



Chief Minister makes desperate calls to have trust in the government

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Chief Minister N. Biren Singh today made a desperate call to the people of the state in general and the representatives of the COCOMI in particular to support the Sangai Festival, which is an asset of the people of Manipur.

"The state government had assured for protection of the territorial and administrative integrity time and again, we have fulfilled the demand of the COCOMI by taking 18 of their representatives and arranged a meeting which was fruitful as the Union Home Minister himself had given assurance for protection of the territorial and administrative integrity, please lift the boycott and support the Sangai festival", N. Biren Singh appealed through reporters at his office Chamber.

"I feel upset seeing the way that people of our state are showing to foreign tourists and stalls who come all the way from Egypt or Thailand to participate the Sangai Festival", N. Biren Singh said appealing the COCOMI not to wait for November 29 for lifting it.

Reacting to some criticisms towards the response of his government from some people indirectly without mentioning their name, N. Biren Singh questioned the people to realize on which government placed the right platform to the issue concerning the state in connection with the issues arises of the Naga Final settlement.

"Despite the hectic schedule, Union Home Minister Amit Shah had given appointment understanding the seriousness of the issue of Manipur and spare around one hour to listen the



sentiment of the people", the Chief Minister said and added that he and his team had kept their words and that the COCOMI should keep their words too. As according to him the COCOMI had assured to lift the boycott called on Sangai Festival if the Government of Manipur arrange a meeting with the Union Home Minister or convened assembly session.

"They told us to either arrange meeting with the Home Minister or convene assembly session, and understanding the seriousness of the issue we fulfilled both the demand and why shouldn't the Sangai Festival be lifted", Biren said. On issue of citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB), the Chief Minister said that the stand of the state government is clear.

"We know that introduction of CAB will not immediately affect the state and the people but the apprehension is the tendency to affect the state in the future", Biren said adding that his government has been urging the center for insertion of clause to make sure that the CAB does not affect the state. "Home Minister himself asked me about the issue of the CAB after the meeting with the COCOMI representatives and I have asked him to insert a clause or arrange something for protection of the state from CAB", N. Biren Singh said. Interestingly, almost all the cabinet colleagues of the BJP led government including Deputy Chief Minister Joykumar, Chief whip MLAP Sharat among others were also present during the meeting with media persons.

Jiribam KSA observes 14th Foundation day

By a correspondent
Jiribam, Nov.27

The Kangleipak Students Association (KSA), Jiribam District Council observed its 14th Foundation day today at the office of Association. The programme was graced by Rajkumar Mayanglam, DC Jiribam while L. Bonson Singh, President, KSA Jiribam District Council; RK Nobinsana, Pradhan Dibong Gram Panchayat shared the dais as functional president and Guest of honour respectively.

Apart of observation, tree plantation was held at the office premises of KSA and at DC office campus of Jiribam. Speaking with the media person, Rajkumar Mayanglam, DC Jiribam said, it gives an immense pleasure to participate in the

tree plantation programme in connection with the 14th Foundation Day of KSA Jiribam.

It was a good initiative taken by KSA in these global whether changing as a part of green mission.

He also expressed his wishes that KSA will play crucial role in leading many works like plantation trees so that it will be helpful to bring changes in these global warming era. He also conveyed best wishes to KSA for their endeavours in future which might bring positive outcome for Jiribam District.

Thereafter, the President of KSA Jiribam stated that the 14th Foundation Day of Kangleipak Students Association, Jiribam District Council is mainly focus on tree plantation with the objective

of "Unity is Strength". He also conveyed a message to student communities of Jiribam to study well so that it will bring bright future for them.

Psychotropic Drugs worth around Rs. 6 crore seized

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Anti Smuggling Unit of Custom Division Imphal had seized psychotropic drugs and heroin powder while checking a suspicious four wheeler car at Wangbal Langkhongpat are in Thoubal district along the National Highway No. 102 at around 4 pm yesterday.

A statement from the office of the Assistant Commissioner, Customs Division, Imphal said that acting on a specific information, a team of Anti-Smuggling Unit, Customs Division Imphal led by the Superintendent (A/S) seized 40,000 Amphetamine tablets – a psychotropic drug marking "WY" and 59 soap cakes of assorted colour containing 787 grams of heroin powder from the possession of one person identified as Md. Illyas Khan, 21 years, son of Md. Ashraf Ali, a resident of Sangaiyupham Puleipokpi Mathak, Sangaiyupham under Thoubal Police Station while he was on his way to deliver the contraband items to some unknown person on a Astar car bearing registration number MN07D-



3070 along National Highway No. 102 at Wangbal Langkhongpat area.

According the Customs Division officials, the seized contraband drugs is estimated to have worth Rs. 5,41,60,000/- in International market. The car which the drug smuggler used for transportation of the contraband items have also been seized and the value of the car is estimated at Rs. 2,00,000/-.

A case has been registered under NDPS.

On the other hand troops of Assam Rifles under HQ IGAR (South) also seized contraband items worth more than Rupees

28 lakh at Khudengthabi, along Imphal Moreh route.

The contraband items were seized from a vehicle while checking it at PVCP Khudengthabi on November 24. The driver of the vehicle is identified as Laishram Krishnamani, age about 43 years, a resident of Wangoi, in Imphal West.

Heroin weighing approximately 0.720 Kg valued at more than Rupees 28 lakh was seized from inside the vehicle.

The driver along with seized items had been handed over to Police Station, Moreh for further investigation.

