

Ex-SC judge Justice P.C. Ghose to be India's 1st Lokpal



Agency
New Delhi, March 17,

Retired Supreme Court judge Pinaki Chandra Ghose is likely to be the country's first Lokpal, or the anti-corruption ombudsman,

AR Apprehends UG

IT News
Imphal, March, 17

Keithelmanbi Battalion of 9 Sector Assam Rifles under the aegis of IGAR (South), in a joint operation with Manipur Police apprehended a cadre of PREPAK (PRO) on 16 March 2019.

The Battalion alongwith Imphal East Commandos promptly reacted on the reliable input provided by own sources and apprehended a self styled private of PREPAK (PRO) form Basikhong. The apprehended individual was identified as Itumba Tombi Singh @ Itamba. The individual confessed that he is a cadre of PREPAK (PRO) and joined the outfit in the year 2018. The apprehended individual was handed over to Police for further legal action.

Senior journalist Darryl D'Monte dies

Agency
Mumbai, Mar 17

Senior journalist and environmental activist Darryl D'Monte, who worked with leading English dailies, died at a hospital in Mumbai after a brief illness, a family friend said on Sunday. He was 74. D'Monte was admitted to the Lilavati Hospital in suburban Bandra sometime back where he breathed his last on Saturday evening, his friend said.

In a career spanning several decades, he served as the resident editor of Mumbai editions of The Times of India and The Indian Express, he said. Besides a career in journalism, he had a keen interest in environmental issues and took some initiatives for the cause, he added.

sources said today. The other members of the Lokpal would include four former High Court judges, including a woman judge, and four former civil servants, the sources added. The selection was made weeks after the February-end deadline set by the Supreme Court.

Justice Ghose's name was finalised and recommended by the Selection Committee led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi a couple of days ago.

Passed in 2013, the Lokpal Act involves the setting up of a Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in states to look into cases of corruption against certain categories of public servants.

The panel to choose the candidates — headed by the prime minister — includes the Lok Sabha speaker, leader of the opposition in the lower house, the Chief Justice of India or any judge of the Supreme court he nominates,

and an eminent jurist who could be nominated by the President or any other member. President Ram Nath Kovind nominated Mukul Rohatgi, a former Attorney General, as the "eminent jurist".

But the selection committee, headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, had been hobbled by the absence of senior Congress leader Mallikarjun Kharge. Mr Kharge had refused to attend the meetings after he was designated a "special invitee" saying it does not allow him to participate in the selection process. He had skipped the last week meeting as well.

The selection committee is expected to include the Leader of the Opposition. In absence of the post following the Congress's poor show in the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, rules for the appointment of the CBI chief have been amended to

include the Leader of the Largest Opposition Party. Mr Kharge alleged that the government has been using his refusal to attend the selection committee meetings as an excuse for not appointing a Lokpal over the last five years.

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Paid news awareness campaign held in Imphal East

DIPR
Imphal East, March 17,

Ahead of the 17th Lok Sabha Election 2019, office of the District Election Officer, Imphal East conducted an awareness workshop cum meeting on Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) and media related matters at the conference hall inside DC Imphal East Complex yesterday.

The awareness campaign which was organized with an intention to sensitize the media fraternity on media related regulations were attended by media personnel of various organizations and DEO Imphal East staff. DEO Imphal East which has constituted the MCMC to keep a check on cases of paid

news and certification of political advertisements in the district has started functioning a day after the Election Commission of India announced schedule for the 17th Lok Sabha Elections 2019 on 10th March 2019. DEO/DC Dr. Rangitabali Waikhom is the chairman of the MCMC Imphal East District committee.

An interactive session related to paid news, MCMC, and other media related matters was also held. Smt. Ch. Nomila Devi, Nodal Officer (Media/Communication), Shri L. Roshan Singh, Nodal Officer (Cyber Security and ICT Application) and Km. Sagolsem Snehrabha, Nodal Officer (Media Monitoring Control Room) MCMC Imphal East, fielded queries from the

media and DEO Imphal East staff. L. Roshan Singh said that monitoring paid news in electronic media will be very challenging in the coming general election.

According to Sagolsem Snehrabha, this committee will scrutinize print and electronic media to identify political advertisements in the garb of news in the media. It will also certify political advertisements in the electronic media in the district. She further said that the candidates or political parties could appeal against the decisions of the district committee to the State-level MCMC. The candidates could also approach the Election Commission against the decision of the State-level body

Popular Front of India condemns New Zealand mosque killings

IT News
Imphal, March 17,

Popular Front of India chairman E Abubacker has expressed deep sorrow and shock over the gruesome killing of believers on Friday that took place at two Mosques, the Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Mosque, in Christchurch city in New Zealand. As many as 50 people have been reported to have died and so many people got injured. The victims are all innocent unarmed defenseless Muslim worshippers including children gathered for their Friday prayers.

