

NRC will be carried out across India, no need to fear: Amit Shah

Agency
New Delhi, Nov 20

Union Home minister Amit Shah today said that the National Register of Citizens (NRC), on the lines of the exercise in Assam, will be carried out across the country. He also underscored the point that there is no need for people from any religion to be worried about it.

Amit Shah further said that the September 7, 2015 gazette notification in connection with the exemption of certain class of foreigners from Bangladesh and Pakistan is applicable to all. "The NRC has no such provision that says that certain religions will be excluded from it. All citizens of India irrespective of religion will figure in the NRC list. The NRC is different from the Citizenship Amendment Bill," said Shah addressing the Rajya Sabha.

"The process of NRC will be carried out across the country. No one irrespective of religion should be worried, it is just a process to get everyone under the NRC," he added.

In the NRC final list published on August 31, over 1.9 million people were left out of the citizenship register.

Shah said people who names are missing from the draft list have the right to go to tribunals, which will be constituted across Assam. He added that those who can't afford lawyers to go to a

tribunal will be provided financial help by the Assam government.

Some BJP ruled states — like Uttarakhand, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand — have already announced that they will conduct Assam-like NRC exercise in their states.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government plans to amend the Citizenship Act in the upcoming Winter Session of Parliament. The Citizenship Amendment Bill speeds up the process under which non-Muslims from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan can get Indian citizenship.

"Hindu, Buddhist, Sikh, Jain, Christian, Parsi refugees should get citizenship. The Citizenship Amendment Bill is needed so that these refugees who are being discriminated on basis of religion in Pakistan, Bangladesh or Afghanistan, get Indian citizenship," Shah told

Parliament on Wednesday.

There have been opposition from various political parties on the CAB. Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday called it "another trap like the NRC."

She alleged that CAB was part of BJP's "divisive politics" to make electoral gains. "It is a trap to exclude Bengalis and Hindus from the list of legal citizens and make them refugees in their own country," Banerjee said at a rally in north Bengal.

There have been protests across the northeastern states over the government's plan to table the CAB. In Assam, protesters have argued that it goes against the provisions of the Assam Accord that seek to safeguard the interests of indigenous people.

There were protests and marches on Monday across seven states in the northeast against the legislation.

GoI and the NSCN have not officially disclosed the competencies, but there were reports of granting autonomy

Agency
Kohima, Nov. 20

The final Indo-Naga agreement is likely to be delayed again as the Union Government and the National Socialist Council of Nagalim (NSCN) are yet to finalize the competencies.

The much expected solution will not be before Christmas as expected and reported earlier, as the two entities will have to meticulously work on the agreed competencies before inking the final agreement.

The Government of India and the NSCN have not officially disclosed the competencies, but there were reports of

granting autonomy to Nagas of Manipur, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh.

Sources said solution will not be before this Christmas and would be delayed by couple of months as the two negotiating parties are working on agreed competencies so as to avoid complications in the future. But it is understood that NSCN does not want to repeat history where Government either backtracked or failed to implement the agreed points in totality.

NSCN insider said they are minutely analyzing the agreed competencies and would take some time, adding solution is expected by early 2020.

Also statements coming out from the Centre's Interlocutor have not been consistent and often contradict, which has generated apprehension not only with the NSCN but even amongst the public.

According to a source, there are some contentious issues to be finalized before signing the final agreement.

The Centre is also having consultations with neighbouring states so that the final agreement does not create mayhem in neighbouring states.

Meanwhile, the Centre on Tuesday said the governments of Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh will be duly consulted

before the final settlement of the decades-old Naga insurgency problem.

Union minister of state for home G Kishan Reddy told the Lok Sabha that there has been considerable progress in the ongoing Naga peace talks and almost all the Naga underground groups are engaged with the Central government in the peace process.

"All stakeholders, including the states of Assam, Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh, will be duly consulted before any settlement is arrived at with the Naga groups and their concerns taken into consideration," he said, replying to a written question.

