

CT Diagnostic machine at Tipaimukh road

IT News
CCpur, March 1,

The Premier CT Diagnostic machine installed under the Premier CT Diagnostic Centre Management at Chienknapang, Tipaimukh Road was inaugurated today at 2:00 pm by one Rev Ginnalsawm Director Social Development, EBC. He also conducted a blessing prayer. During the inauguration program Dr Jilasana Sharma gave an opening remarks and a vote of thanks was given by Dr T Marina SMO District Hospital. The diagnostic centre was installed by a collaboration of Dr Merina Vungbiakching, Jay Dev Sharma and other. Patients conducting CT Scan shall be charged at Imphal rate now the machine shall be made functional shortly. The machine is bought from Kolkata and is made by the Siemen Company

Outreach programme on Krishi Sinchai Yojana

IT News
Imphal, March 1,

A one day special outreach programme on PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana, PM Kisan Card and PM Fasal Bima Yojana was organised at Keinou, Bishnupur District by Field Outreach Bureau, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, Imphal today. Nongmaithem Ibohal, Extension Officer (Agriculture) Nambol and Shri Ningthoujam Kumar Singh Extension Officer (Agriculture), Bishnupur (South) of District Agriculture Office, Bishnupur. During the interaction and communication programme, Farmer's Club, Keinou expressed concern that even though there is Loktak Lake, many canals and many streams flowing from the hills in the district of Bishnupur, the government has not provided proper irrigation facilities under PM Krishi Sinchai Yojana to enable the farmers to cultivate rabi crops in Keinou area. An on the spot quiz on the theme was also held and prizes was distributed.

Wing Commander Abhinandan to return to India today

Agency
New Delhi, March 1,

Indian Air Force pilot Abhinandan Varthaman, who is in Pak custody since Wednesday, will be handed over to India through the Wagah border today afternoon, Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said. Pakistan has said Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman was being released as a "gesture of peace". It is not clear whether the pilot will be handed over to the International Red Cross or to the Indian authorities by Pakistan.

In a joint briefing with Officials of the Army and Navy last evening in New Delhi, Air Vice Marshal RGK Kapoor said IAF has learnt that Pakistan



has announced that Wing Commander Abhinandan will be returned to India today. He said, IAF is happy and looking forward to it.

Agency report said that the Wing Commander Abhinandan is expected to arrive at Attari-Wagah border this evening around 6 pm at the time of retreat ceremony. The officers of Indian Air Force, BSF and civil

administration will receive the Abhinandan at the border. At Attari Wagah border, large number of People from all walks of life has reached to give a warm welcome to the officer.

During his address in the Pakistan National Assembly yesterday, Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan announced the release of the fighter pilot.

UN chief hails PM Imran's move to free captured Indian pilot

Agency
United Nations, March 1,

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday welcomed Prime Minister Imran Khan's decision to release the captured Indian fighter pilot in what was seen as an effort to deescalate the gravest crisis between the two countries in years.

"The report of the release of the Indian pilot by the Pakistani authorities would be very much a welcome step," UN chief's spokesperson

Stephane Dujarric said in response to a question at a regular briefing at the United Nations' headquarters in New York.

The Indian pilot, whose plane was downed by Pakistan Air Force (PAF) jets on Wednesday, was then taken into custody.

"We would encourage both parties to do whatever they can to deescalate the situation and this is the message that has been passed on by the United Nations and, I think, by the international community as a

whole," the spokesperson added.

Dujarric said Guterres was in touch with both India and Pakistan at various levels.

Meanwhile, UN General Assembly (UNGA) President Maria Espinosa, who visited Pakistan recently, also expressed concern over the situation and urged the two neighbouring countries to resolve their disputes through dialogue. Her spokesperson said Espinosa believes diplomatic negotiations provided the best means to settle problems.