"Our heart goes out to the families and friends of the victims. We pray God that they be granted easy relief and respite. The attack was

inspired by hatred for Muslim, Islam and immigrants. Major and minor incidents of similar nature are becoming routine in the West. It is undeniable that this growing hatred corresponds to rise of right wing, white supremacist parties and leaders across Europe and America. In their attempt to advance their careers, politicians and media propagate hatred against minorities, immigrants and Muslims in their lands. Anti-Muslim campaigns are not controlled by Western governments. Now it threatens the very public life of Muslims in these countries. These attackers are more than mere individual fanatics gone mad. Not only fringe racial groups, even mainstream political parties in many countries are

promoting such crimes. It is shameful that a micro-minority community counting less than 50,000 and amounts to only one percent of total population is projected in New Zealand as a threat to national security."

E Abubacker wished that let this latest and worst incident of Muslim hate, prompt the sane elements in Europe and America to defeat Politics of Islamophobia and Media demonizing Muslims. He also expressed concern about the report that among the victims of these terror incidents, there are few Indians and people of Indian origin. He urged Union Minister of Foreign Affairs to extend needed support to them and to ensure safety of Muslim Indians living in New Zealand and Australia.

Flowers planted at historic Ima Keithel found stolen



IT News
Imphal March 17,

Flowers planted at pots and hang in and around Historic Ima Keithel for beautification of the unique market complex were found stolen in the last couple of days by unknown miscreants. The three Khwairamband Keithel is a unique market complex which is run by only women. Civil society organisations, political parties all talks of keeping the market shed clean. But it was Blooming Manipur which first took up the initiative to plant flowers in and around Ima Keithel in association with the then Director of MAHUD, Nepram Gikumar.

As per report, various numbers of fully grown flowers hang around the Ima Keithel market sheds were found stolen along with the pots on the night of March 15 by some unknown miscreants. Speaking to media person Member of Blooming Manipur

Elangbam Satyajit said that they were saddened and disheartened in the sight that many of the flowers that were planted by the volunteers and the people to beautify our land, our historic only women market in the world IMA Keithel were stolen time and again by some miscreants. He strongly condemned such an act and added that many people are trying hard using their valuable time by watering daily and caring the plants. He also said that their work is not only about beautifying the places but also enabling the people to participate in community works leading to a right thinking society. He further appealed not to repeat such act and also added to

support their small effort to bring about a Beautiful Ima Keithel and led Ima Keithel bloom as their pride.

It can be mentioned that water storage (Sintex) that were fitted in the garden that was made under the Bir Tikendrajit Fly Over Bridge were also stolen few months back.

Blooming Manipur is an organisation which was first started as a Facebook group on 2012 with the objective by taking responsibility and transforming the land with many loving and caring acts into places of pride and instilled a sense of belongingness.

Today the volunteers of blooming Manipur again replanted the flowers.

1st National Convention on Socialism to be held on April 2

IT News
Imphal, March 17,

With an objective to spread the ideas and ideology of Lamyamba Irabot to the *hoi polloi* and also to implement his ideas for an egalitarian society, Manipur Proletariat Peoples' Democratic Union (MPPDU), Socialist Woman Association (SWA), Manipur Young Communist League (YCL) and Socialist Students' Union of Manipur (SSUM) will together organised Mannaba Khunaigidamak Ahanba Manipur Khunnei Meepham (1st National Convention on Socialism) on April 2, 2019.

Speaking to media persons in a press meet held at the office of SSUM convener of Young Communist League Wahengbam Kameshor said the *hoi polloi* needs to understand the ideas of Lamyamba Irabot and also need to be conscious about his ideology to make our society an egalitarian one. Even though various organizations have been celebrating in memorial of Lamyamba Irabot but unfortunately only a few follows his ideas, he added.

Kameshor added that by offering flowers, lighting candle and singing songs to the leader will not change our society into a classless society. He further said only a few of the masses has gathered much of the wealth while many were stranded fighting a lose battle to have two meals in a day. He opined that the working class needs to work together with the ideology of Lamyamba Irabot in building an egalitarian classless society.

He said that the various revolutions around the world were succeeded because of the movements of the masses of the working class. He questioned that if the working class strived only for the two meals in a day than who will strive in building a classless society. He further added that it is time to unite the working class and the people who love their mother land, who have the ideology of being self independent to build an egalitarian society where Lamyamba Irabot dreamt. He concluded that the convention will discuss on how the ideas of Irabot will turn into action.

State level MCC reconstituted

DIPR
Imphal, March 17,

The State Level Media Certification Committee formed in connection with the ensuing 17th Lok Sabha Election, 2019 with the Addl. CEO, Manipur as the Chairperson, the Returning Officer – Inner Manipur Parliamentary Constituency (DEO-Imphal West) and Dilip Mayengbam, Station Director (AIR) as members was reconstituted today with the addition of Bankimchandra Mainsam, Sr. Consultant (SEMT), Manipur as a member of the Media Certification Committee, who will function as an intermediary expert/ Social media expert.

The committee will entertain the applications for certification received from all registered political parties having their headquarters in Manipur; all groups of organisations or associations or persons having their registered office in Manipur.