One stop centre inaugurated at Kangpokpi

IT News
Imphal, Nov. 20

Social Welfare Minister Nemcha Kipgen today inaugurated the SAHII - One Stop Centre (OSC), Kangpokpi District at the District Headquarters, Kangpokpi. The One Stop Centre was inaugurated under the directives of Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD), Government of India.

Chief Guest of the function Minister Smt Nemcha Kipgen expressed that the newly inaugurated OSC, Kangpokpi will serve as a centre equipped with an integrated range of services including medical, legal, rescue & response services, police services and psychological and social counselling support for the welfare of those women in distress or affected by any forms of violence in private and public places.

As assured earlier, Minister Nemcha informed that so far, One Stop Centre have already inaugurated in all the 15 Districts of Manipur, the remaining one District will be inaugurated at the earliest.

IT News
Imphal, Nov. 20

BJP, Manipur Pradesh today condole the sudden demise of Ex Minister and former Vice President of BJP Salam Ibohah Singh.

A condolence meeting was held at 12:30 PM at State BJP Office, Canchipur. Floral tribute were paid to the portrait of the departed soul and a two minutes silence was observed

as a mark of respect for the departed soul and prays for his soul to live in peace in the heavenly abode.

Th. Chaoba Singh, Ex- Union Minister & Ex- State President, M. Bhorot Singh, Ex-MLA & Ex- State president, kikonbou Newmai, Ex MLA & State Vice President, Benjamin Mate State Vice President, senior and karyakartas were present at the occasion.

Late Salam Ibohah Singh was

born at Thanga Salam Leikai, Bishenpur District. He served as General Secretary of AMSU (1968-69). He was elected as MLA from Thanga A/C for 2 times. He served as Minister for power, RD & PR, Govt of Manipur.

The BJP expressed shocked by the sudden demise of late leader and deems the demise of Ibohah as a great loss for the state. The BJP, Manipur Pradesh in a statement

extends heartfelt condolence and sorrow to the bereaved family of the late leader and believes that the good work and commitment left by late Ibohah will always find a place in the generation to come. May his soul rest in peace.

Party flag of the BJP also fly half-mast at all district and Mandal offices for 3 days to show respect to the departed soul.

COPD is under-diagnosed in India with high prevalence

By Sakshi Jaiswal
Ghaziabad, Nov 20

Besides the fact that COPD (Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease) is under-diagnosed and underrated disease burden in our country, it is the second highest cause of mortality after heart diseases in India last year.

COPD being one of the most neglected, progressive and a crippling disease can be easily prevented and treated if detected in its early stages. Therefore it is of utmost

importance to create awareness about the disease among the masses for early recognition and better management.

According to the recent factsheet released by WHO, over 9.5 Lakh Indians lost their lives suffering from COPD last year. Given the afflicting air quality in Delhi NCR, rising outdoor pollution is one of the major threats affecting quality of life of every individual without age barrier, making COPD the second most common killer disease.

"While effects of COPD reflect not only upon our lungs but also adversely affects heart

functions, muscle strength, mental well-being, bone strength and various other organs, it is no more considered as a single disease and rather a syndrome. The most common symptoms of COPD are breathlessness, or a 'need for air', excessive sputum production, and a chronic cough. On this occasion of World COPD day, we all must pledge to do our own bit to improve the environment, the air we breathe and start a crusade for healthy lungs."

Said Dr. Sharad Joshi, Principal Consultant, Department of Pulmonology, Max Superspecialty Hospital,

Vaishali. Also termed as Chronic Bronchitis and emphysema, COPD is not only restricted to smokers, making it a major reason for being under-diagnosed life threatening lung disease that progressively lead to death. Pertaining to the poor indoor air quality due to use of biomass fuels for cooking, India has a significantly high prevalence of COPD among non-smokers as well and is estimated to be among atleast 5% of Indian population.

