

NSCN –IM cadres feels insecure as no final settlement could be reached

Report says, many cadres left Camp Hebron, but NSCN-IM source says that only the family members are sent back

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As the dust in the wind could not be settled after the NSCN-IM and the interlocutor of the India Government failed to reach any final settlement during yesterday's talk. The interlocutor R.N. Ravi, who is also the governor of Nagaland had time and again stated that the peace deal with NNPGS and NACN-IM will be completed on October 31. Following that, mass protest erupts, putting normalcy to a complete halt in Manipur state on the apprehension that the territorial and political boundary of the state of

Manipur may be affected. While the civil society organizations of the state organises mass alert protest preparing to face any consequences that may come after the signing of the final agreement as scheduled earlier, representatives of all political parties including the Chief Minister of Manipur went to Delhi and urged the central government authority not to sign any agreement that may put Manipur on fire. Even as many there are conflicting reports regarding yesterday final talk, top source from the NSCN-IM said that no agreement could be reached between the

NSCN-IM and the Government of India. Neither the demand for a separate flag was not agreed nor was the demand for a separate constituency or formation of a greater Nagalim accepted by the Indian authority. "Some of us even decided to abrogate the cease fire agreement but abrogation of the cease fire agreement will bring catastrophe to the Naga Nation and the UNO may not recognize another chances as there has been similar cease fire agreement with the Nagas earlier", a source said. Another source from Dimapur said to Imphal Times that many cadres of the

NSCN-IM had left Camp Hebrone at Dimapur as a situation of nervousness has been created with the new development. However, the NSCN-IM source said that no cadres had left but family members of the cadres who had been staying in the camp Hebrone were sent back as there is uncertainty on what will come out of the final agreement. The NSCN-IM source also appealed people of neighbouring states not to flare up communal tension as NSCN-IM is against no other Community but is fighting for the political rights of the Nagas.

DIPR celebrates 71st Foundation Day

Vision to expansion DIPR including opening of DIO in all 16 districts: Minister Biswajit

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Government spokesperson Thongam Biswajit Singh who is also the Information and Public Relations Minister today said that the government has a firm determination to expand the present Directorate of Information and Public Relations and open well-equipped District Information Offices in all 16 Revenue districts of the State.

Biswajit was addressing the 71st Information and Public Relations Day, 2019 held this morning at the Keishampat office of the directorate. As part of the foundation day celebration, the directorate also handed over awards in eight different categories for their outstanding service to the department.

In his speech, Biswajit elaborated that the department has several shortcomings including lack of manpower, fund constraints, infrastructure and that the government has plans to develop and revamp the directorate by meeting all these shortcomings. Elaborating further that it is his vision to see well functioning District Information Offices in all revenue districts, the Minister said that the government has been able to bridge the gap between the hills and the valley and that there is no apprehension today while visiting any corner of the State. He said this is a good sign of peace and development in the State.

The IPR Minister said it is to everyone's knowledge that media houses face several limitations and pressures; however, we should ensure that our media houses are independent so that their reporting is clear and unbiased. At the same time, media houses and journalists should maintain a balanced reporting, he said. The IPR Minister also expressed the need for the DIPR and media houses to work in close proximity. He said that the DIPR and the media should strengthen their relation to win the trust of the public. He said that the DIPR and media should go together and share a positive and constructive relation to develop Manipur, he said. It is time for all section of the society to take responsibility and co-operate with each



other to develop Manipur, he added.

Meanwhile, highlighting some initiatives and achievements of the DIPR, the Minister said that the DIPR has introduced the Manipur Journalists' Welfare Schemes, Manipur Journalists' Pension Scheme for the welfare of the media fraternity of the State. DIPR has been educating and sharing information on various government programmes, policies and schemes through social media platforms like You-tube, Facebook and DIPR apps, he added. Commissioner IPR, Kh Raghurani said that DIPR plays an important role in sharing information about the various departments and their schemes to the public.

Adding that the directorate is facing various shortcomings at the moment, the commissioner also reiterated the need to expand the directorate and strengthen it. He further highlighted the initiatives of the department including educating public on government schemes, conducting internal and external tours for media persons, etc. Director IPR, H.Balkrisna Singh said DIPR is in a transitional phase now. The directorate is moving to its own office building at Keishampat from the temporary office at Manipur State Transport office complex. Seeking cooperation of all, he said that the directorate is also hoping to complete the shifting process by the end of this year.

The award for staffs of the department is being given to motivate and encourage the staffs who work round the clock, he added. He further said that the award is a kind of recognition and acknowledgement of the

staffs to boost their moral. He said this will also act as a realization to our responsibilities. He further encouraged the staff to continue performing and to perform better. As part of the function, Shri Biswajit also released the October issue of Manipur Today.

The recipients of the awards are Tenshubam Ranita (Reporter), Nongmaingani Maibam (Reporter) and Irungbam Prabin (Information Assistant) for Outstanding Performance in News Reporting; Joshep Longiam (Translator) for Outstanding Performance in News Reporting (District); Keithelakpam Kiran and Pukhringbam Romesh (Photographers) in Outstanding Performance in Photo Video Service; Banabanta Ngangom (Data Entry Operator) Outstanding Performance in Publication Works; Thangjam Dhananjay Singh (Cinema Operator) and Wangkheirakpam Panorama Devi (Announcer) in Outstanding Performance in Field Work; Akoijam Chinglen (LDC) and RS Nagsaiphung (LDC) in Outstanding Performance in Establishments & Accounts; Urkhibam mantomba Singh, Ningthoujam Tomba Singh (Drivers) and L.Samamanda Singh and S.Jitendra Singh (Grade IV staffs) for Outstanding Performance amongst Class-D staffs and Singam Peter (Grade-IV) in Special Commendation Award. Biswajit alongwith officials of the department also inspected the new building. Today's function was attended by retired officials and staffs of the directorate, present officials and staffs of the directorate, representatives from media firms of the State among others.

