



This election is a fight for 2nd Independence, says Gaikhangam

IT News
Imphal March 27,

Questioning whether the present India is an Independent one, President of Manipur Pradesh Congress Committee Gaikhangam said that the BJP led government is curtailing the basic rights of people. Freedom of speech and dissent is being shattered from the common man. Idea of cultural imperialism is being imposed on the diverse cultures and religions where individual liberty is restricted and added that the upcoming 17th Lok Sabha Election is not just an ordinary election but it is a fight for the 2nd Independence of India.

Addressing in a flag hoisting ceremony of Indian National Congress Outer Manipur Parliamentary Constituency candidate K. James which was held at his residence today morning at Sangaiprou Mamang Leikai, Gaikhangam said that even the British had given some freedom on the food habits and on the diverse culture and religion during the colonial era but the present regime under BJP has curtail all this liberty.

He said that criticisms against the government were taken as waging war against the nation by the BJP led government. He added that the present government hasn't known clearly that Criticism against the government policy is not criticism against the nation and many were charged under sedition for speaking against the government. He further said that the coming Lok Sabha Election is a movement to regain the rights which was violated by the present government.

He also said that Congress Party is the party of the people and added that even the opposition BJP has also approved it. The Present chief minister of the state has also said that it is the party for the people a few years back, he added.

Gaikhangam further said that the BJP party is a very



divisive party. It is not only the enemy of the minorities but even for the majority Hindu itself as Mahatma Gandhi was killed because he followed thoroughly the teachings of the hindus and under their hidden agenda that they cannot continue to move together. He added that RSS and BJP coined term 'Hindutva' is not Hinduism, it is just a political gimmick. He further stressed that BJP doesn't have any other philosophy other than the politics of statue, temple and lies.

Leader of Congress Legislature Party O. Ibobi while speaking on the occasion said that the BJP government hasn't focus on any welfare schemes for the people but concentrated on cheap publicity and propaganda. Speaking as the Chief Guest of the function he added that according to a source of RTI activist the amount the BJP spent on

propaganda and publicity exceeds 5000 Crores of rupees. He questioned what development has been done by the programs like Go to hills, go to village and Go to schools. No development has been initiated except for few Tribal markets. He added that even though the government initiated Go to school no infrastructure development has been done for the welfare of the schools.

Ibobi also said that the Go to village program is just a program to give the birth and death certificates to the people. He also added that the present government has lower down the Local self Government.

He asserts that the Congress party doesn't want to focus more on inaugural function rather than they believe in benefiting the people. He said that the BJP led government only know publicity and inauguration of developmental works for the

past two years done by the previous government and added that the BJP government can go on continuing inauguration for a year also.

He appealed not to think the people as a fool who can be trick by cheap publicity and propaganda. He concluded that if the communal BJP led government is not changed quickly than not only Manipur but India will be at a great loss. So he added that they need to teach a lesson.

Speaking to media person on the sideline of the function INC's outer Parliamentary constituency candidate K. James said that he will focus more on the development of the poorer section of the state and also for the development of the 28 segments which was at its worst condition. And he also added that he will focus on the issues of public interest and will never opt which is against the opinion of the people.

Police conducts massive hunt for escaped prisoner Nando

IT News
Imphal, March 27,

State police conducted search operation at various places in Imphal East area hunting for the escaped under trial prisoner Thokchom Nando since yesterday morning. The state police also alerted all police stations at National High Ways including the Imphal-Dimapur and Imphal Jiribam road.

Today morning a police team under the supervision of Imphal East SP conducted search operation at Keibi area.

The police team reportedly entered some of the houses search for the escaped prisoners.

One SI and three police constables were reportedly

suspended in connection with the escape of Th Nando from the Ortho Ward of JNIMS on the wee hour of March 26. Nando was arrested in connection with the merciless killing of Lungnila Elizabeth after kidnapping her from her school gate on November 4, 2003. The minor girl Lungnila, daughter of the then Minister Franchis Ngazokpa 8 years old and studied at class 4. Her decomposed dead body was found in a sack at Tera Sadokpam, in Imphal West on November 12 of the same years. Hue and cry filled the air of Manipur with the killing of the innocent child.

Th. Nando, the main accused was arrested in the following month of that year and has been in prison since then.

What surprised the public is the alleged involvement of the under trial prisoners in various cases including killing, extortion and bomb blast while he was in prison. There were incidents where smart cell phones were seized from his possession while inside the prison. Recently 10 letter head (extortion note) and two smart phones were recovered from his possession while undergoing treatment at JNIMS. It was not even a month after the seizure of the extortion letter and cell phone that he escaped from the JNIMS. His father Subol who was permitted to look after him was also detent under judicial custody following the recovery of the cell phone and extortion note.

AMSGO appeals govt. not to engage BOSEM and COHSEM officials for election duty

IT News
Imphal, March 27,

All Manipur Student Guardians' Organisation (AMSGO) has appealed all concern authority of the government of Manipur to exempt staffs and officials of the Board of Secondary Education Manipur (BOSEM) and Council of Higher Secondary Education Manipur (COHSEM) from engaging in election duty as it may delay the declaration of the result.