"The major risk factors for onset of COPD include tobacco smoking, indoor and

outdoor air pollution, industrial chemicals and dusts, genetic predisposition and repeated chest infections. Early clinical suspicion and monitoring through lung function test (spirometry) not only helps in early diagnosis but also optimizes the treatment thereby preventing rapid deterioration through inhaled medications. Regular breathing exercises and pulmonary-rehabilitation have proved beneficial in preserving lung functions and symptomatic relief." Added Dr Joshi

IED found

IT News
Imphal, Nov 20

An Improvised Explosive Device (IED) at Napet Machil road under Lamlai Police station in Imphal East at around noon today. Police and Assam Rifles team block both side of the road for few hours and safely detonated the bomb at the site at around 21.30 pm, the place where the IED was found is around 100 metres North from the Lamlai Police Station.

Healthy Baby Show

IT News
Thoubal, Nov. 20

District Health Society Thoubal today organised Healthy baby show cum competition at the conference hall at CMO Complex, Thoubal Wangmatuba under the supervision of the National Health Mission. The inaugural function of the healthy baby competition was attended by Thoubal DC N. bandana Devi, CMO Thoubal Dr. N. Jayantakumar Singh and District Family Welfare Officer Dr. Ksh. Memcha Devi as dignitaries.

War Against Drugs Continues



By a Correspondent
Jiribam, Nov. 20

In a raid conducted by Shri Aocharya Jibon Baruah, DySP (HQ) along with I/C Rongpur, SI Medhi and staff of Silchar PS, 67 nos of packets of suspected WY or yaba tablets which contain a total of 13400 tablets having value

of approx Rs. 20 lakhs in international market were seized.

During the raid 05 (five) persons namely 1) Minaz Ahmed of Jirihat 2) Somir Roy of Jiribam 3) Bhusan Choudhary of Jirihat 4) Ansarul Haque of Jirihat and 5) Bhuddi Singh of Jiribam were apprehended.

Road safety in Manipur: A need to plug fatal gaps

By-Hungyo Yurreikan

The age of motor transport dawned over a century ago and is here to stay. Roads are the nerves and veins of society and this analogy dictates that for a healthy society—one that does not self-destruct, a basic requirement is that we keep our roads safe and free flowing. Besides drawing analogy, it has to be recognized that safety and security needs of humans is basic to survival and thumps most other needs, thus it begs the question "how safe are our roads?"

Be in on social networks, prints or broadcast media, road fatalities has become a regular news item. So much so to the point that people are becoming unaffected to what the news signifies, such news don't

appear to command the reaction that it should. Human lives are lost, beyond sympathies, it should invoke anger, yet the public doesn't lose much sleep over it. Imphal, Manipur's Capital City is fast running out of space, and to a relatively lesser but still alarming rates, the smaller townships. Each day, congestion creeps in further, making every structure appear as though they are pushing each other, a messy eyesore. The beauty of breathing space has been quickly forgone. Factors of growing population, poor maintenance of roads, insufficient drainage, lack of proper signage, street vendors, illegal extensions of immovable properties, and most visibly the growing number of vehicles have

brought about a massive change that stares right into our face, a problem that everybody identifies but nobody accepts as their responsibility. A kid can no longer safely walk to the house next door to meet friends, the roads are bad and traffic rushes with no concern. Is road safety beyond our control? Yes it would be impossible for one person, no matter how powerful to ensure road safety. But through collective conscience and action, supported by proper legislations and empowered agencies, roads can be made much safer.

Members of society have to acknowledge that some changes are required to improve our experience during road commute. While the

government has to be continuously pressured to do its part, there are certain things that the administration cannot implement in isolation. Traffic discipline is one that needs public participation just as much as the government's effort. If Manipur is able to boast of a safe and disciplined traffic on her roads it would indicate a leap forward in social equity. Surprisingly it does not entail too much labour and investment to achieve certain levels of tangible progress in this domain. It is a shared responsibility of the society and would require adoption of certain roles from citizens, and proactive intervention from government agencies to fill certain gaps.

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