COCOMI says they will continue alert campaign; set ultimatum to political parties

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Coordination Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) today said that the organization will continue alert campaign and stage protest of various kind until the government of India assured that the integrity of the state both political and geographical is safe. In a press conference held today, Convenor of the COCOMI Sunil Karam said that as there is apprehension among the people of the state on the issue of the safety of Manipur's integrity the COCOMI will continue the alert protest. He said that as per media report it is now not sure about the fate of the state as there is likely to happen anything against the will of the people of the state. He also questioned the government of India for keeping the agreed points between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India yesterday. "The political parties representatives should urged the central authority and put the agreement reached between the NSCN-IM and the Government of India as the public domain within 2 of this month", Sunil Karam said that warn of serious agitation if they come back empty hand.

Political party's representatives returns. Meanwhile, representatives of the political party who had been camping at New Delhi in connection with the signing of the peace agreement returned today. BJP representative L. Basanta said that the Union Home Minister had stated that no final agreement has been signed.

State Level Kut 2019 Celebrated

Governor urged not to resort to violence, including bandhs and blockades

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Citizens of Manipur being a responsible people should ensure that differences are settled through talks and negotiations & not resort to violence, including bandhs and blockades as it severely impacts the poorer section of the society. This was stated by Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla today at the noon session of the State Level Kut Celebration, 2019 held at 1st MR Ground, Imphal.

Addressing the gathering as Chief Guest, Governor said "Kut Festival" is a festival of thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest and one of the most important festivals not only for the Kuki Mizo Chin groups but of the entire State. Kut Festival is celebrated in Manipur every year on the 1st of November. Manipur is always bustling with the cycle of numerous festivals. The festivals of Manipur project their cultural, social and religious aspirations. These festivals are perfect for removing the monotony of life and help the people lead a fuller and better life.

She stated that the Kut Festival is one of the greatest festivals in Manipur and an autumn festival of the different tribes of Kuki Chin Mizo groups of people in Manipur. The festival has been variously described at different places amongst

different tribes as Chavang Kut or Khodou. The Kut Festival is a thanksgiving festival which includes songs and dances along with merry making. The festival is observed every year in the honor of the giver of an abundant harvest. She further said that the Kuki Mizo Chin groups have their own unique and distinct cultural heritage and this is reflected in their various festivals. Kut is one such festival held during autumn and this festival provides an opportunity to introspect on our past and plan for the future. This festival which includes songs and dances is now participated in not only by the Kuki Mizo Chin groups but by other communities also thereby strengthening the bonds of friendship and is a harbinger of peace, harmony and progress.

She is hopeful that the celebration of "Kut" this year will not only help in promoting collective identity of our Kuki Mizo Chin brethren but will spread the message of peace, love, communal harmony, friendship and brotherhood amongst the different communities in the north east and especially in Manipur. Manipur as everyone knows is full of problems and rifts are being created between communities challenging the age-old tradition of peaceful co

existence. These gulfs rather than being narrowed are being widened. In such an environment, the growth curve is stymied, even though the State has huge potential. With increase in population, pressure on land is bound to increase thereby creating new conflicts. We have seen this in the past not only in Manipur but elsewhere also and this will rear its ugly head in the future also.

In her speech, Governor also urged to cast aside our self centered egos and policies of the various ethnic groups and work for the overall welfare of the State. Emotional integration cannot be achieved in a single day but a start needs to be made so that we can build on it.

As soon the Governor arrived at the venue, pounding of Traditional Gong was followed by Release of Kut Souvenir, 2019 by the Chief Guest. 'Kut Pa 2018' Haukthohang Baite, Ex-MDC, Ex-President, BNC was honoured with a presentation of memento and a shawl by State Level Kut Committee Chairman, Paotinmang Doungel, IPS, ADGP.

Cultural dance were performed by various Cultural troupe like Aimal, Chiru, Paite, MU Eimi Welfare Society, Kom, Maring, Simte, Tedim-Chin and Thangkhal.

Students threatens stirs if security are not relocated from the college campus

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MB College student Union has demanded the authority concerned to relocate the central paramilitary forces which are presently stationed at Maharaja Bodhachandra College. The Student's Union has also

raised concern at the apprehension and fear which may cause to students by the unexpected deployment of security forces within the college campus.

A press released from the College Students' union General Secretary Kh. Dilson questions the reason for deploying the large number of

security force at the college campus. The Union appealed the authority concerned to clarify on the matter and revoke the orders for allowing security force inside the college campus. It also warned that if the security forces stationed are not withdrawn at the earliest, intense agitations will ensue.

NEFIS demands removal of Para-Military Personnel from colleges in Manipur

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North-East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) Manipur Unit expressed strong criticism to the Manipur Government and Directorate of Higher Education, Manipur for stationing para-military

personnel in Modern College and MB College of Imphal East. The said para-military personnel are being stationed on the pretext of law and order situation in Manipur.

"NEFIS believes that academic institutions should not be interfered for administrative purposes by the government and hence

their space should not be used by para-military personnel as it would obstruct the education of the students. NEFIS demands that para-military personnel should be relocated somewhere else and steps should be taken to ensure that students' education is not hampered", a statement said.