



Of the three missing , One body found

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Of the three persons who were drowned at Chadong /Ramrei of Mapithel Dam after the boats they were riding were swept by cyclonic storm on April 28, body of Saggapam Rajiv (36) was recovered today.

Massive hunt for the bodies of Saggapam Romen (31) and Ningthoujam Rina (20) is being underway along with a special team of Indian Navy. Report reaching here said that the dead body of Rajiv was found by a local at around 3 pm today. All the three hail from Ningthoukhong Kha Khunou.

This is perhaps the first time that the state government handle the situation with extreme seriousness. After the National Disaster Response Force and the state Fire Service fails to find the dead bodies, the state government take the help of a Navy team. Divers of the Navy team

arrived on April 30 evening and since then the divers had been conducting massive hunt of the three dead bodies. Interesting a local Manipuri Muslim identified as AsadUllah from Urup Awang Leikai who is experienced in searching the drowned persons also surprised the



Navy team. But the person who found the dead body was a local of Chadong.

KSO Gunpi Block cleans hand on St. Joseph School Arson

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KSO Gunpi Block today cleans hand to the arson of St. Joseph School arson.

The school was burnt on the night of April 25, and following the sequence of event that took place following the suspension of 6 students the KSO Gunpi Block has been accused of the crime by everyone.

A statement by KSO Gunpi Block stated that the accusation hurled on KSO is conceived by some vested interest. The involvement of KSO Gunpi Block in the burning down of the school. The KSO Gunpi Block said that the organisation condemns the incident in the strongest term.

Following is the clarification by the KSO Gunpi Block.

1.It is a fact that the KSO Gunpi Block had taken a decision to close down the school. The decision was arrived at solely to save the career of 6 young students, who have been placed under suspension by the school authority. The KSO Gunpi Block repeatedly appealed to Father Dominic but our appeals were disregarded.

So as to bring the school authority at the negotiating table the KSO Gunpi Block found no alternative but to close down the school. We, as students leaders, had done our best to fight for the six students and we have no regrets over it. For what we had done was to save their career. In Matthew 18:12-13 it says, "If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them wanders away, what will he do? Won't he leave the ninety-nine others on the hills and go out to search for the one that is lost? And if he finds it, I tell you the truth, he will rejoice it over more than over the ninety-nine that did not wander away." As a Catholic Christian school the principal of the school should have cared for the 6 students who could have wandered away.

2.On the first day of school closure, the KSO Gunpi Block executives went to the school and found that people have assembled at the school to protest KSO Gunpi Block's action. We felt it is a challenge to KSO's authority and were bent on defending KSO's prestige.

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Dr. Heptulla lauds Smile Torch event of Shija Foundation

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Speaking in the Culminating Ceremony today organized as a part of the Smile Torch Event by Shija Foundation at IMA hall Lamphel, Governor of Manipur Dr Najma Heptulla said that the biggest service we can give to cleft and palate patients is to stamp out any

mark of discrimination. She added that voluntary workers and voluntary organizations to set up hospitals, Nursing homes and other health care centres by providing incentives should be encouraged.

She further said that many children born with such birth defects have not availed of these facilities simply due to

lack of awareness. "The Government alone cannot bear the full burden of health care. At least, a part of it must be given out to voluntary services, to people who are willing to serve the health system", she added.

Highlighting the various free cleft and operations done President of the function

who is also Smile train partner surgeon Dr Palin said that more awareness is needed in every nook and corner to eradicate the cleft and palate patients.

He added that the operation was done for free of cost not only that even travel allowances were also given. It can be mentioned that 'Smile Torch' is a unique

national initiative for creating renewed awareness about cleft and its treatment and to sensitize communities about the challenges faced by children born with clefts. Smile Train, an NGO founded in 1998 which was based in the United States, is working for the goal to eradicate the global problem of cleft lips and palates.

May Day observance

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Socialist Students' Union of Manipur (SSUM) observes May Day yesterday at Manipur Dramatic Union (MDU) Hall at Yaikou on the theme "Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement".

Ch. Iboh, Asst. Professor of Manipur University, Arunkumar Tellem, Managing Director Langei International, Kishorchandra Wangkhemcha, Whistle Blower Journalist, Comrade Yaima Meetei, President SSUM and Sha Nawaz, President AMMSO attended as dignitaries on the dais. A publication called Anouba Meerol, a special edition for the May - was released on the occasion. Bhusan Longjam, Secretary of SSUM while speaking on the occasion highlighted the importance of observing May Day. Centre of Indian Trade Union, Manipur state Committee in collaboration with the BSNL Employees Union also observed the May Day at the Union Office at Babupara. Hoisting of the party flag and paying floral tribute to the Martyrs Column mark the observance.

