



Support Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) provides platform to Manipur company to export Manipur textiles and handicrafts

By a Correspondent
Imphal, June 6,

A textile and handicraft company launched by a woman from Manipur has successfully started spreading eco friendly textile products of Manipur to the entire country and abroad. A company, Natural Textile Collections (NTC) founded in 2004 by Ms.Keisham Babita Devi primarily concentrating on handicraft made of 'Kauna' and other natural fiber based products produces bags, baskets and other household products. Currently, the company has expanded to handloom products like garments and home furnishings, containers and laundry basket of many shapes and sizes. The company focuses primarily on eco-friendly products. The USP of the NTC Company is of mixing the traditional material 'Kauna' with the current modern designs making it fashionable to everyone. Today NTC's business is increasing day by day and looking for in house design production to create own brand label. NTC is a success story in promoting Manipur handicraft and handloom products to the world and generating income to the state. In the beginning, the company started from a humble background and focused mainly on the retail of the products. However, the company has currently expanded from only retail to wholesale and export. The founder, Ms.Keisham Babita Devi born in a family with a strong tie to the Manipur handloom and handicraft industry was supported by her parents

Keisham Manaobi Singh and Haobam Ranibala Devi of Khwai Nagamapal Paonam Leikai, Imphal West Manipur. It was an inherited family trade and love as Babita's grandfather, late Keisham Tombi Singh is considered as the pioneer of Manipur Handloom and Handicraft. He founded the Pineapple fiber in the early 1960s which is also one of the main resources of the industry. He also introduced "Lashing Phee" (a type of blanket with cotton) in the late 1930s which became one of the popular types of household product in the state. Ms. Babita's parent worked in the Manipur Handloom & Handicraft industry and contributed immensely to the promotion of the industry and the products. Keisham Manaobi, father of Ms. Babita, introduced 'Kauna' to the European market in the late 1980s. Because of the exposure to the industry from an early age, Ms Babita has been inspired to work in this sector. The inspiration behind the formation of NTC was from the time where she used to work in various export house where people from all over the world could find the handicraft and handloom products from various states of India. Even though the Manipuri handloom and handicraft products are unique in the world, it was not getting the exposure it needed and people were not aware of the products. This gave her the idea and interest to promote the Manipur handloom and handicrafts to the world. The seed to start the company started getting shape. Keisham Babita a recipient of Vasundhara NE Woman



Entrepreneur award 2014 – 15 started joining exhibitions and fairs with her family to test out the retail market for Manipur Handloom and Handicraft Products. Later on, she branched out her own company to venture as an independent woman entrepreneur. By attending various exhibitions and fairs she got the opportunity to expand her market. Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) provided one such platform. The EPCH organised Indian handicraft and Gift Fair (IHGF) twice a year and on both occasions the NTC was given the opportunity to participate and display her products. Milestones Since the early humble but steady start, the company has grown stronger and achieved substantial milestones on the way. Some of the noteworthy milestones are, First Manipur handicraft (made of 'Kauna') export assignment to Jamaica. First invitation to attend international exhibition for Handloom and Handicraft representing Manipur. Showroom opened in Delhi

and other branches. Regular export consignment to France, Italy, Germany, United State of America, Japan and Malaysia. NTC plays a key role in the promotion of handicraft products especially 'Kauna' craft in the national and the international market. NTC has earned recognition amongst the overseas exporter/buyers. NTC has appreciated EPCH for providing the buyers and seller platform and giving it the much needed boost to reach out to the whole world. The platform generated a high level of awareness to overseas buyers and resulted in high demands of handicraft products from our state. These activities have enhanced our state economies, which also help in creating employment, especially to the women. NTC also helps in creating new product lines by introducing innovative designs and producing quality products to meet the international market standard. EPCH Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts (EPCH) established under Companies

Act in the year 1986-87 and is a non-profit organisation, with an object to promote, support, protect, maintain and increase the export of handicrafts. It is an apex body of handicrafts exporters for promotion of exports of Handicrafts from country and projecting India's image abroad as a reliable supplier of high quality of handicrafts goods & services and ensured various measures keeping in view of observance of international standards and specification. The Council has created necessary infrastructure as well as marketing and information facilities, which are availed both by the members, exporters and importers.

Budding Malwares Manipur University

By - Sh. Ait

Manipur University, one of the eminent places for higher education, is really in a volatile condition. Multiple issues are on picture now. Just after the expression of discontents by some research scholars, by locking office-rooms of relevant authorities, for their almost two year long pending university fellowship, university contractual staffs also held sit-in-protest demanding to give them priority in the present regular recruitments. It may be reminded that delay in disbursing the scholarship for research scholar is not a new one but it has become a periodic problem in this university.

Meanwhile, a meeting of the high level committee of the university was held day before yesterday to discuss on different agendas and issues including new academic calendar, new recruitments and admission, new UGC guidelines for central universities.

After the MU authority was compelled to cancel recruitment advertisement for many times, the new advertisement just published a couple of days before is also in unhealthy position. It is also likely to be cancelled again in view of the UGC Guidelines of Faculty Recruitment, 2018. This may hamper the heart of many aspirants. Stabilizing normalcy in Manipur University is becoming a hundred million dollar question.

