history of the Commission Mani said that the Commission was established on June 27, 1998 and was made functional from December 10, 1998 and lasted its first term till 2003. The Commission had its second term after a gap of two years of non functional on May 5, 2005 till May 9, 2010. He added that the Commission remained dysfunctional for a period of 8 years and 3 months after the second term. Later the MHRC was made

functional for its third term on August 30, 2018, he added. As MHRC was quite different from other Commission where the government doesn't have the authority to take out the charges of the Commission and the Commission has always on the side against the wrong doings of the government, the government seems to neglect the Commission, Mani asserted. He stressed that people believed that MHRC is only meant for dealing the excessive nature of police and armed forces. He further said that MHRC deals with all socio political issues. He affirmed the needs to create awareness of the things the Commission can do and added that people should not strike for non payment of salary instead they should come and lodge complaints to Human Rights Commission to address their grievances. He said that the people should

use the Commission for the welfare of the general public to address their grievances. Khaidem Mani also highlighted the two landmark cases on premature release of life convicts and suo motu case on bandh, General strike, Economic Blockade in Manipur. A special newsletter was also published during the event. It can be mentioned that six suo motu case has been taken up by MHRC for the year 2019 as of the month of May. And also MHRC registered 115 cases out of which 48 cases have been disposed of. MHRC also considered at least 17 cases of alleged inaction or delay in investigation on part of police and considered 4 cases relation to mob violence. The observation was attended by Chairperson for Manipur state Commission for Women Binota and Chief Executive officer of MHRC Govardhan.

### Tribute paid to Heler Keller

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

Relief Centre for the Welfare of Differently Aabled Persons, Manipur observes 139<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Heler Adam Keller at Tera Bazar. Floral tributes were paid to the portrait of Heler Keller.

### Special Speed Skating Summer Camp

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

Assam Roller Skating Association is going to organize a Special Speed Skating Summer Camp at Nehru Stadium & Dispur Skating Rink, Guwahati from 1st to 10th July 2019 for Skaters all around North East. Interested skaters may contact at 9854060480.

### Indefinite Chandel bandh call off

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

Indefinite bandh called in Chandel district by the Lamkang Chiefs' Association has call off after the District Administration of Chandel district, DC Khirishna Kumar assured to fulfill their demand. The assurance was given by the DC to the Lamkang Chiefs' Association (LCA) in the presence of top police officials including DIG SP Chandel, SP Tengnoupal and SP Kaching.

## Three main accused regarding the killing of Kshetrimayum ongbi Sumita detained in police custody

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

Three main accused in connection with the killing of Kshetrimayum Ongbi Sumita @ Ningol at Thiyam Chingjil, Imphal East on 24 June was detained in custody police station. As per reports, the three prime accused in the murder case were identified as Laimayum Indrajit Sharma son of late Opendro Sharma from Wangkhei Thangapat palace compound,

Brahmacharimayum Ningol Laimayum ongbi Sangita wife of Laimayum Indrajit Sharma from Wangkhei Thangapat palace compound and Md. Abdul Wahid Khan @ Wahid some of late Md Amir Ali @ Kala from Kshetri Bengoon mayai Leikai. The police also seized an Omni van- E bearing registration number WB 06-1306. Speaking to few media persons Imphal East SP Jogeshchandra Haobijam intimated that the police

finally established through the investigation that the trio conspired and murdered the deceased Sumita at Thiyam Chingjil by taking the chance of the location where there is no people around it and added that the investigation is still going on. He appealed the people to trust on the work of the police department and asked not to build up mob. He concluded that they will submit charge sheet timely and give adequate punishment to the murderer.

## BJP Khangabok Mandal to take action against anti party people posing as party workers

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

BJP Khangabok Mandal today announced to take legal action against some persons who posed as BJP worker and committed anti party activities to malign the image of the party. Laishram Tomba Khuman, BJP Khangabok Mandal, President, said that some persons posing as BJP workers has been

committing anti party activities and are trying to malign the image of BJP. "If these people continue the anti party activities the BJP will initiate legal action against them", he said. Tomba khuman, further said that Ningthoujam Ramananda of Khangabok Awang Leikai and Maibam Chaobi of Lamding Nashikhong are not related to BJP Khangabok Mandal. He added that the two

had been trying to malign the image of BJP Khangabok Mandal. He said the duo have been warned to stop maligning the image of BJP time and again. BJP Khangabok Mandal, Vice President, Laishram Chonjong, General Secy.(Organisation) Moirangthem Rameshwar, General Secy.(Admn) Th. Santosh, Moirangthem Ashokumar and other BJP office bearers were attended.