Secretary of the Centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU) Manipur State Committee, Kshetrimayum Santa, while speaking on the occasion stressed on the significance of observing the May Day. "May day is an important day for the working class people", Santa said. He blamed both the government & the center led by BJP and at the State Led by N. Biren Singh over failure to take up any welfare programme for the working class people.

Nupi Samaj appeals to amend laws of adultery and give equal punishment to women also



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All Manipur Women's Social Reformation and Development Samaj also known as Nupi Samaj appealed to amend the laws of adultery which gives punishment to man only. Speaking in a press meet held at the office of Nupi Samaj today President of Nupi Samaj Thokchom Ramani said that their organisation condemned the laws which give punishment to man only in case of adultery. She appealed the supreme court to amend the law thereby

giving equal punishment to both the gender and added that if such laws aren't made at the earliest serious crimes will be increased further. She said that law of the land should be under the premise of the culture of the society. She added that if laws are made beyond the norms of the society than such laws should not be allowed to enforce in the society and it should be amended at the earliest. Ramani further said that giving punishment to only male persons in respect with the crimes of adultery will lead to chaos in the family

relations. Highlighting the different crimes involving adultery in recent times she said that such crimes keep increasing and the trust deficit among the couples eventually made many broken families and added that such incidents demolished the beautiful culture of the state. Ramani concluded that a concrete stand should taken by the people to save the people from the crimes which increases in the recent times. She appealed the Supreme Court to amend the laws and also appealed the government to look into the matter.

AMWJU Election: K. Bijoy is the New President

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Kakchingtabam Bijoy, Executive Editor of the Poknapham Daily has been elected as the new president of the All Manipur Working Journalists' Union. Election for the AMWJU was held yesterday at Manipur Press Club. 8 (eight) other members for the Standing Committee were also elected in the election held yesterday. They are Longjam Arishrona of Poknapham, Leivom Jimmy Lamkang of Imphal Free Press, Khangembam Shanker Singh of Sanaleibak Daily, Khundrakpan Jyotindra singh of IMPACTTV, Khwairakpan Naoba of ISTV, Leimapokpan Shanjitkumar Singh @ Bhakta of Eikhoigi Panthung, Soubam Bokul chaoba Meetei of Sangai Express and Yumlembam Okendrait Luwang @ Nanao of DY-365.

Construction of Mapithel Dam have claimed the lives of more than 16 people - YFPHR

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Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR) has appealed the Government to Decommissioned Mapithel Dam which was constructed without proper Social Impact Assessment, Environment Impact Assessment and Cumulative Impact Assessment. The forum also condemn the Chief Minister of Manipur for his alleged statement on the functioning of the sub-standard boat being operated by the villagers to earn their

livelihood after the entire area have been submerged by the Mapithel Dam snatching all the possible livelihood which use to be dependent by the villagers before the construction of dam. The statement of the Chief Minister clearly indicates the irresponsibility as being a head of the state by blaming the villagers who are deprived of their rights due to the construction of the Mapithel Dam, a statement by Kh. Phajaton, President of YFPHR said. It added that if the government of Manipur was responsible

enough for its citizen than the construction of Mapithel Dam wouldn't have been constructed keeping in mind of the destruction which is being caused including destruction of forest, agricultural field, displacement, cultural integrity, etc and also losing lives of more than 16 people at the huge reservoir of Mapithel Dam since its blocking of Thoubal river. YFPHR also expressed shock to the missing of 6 people, who went for boating at Mapithel Dam on April 28 this year. It said that the beauty of

Mapithel Dam is an artificial after the submergence of hundreds of house, schools, churches, cemetery, forest, paddy field, etc, therefore, enjoying the artificial beauty would be a curse and may cause several lives in the near future if the Mapithel Dam is not decommissioned and restore the destroyed areas and the villages. YFPHR however, appreciated the government for its prompt response in the recent incident which was never done when few lives have been claimed earlier in these couple of years at Mapithel Dam.

National Women Social Award conferred to Mayanglangbam Diana



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International model and Social Activist Mayanglangbam Diana was Conferred National Women Social Award by Progressive Thane Residency Welfare Association, Thane on the Occasion of Maharashtra Day which is observed every year on the first of May. The Award giving ceremony was held yesterday at Dr.

Kashinath Ghanekar Natyagraha, Auditorium, Thane in honour of the Socially Dedicated Persons of the country. Mayanglangbam Diana was chosen for this Award in recognition of her dedicated humanitarian services she rendered at Delhi for the last three years. The award carries a citation, cash and Shawl. Mayanglangbam Diana had also received different Awards earlier.