Man injured in gun shot at RIMS

IT News
Imphal, March 1,

Hectic argument between the security of RIMS and a patient party which carried a license gun over entering the ward (gynae) at RIMS turn out disastrous after the patient party fire his license gun towards the security personnel of RIMS. Fortunately the bullet didn't hit the Security but hit another patient party standing at the waiting room. The incident happened at around 9.30 yesterday

evening. Report said that Thokchom Romesh (43 yrs), son of Th. Khomei of Khurai Soibam Leikai have a heated argument with security of RIMS guarding the entrance of Gynae ward RIMS saying that time for meeting the patient was over. Romesh however entered taking help of an attendance as per report from the RIMS authority. However as he come out again the security said that he cannot open the gate provoking Romesh to take out his license gun and fire it. The bullet didn't hit the security

but it hit to another patient party probably waiting at the waiting shed attached to the gynae ward, identified Thoudam Chinglemba (28), son of Th. Ingochoubi of Heibongpokpi Mayai Leikai Lamshang. The bullet hit at his left wrist. He is undergoing treatment at RIMS.

Police team which was informed by the security immediately arrived and arrested Thokchom Romesh. His license gun has been seized and a case has been registered against him by the Lamphel Police.

No logistic support provided to KNF(N) cadres: UKLF clarified

IT News
Imphal, March 1,

The United Kuki Liberation Front (UKLF) has clarified the charges leveled against the Organisation and accusing one Mr. Khupmang Haokip, Sugnu Town Commander of providing logistic support to KNF (N) is totally baseless and unfounded.

In a press statement, UKLF stated that since the signing of Suspension of Operation (SOO) with the Centre and State government, it had

never indulged in any activities that violates SoO ground rules.

Clarifying the allegations, UKLF maintained that there is no town commander named Mr. Khupmang Haokip within the organization. And the outfit had no connection with KNF (N) whatsoever and did not provide any Logistic support to its cadres anywhere.

Such act of leveling fabricated and baseless charges to malign the image of organisation is strongly condemned, added the UKLF.

It further stated that KNF (N) is a factional non-SoO group formed after splitting from KNF/UPF. As such, there is no logic to extend support to the cadres of KNF (N) as both UKLF and KNF were the constituent members of UPF-conglomerate SoO group.

While appealing the concern authority and general public not to be misled by such fabricated and baseless allegations, the UKLF also urged the authority concern to withdraw such unfounded charges against the organisation.

STDC may boycott political parties against their demand

IT News
Imphal March 1,

Schedule Tribe Demand Committee warned that the political parties who doesn't consider their demand for the inclusion of Meetei/Meitei in the ST list seriously and who are against it may even be boycott.

Speaking to media persons at the office of STDC situated at Thangmeiband Khunthokhanbi Sanglen, Laishram Romesh, Convenor of Coordinating Body Schedule Tribe Demand Committee said that STDC along with the people will even campaign to not vote against such parties who are opposing and doesn't heed to their demand.

He further said that the protest for the inclusion of Meetei/Meitei in the ST list has been going on since 2012 completing 6 years, but unfortunately the previous Congress led government as well as the present BJP led government doesn't even send a recommendation to the

central government though both the governments agreed that their demand was an appropriate one as they were told during various meetings. Failing to send a recommendation to the central government for inclusion of Meetei/Meitei in the ST list by the state government, he added that the STDC will organise a mass rally on the 3rd of March starting from Thangmeiband Thau Ground around 10 am and finish the rally at Hapta Kanglejbu.

He further warned that various intensive agitations and protest will be done if the government fails to send recommendation before the Code of Conduct for the upcoming Lok Sabha Election. Romesh also said that the inclusion of the Meetei in ST is the basic right for the Meetei and to save both the land and the people constitutional safeguard is the need of the hour. He also added that Meetei is the only indigenous community who isn't in the category of ST list in the entire North East. He recalled that 6

communities of Assam who were previously OBC were recommended to change into ST during the Lok Sabha session. Neglecting the serious issue by the state government to include in the ST list is violating the basic rights of the Meeteis, he added.