A statement by Sumati Sougrakpam, Secretary of the Organisation said that if the officials of BOSEM and COHSEM are engaged for

election duty scheduled on April 11 and April 18 the target for declaration of both the examination by May 2nd week will not be possible. Their detention for election duty may delay the declaration of the examination as the declaration of the result requires various procedures like Evaluation Scrutiny and tabulation of the marks. More importantly, for those students in compartmental, they need to submit form for re-conducting their exam by June so that result could be declared by July.

Sumati Sougrakpam further said that class X and class XII examination is one of the important examinations for all

students as that is the turning point for their future. If the declaration of the exam is delayed students who wanted to go for technical lines or those who wanted to compete to better colleges outside the state may miss the chances if the examination result is declared late.

The secretary of the All Manipur Student Guardians' Organisation appealed the Chief Minister of Manipur, Education Minister and the District Administration of the Imphal West to relieve officials of the COHSEM and BOSEM from engaging on Election Duty in the interest of the students.

Scrutiny of nominations for 2nd phase of Lok Sabha polls being held today

Courtesy - AIR
Imphal, March 27,

Scrutiny of nominations for the second phase of Lok Sabha elections to be held on 18th of next month is being held today. Ninety seven constituencies, spread over 13 States and Union Territories, will go to polls in this phase. In Tamil Nadu all 39 seats, in Maharashtra 10 seats, Eight seats in Uttar Pradesh, five each in Assam, Bihar and Odisha; three each in Chhattisgarh and West Bengal; two in Jammu and Kashmir; and one each in Manipur, Tripura and Puducherry will go to polls in the second phase. In Karnataka 362 candidates have filed 455 nominations in 14 constituencies for the second phase. Among them 337 are male and 25 female candidates. 203 are Independents. March 29th is the last day to withdraw the nominations. Out of 28 seats in the state, Congress is

contesting from 21 seats, JD(S) from 7 and BJP from 27 seats.

Report said that the highest number of 40 candidates have filed nominations from Bangalore North constituency and least of 13 candidates are contesting from Hassan and Chamrajnagara. Prominent among those who are in the electoral race are Deve Gowda of JD(S), M Veerappa Moily, of Congress, D V Sadananda Gowda from BJP. The scrutiny of nominations for the first phase was held yesterday. Ninety one constituencies spread over 18 States and 2 Union Territories will go to polls in this phase on 11th of next month. Tomorrow will be the last day for withdrawal of nominations. In Sikkim, 11 candidates have filed nomination papers for lone Lok Sabha seat where voting will take place on 11th April. They include Laten Tshering Sherpa of BJP,

Bharat Basnet of Congress and DB Katwal of Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF).

Three Independent candidates including one woman have also filed nomination papers. Assembly elections in the state will be held simultaneously. Election Commission has appointed Special Expenditure Observers for six States in view of the forthcoming elections. These states are Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Nagaland and Telangana. The Commission has also appointed two Special Central Police Observers for Lok Sabha polls in West Bengal, Jharkhand, Tripura and Mizoram.

In Bihar, over 17 thousand central para military forces will be deployed in four naxal affected parliamentary constituencies in the state. The four constituencies - Aurangabad, Gaya, Nawada and Jamui will go to polls in

the first phase on April 11. AIR correspondent reports that the Director General of Police Gupteshwar Pandey said security forces will be deployed strategically with emphasis on polling booths in rural areas. Since elections will be held in seven phases in the state this time, the central forces will remain stationed till the completion of the poll process. The DGP said they will be deployed in different constituencies phase wise. Police sources said Maoists might attempt to disrupt polling in the first phase. With the deployment adequate number of Central forces, any attempt by the Maoists to disrupt the poll process will be thwarted.

In Assam the state election commission has taken up initiatives to maximise participation of first time voters, people with physical disabilities, senior citizens and female voters in the forthcoming Lok Sabha polls.

CEO, Manipur to convene meeting with all political parties

DIPR
Imphal, March 27,

In a notification issued by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Manipur, the CEO, Manipur will convene a meeting with all the political parties (recognised/un-recognised parties) and intending candidates. The meeting will be held on 28th March, 2019, at 11:00 AM in the Conference Hall of the Chief Electoral Officer's Office,

Lamphepat, Imphal. During the meeting the following agendas - Model Code of Conduct (MCC); Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC); Paid News and Election Expenditure and Monitoring will be discussed. The Office also appealed to all the political parties (recognised/un-recognised parties) and intending candidates to attend the meeting.

Armed group KCP- PWG bans activities of KAI (Ningthibi)

IT News
Imphal, March 27,

Stating that the Kangleipak Communist Party (KCP), People's War Group is still yet to take up action to those responsible for organizing the Holy Summer party at Utlou on March 22, the armed group today said that the event manager which organised the wild party against the culture of the state has been banned

and warned of capital punishment if the KAI (Ningthibi) violates the outfit's ban.

The outfit in a press statement also appealed the organiser and all those participants to surrender to the party by March 30, 2019. The outfit said that they had already announced not to organise events like concert, fashion show or party which is not a part of our culture.

Safety Kit for Journalists distributed

IT News
Guwahati, March 27,

The Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) representative met local journalists and distributed copies of 'Safety Kit for journalists covering the elections' at the Guwahati Press Club today. CPJ's Emergency Response Team (ERT) has compiled the Safety Kit based on best international practices. It contains information for editors, reporters, and photojournalists on how to prepare for elections, and how to mitigate digital, physical and psychological risk.