Government and people eagerly watching Meghen's next move

Imphal Times photo journalist **Sh. Ajit** takes a dig on the past journey of UNLF's former Chief RK Sanayaima @ Meghen on his revolutionary life, and he is having a close watch on what will be the next move of the rebel leader



As former Chairman of the proscribed group United National Liberation Front (UNLF) Chief RK Sanayaima @ Meghen is arriving here at Imphal, which is also his home, people started having close watch on what will be the next move of the former rebel leader. "He didn't surrender, neither heapplied for bail when he was in jail, instead, he completed his conviction and came out. It is completed on deciding what will be the next move of the former rebel leader after reaching here in Imphal", a political observer said.

Incidentally his conviction completed at a time when the state is on a frying pan burnt by twin issue of Naga settlement and the introduction of the contentious CAB. For reason not made known to the public the officials of the Ministry of Home Affairs took him to undisclosed location at New Delhi after his released on November 9. RTI activists sought information to disclose the whereabouts of the former rebel leaders and dozens of Human Rights groups had

petition the Manipur Human Rights Commission to disclose his whereabouts. On being asked to the DGP Manipur by the MHRC the answer was they have no information.

To another surprise, a reliable information said that the rebel leader will be back here in Imphal tomorrow, the November 28. He is expected to arrive at Bir Tikendrajit International Airport at around 1.30 pm tomorrow. What is again co-incidental is that the name of the International Airport here is Imphal – The Bir Tikendrajit International Airport is given recently under his great grandfather.

RK Sanayaima @ Meghen's birthday was also co-incidental as he was born on September 21, 1946. It was when he complete 1 (one) year that the Maharajah of Manipur, Bodhaachandra was allegedly put under duress and forcibly signed the merger agreement at Shillong, which is believed to be the root of the present rebellion movement in Manipur.

RK Sanayaima joint UNLF in the 1967. Two years later, that is in 1969, Meghen was assigned as the Acting External Affairs Secretary. In 1970 he was included as a member of the Revolutionary co ordination committee of UNLF later he became the member of the Central Committee of the armed group

in 1973.

In 1975, Meghen went underground and since then he left his home leaving his wife and children at his home at Yaikul Jannasthan, Imphal and started his guerrilla warfare to free India from the clutch of the Indian Union. In 1984, Meghen was elected as the General Secretary of UNLF and Chairman in 1998, loading the burden of the rebel organisation

It is worth recalling that RK Meghen is perhaps the one first rebel leader from the region to participate the sitting of the UN Indigenous Peoples Group Subcommittee Human Right in 1996.

A year back he had addressed the United Nations working group on Indigenous people on July 25, 1995.

UNLF has attended Unrepresented Nations People's Organization (UNPO) and the United Nations Group on Human Rights (UNWGIP). In the same year, the UNLF chief and the Home Affairs in charge briefed the Parliamentarian of the European Union in Brussel (Hemanta ibid). Again in July 1996, UNLF have circulated a pamphlets "Why Manipuris Demand Right of SelfDetermination". The UNLF had put forward four conditions before the government of India if it is willing to initiate dialogue and ink a peace accord with the

organisation, which are:

"A plebiscite under UN supervision to elicit the people's opinion on the core issue of restoration of Manipur's independence."

"Deployment of a UN peacekeeping force in Manipur to ensure the process is free and fair."

"Surrender of arms by the UNLF to the UN force, matched by the withdrawal of Indian troops."

"Handing over of political power by the UN in accordance with the results of the plebiscite."

On December 4, 2010, Sanayaima was produced by the NIA, who claimed to have arrested Sanayaima from Motihari in Bihar, while, Sanayaima has proclaimed that he was abducted by the Bangladeshi agencies on 29 September 2010 and "handed over" to the agencies of India. Sanayaima has been booked by the NIA for "waging war against the Indian Union under section 120(B) IPC, 121, 121 (A), 122 IPC and 16, 17, 18, 18 (A), 18 (B) & 20 Unlawful Activities Prevention Act, 1967 as amended in 2008." After the arrest, he said that "in a multi-community region, the idea of peace cannot be achieved without considering the collateral damages of the secondary conflict that emerges out of the meaningless peace process."

Contraband items worth more than rupees 28 lakh seized

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Imphal, Nov. 27

Troops of Assam Rifles under HQ IGAR (South) seize contraband items worth more than Rupees 28 lakh at Khudengthabi, Manipur.

The contraband items were seized from a vehicle while checking it at PVCP Khudengthabi on November 24. The driver of the vehicle is identified as Laishram Krishnamani, age about 43 years, a resident of Wangoi, in Imphal West. Heroin weighing approximately 0.720 Kg valued at more than Rupees 28 lakh was seized from inside the vehicle. The driver along with seized items had been handed over to Police Station, Moreh for further investigation.

Manipur Today November issue released during Sangai Cultural Evening



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Works/RD&P/Textiles, Commerce & Industry/Power/AR & Training/IPR Minister Thongam Biswajit Singh graced the cultural evening of Day 3 of the ongoing Manipur Sangai Festival 2019 at the Bheigyachandra Open Air Theatre on November 26. Other Special Guests of the evening include Water Resources/ YAS Minister

Letpao Haokip, Tourism Corporation of Manipur Limited Chairman Dr. Sapam Ranjan and MLA Samuel Jendai Kamei. The November issue of the Manipur Today of the DIPR was also released during the cultural evening. As part of the evening, various dance troupes of the State and outside the State including from Nagaland, Mizoram, West Bengal and Thailand performed cultural and traditional dances.