Romesh finally appealed to all the people to participate in the rally and to save the land as the only way to save the Meetei is through the inclusion in the ST list which will eventually get a constitutional safeguard against various forces. He also appealed to cease work during the rally hours and participate in the rally making it a successful one.

Earlier today a bike rally of about 40 bikers was also organised starting from Thangmeiband and covering both Imphal East and Imphal West to give awareness about the demand for the inclusion of Meetei/ Meitei in the ST list and also about the rally to be organised on the 3rd of March.

JeM chief Masood Azhar in Pakistan, admits foreign minister

Agency
New Delhi, March 1,

Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi has admitted that Jaish-e-Mohammed JeM chief Masood Azhar is in Pakistan and added that he is unwell. Masood Azhar is the chief of JeM that claimed responsibility for the Pulwama attack in which 40 CRPF personnel became martyred.

India has handed over a dossier to Pakistan, on Wednesday, with specific details of the JeM complicity in Pulwama terror attack and the presence of JeM terror

camp and its leadership in Pakistan. India had also expressed regret at continuing denial by Pakistan's political and military leadership at the presence of terrorist infrastructure in territories under its control.

JeM has been active in Pakistan for the last two decades with its headquarters in Bahawalpur. JeM, which is proscribed by the UN, has been responsible for a series of terrorist attacks including on the Indian Parliament in 2001 December and the Pathankot airbase in 2016 January. India has provided Information regarding the location of training camps in

Pakistan and Pak occupied Jammu and Kashmir from time to time to Pakistan.

Pakistan, however, had denied their existence. India has stressed earlier that the existence of such massive training facilities capable of training hundreds of jihadis could not have functioned without the knowledge of Pakistan authorities. India has been repeatedly urging Pakistan to take action against the JeM to prevent jihadis from being trained and armed inside Pakistan.

Till now Pakistan has taken no concrete actions to dismantle the infrastructure of terrorism on its soil.

Yonex Sunrise India Open set to return for its 9th edition

Agency
New Delhi, March 1,

After eight successful years, India's most prestigious badminton tournament-the Yonex Sunrise India Open is set to return for its ninth edition, boasting of some of the best names in the business. With lucrative prize money of \$350,000, the tournament begins on March 26 and the finals will be played on March 31.

This marquee tournament that was previously held at the Siri Fort Sports Complex for the last seven years will have a new address. The Indira Gandhi International Stadium (IGI), which in the past has hosted landmark sports events like the 1982 Asian Games and recently, the AIBA Women's World Boxing Championships will be the new home for the shuttlers in this edition. All the matches

will be played at the K.D Jadhav Indoor Hall located within the IGI stadium.

Speaking about this year's tournament, BAI President Himanta Biswa Sarma said, "This tournament has been a great platform for the Indian players to contest against the best shuttlers from around the world. Historically India has registered good results and I am confident our players will repeat the feat this year too; especially playing at a new and historic venue like Indira Gandhi Stadium, it will be a great opportunity for the fans to experience the LIVE ACTION. I urge people to come in huge numbers for the matches."

The tournament has evolved a long way since its inception in 2008. The first three editions of the India Open, then a Grand Prix Gold level tournament of the BWF

tournament structure were hosted in Hyderabad. It was upgraded later to a BWF Superseries Tournament in 2011 and since then India Open is part of the World Tour and hosted at the National Capital.

"The India Open is a prestigious tournament that India has the privilege to host and on behalf of Badminton Association of India; I urge fans to come in huge numbers and witness their favourite badminton players in action and also the young Indian shuttlers in this tournament," BAI General Secretary, Ajay Singhania said.

With the Olympic Qualification starting later this year, this year's India Open will see a host of top players from world badminton trying to amass as many ranking points possible to guarantee a direct entry for the Tokyo 2020 Olympics.