On the other side, the university is facing a huge problem financially in settling accounts in connection with Indian Science Congress, over-expenditure Q in travels of the former VC, fund deficit regarding some UGC-JRF scholars whose tenure is on the lull phase when funding system was converted to DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer). When DBT was effected, university undermines the UGC instruction and goes on its traditional mode of disbursing fellowship that created denial and unacceptable to UGC. Within this few months or a year, university had recruited several contractual positions, opened new departments, increases student intake without sanctioning the minimum post and infrastructure, on which denial of UGC is very much expected.

At present, UGC is not ready to recognize those guest faculties as bonafide one whose recruitment was not done by following UGC criteria, like proper advertisement in media, UGC-NET qualifying, presence of VC nominees in selection process. This is a big question and a big issue to those who were selected in response to the departmental requirements without fulfilling these criteria. Therefore, those who were selected in compliance with UGC norms and those who were not will give another assignment to authorities. These are really multiple small but issues which need to work out at the earliest. Otherwise, it may kick off the second episode of crisis in Manipur University.

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Over 50,000 saplings planted in 950 schools and 80 colleges

He said that the Manipuri since time immemorial has been celebrating the festival of Laiharaoba to please the Gods and Goddesses of Umang Lai. He explained that the name Umang Lai in itself defines the importance of the forest in the culture and tradition of Manipur. However, it is very unfortunate to witness that many forest of the Umang Lai has been diminished and vanished with time. He urged the concern authority to reinstate the forest of Umang Lai which is a significant symbol for the deity we believe.

Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Shri Anurag Bajpai said that it is for the first time that such initiative to plant more than 50,000 trees with the students, teachers and officials of all the educational institution of the state is being taken up making the students to directly involve with the campaign of mass tree plantations. He said such action of involving huge number of people will also help in creating massive awareness about the



importance of environment and the need to safeguard the nature. He said that the planting of more trees and covering the land with green plant is the most effective way to fight 'Air Pollution' because barren land produce huge amount of carbon dioxide. In order to safeguard the environment and make the earth a better place for all the species, he said that the most important

and easiest way but at the same time the hardest part is to plant trees. He also added that most of the saplings being planted today were mostly of local varieties which are favorable to be grown in the state. MLA Konthoujam, Sapam Ranjan Singh, Director Education Department, Shir Thokchom Kirankumar Singh, officials of the Education Department, Principal,

teachers, students and the guardians attended the celebration of World Environment Day, 2019 which is also being celebrated throughout the world under the theme 'Air Pollution'. As a follow up programme a survey for the saplings planted today will be carried out during the festival of Van Mahotsav in July and in November to verify the number of surviving saplings.

Registration Certificate Lost

I, the undersigned, Nongthombam Neroshkumar Singh, a student of Millennium Institute of Science, have lost my Original Registration Certificate bearing Regd no. 17647 of 2019 of Council of Higher Secondary Education (COHSEM) Manipur, on the way between Kwaakeithel and Kwishampat on 28/05/2019. Finders are requested to handover the same undersigned. Sd/- Nongthombam Neroshkumar Singh

Bank Passbook Lost

I, the undersigned, Ningthoujam Ranjita Devi aged about 41 years. W/o Ng. Rajesh, a resident of Nagamapal Kangjibi Machin, P.O & P.S. Imphal, Imphal West District, Manipur, do hereby declare that my Original Bank passbook of Poana Bazar Branch, being Account No. 31186531960 and Pan Card, being No. AQSPD9940N has been lost, on the way between Nagamapal and Rims Hospital on 30-05-2019. And that I could not traced out my said Bank Passbook of SBI, Poana Bazar Branch and Pan Card till date inspite of my best effort. Finders are requested to hand over it to the Undersigned Sd/- Ningthoujam Ranjita Devi Nagamapal Kangjibi Machin, P.O & P.S. Imphal, Imphal West District, Manipur

IN THE SPECIAL COURT (ND&PS), MANIPUR, IMPHAL

S.T. No. : 100/2018
Ref FIR No. : 43(6)2018 NAB-PS
U/S: 22(b)/22(c)/21(c)/25/29/60(3) of ND&PS

FORM NO. 4
Proclamation requiring the appearance of a Person Accused
(See Section 82)

Whereas; complainant has been made before me that MR CHINGLIANKHUP NGAIHTE (48) S/O GINZADAL ZOU OF MOREH WARD NO. 3 MOREH PHAICHAM VENG, TENGNOUPAL DISTRICT MANIPUR has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the offence of ABOVE SAID punishable under section 22(b)/22(c)/21(c)/25/29/60(3) of ND&PS Act 1985 and 27 Arms Act and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said above accused cannot be found, and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said above accused have absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant);

Proclamation is hereby made that the said MR CHINGLIANKHUP NGAIHTE 48/0 GINZADAL ZOU OF MOREH WARD NO. 3 MOREH PHAICHAM VENG, TENGNOUPAL DISTRICT MANIPUR is required to appear at SPECIAL COURT (ND&PS), MANIPUR, LAMPHEL PAT before this court (or before me) to answer the said complaint of the 8th Day of July, 2019.

Dated, this 3rd Day of June 2019

Sd/-
Judge, Special Court (NDPS)
Manipur, Imphal