## 15 Rights and Civil bodies urges PM to ratify CAT

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

At least fifteen Human Rights bodies of the state had submitted a memorandum to the Prime Minister of India urging him to ratify the *United Nations Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane and Degrading Treatment or Punishment* (CAT). The memorandum has been submitted in connection with the observance of *International Day in Support of Victims of Torture 2019* organised jointly by *The Civil Society Coalitions for Human Rights in Manipur and the UN* (CSCHR). In the memorandum signed by the 15 civil rights bodies stated that the United Nations General Assembly adopted the *Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhumane and Degrading Treatment or Punishment*

(CAT) on 10 December 1984, by passing resolution 39/46. The prohibition of torture is a part of international law and also a part of jus cogens. *Jus cogens* are international norms that are so fundamental where no deviation from them is permitted. It also gives raise to obligation *erga omnes* (owned to and by all States) to take action against those who torture. It stated that India signed the CAT on 14 October 1998. The ratified of the same is due for the last 21 years. India has expressed its reservations against certain provisions contained in the Convention, such as Inquiry by Committee of CAT (Article 20); State complaints procedure (Article 21) and individual complaints procedure (Article 22). The Government of India initially took the stand that torture is punishable offence under Indian Penal Code 1860. (Contd. on page 4)

## NEFIS activists denounce JNU's attempt for imposition of Hindi; submit memorandum

IT News  
Imphal, June 27,

North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) activists had submitted a memorandum to JNU Vice-Chancellor demanding that its agenda of making Hindi compulsory be scrapped immediately. A statement of the Forum said that JNU administration is all set to propose an agenda to make Hindi as compulsory subject in the upcoming Academic Council meeting scheduled on June 28. "The attempt by the JNU administration makes it amply clear that it takes Hindi to be more important than all other languages spoken in India or recognized by the 8<sup>th</sup> schedule of the Constitution of India", it added. The statement further added that, the current proposal is to impose Hindi as a national language, thereby, exerting Hindi chauvinism over other communities especially

marginalized communities, whose languages are neither taught at JNU nor are there enough resources at present to offer them to students. In this context, it should be known that there was an attempt by Delhi University in 2013 to make Hindi/Modern Indian languages compulsory without bothering in the least about how it would affect the students from the North-East and other parts of India. It was only after NEFIS' concerted struggle that University withdrew its draconian order, the statement added. NEFIS term the dismal situation as a result of the long standing bias and neglect on part of the government of India in ensuring that the distinct cultural identity and dignity of the marginal/minority groups and communities is preserved. The fact that the languages of so many communities/marginal groups is not given due recognition is not accidental but the unfortunate result of the insolent attitude

of an arrogant state that chooses to impose its culture and language upon marginal groups/communities in the manner of a haughty conqueror. It is sad that now the university too has taken cue from the state in promoting cultural chauvinism. NEFIS said that universities should ideally be the centres of progressive ideas and take the lead in rooting out the biases rampant in the society but unfortunately JNU is failing to live up to this expectation. This is particularly so in the present case because the imposition of the languages of majority/dominant community upon students would affect the fates of not just the present lot of students studying in the university. This decision would affect students to-be in future too and moreover students to-be not just from Delhi or the North-India but from all parts of the country.

Considering the gravity of this issue the NEFIS in the statement demands that a decision be taken only after rigorous debates, in consultation with wide sections of the society and keeping in mind the particular needs of the marginalized groups/communities and it was demanded so in the memorandum which was submitted to JNU V-C. It is also demanded that the proposal of making Hindi compulsory should be immediately dropped from the agenda of Academic Council meeting. Any attempt to the contrary will be a step emanating out of the overweening ambitions of JNU administration too eager to earn laurels through the implementation of speedy "reforms". NEFIS strongly denounces this chauvinist degeneration of the university administration and would be intensifying its movement if its demands are not met.