

CM flags off Manipur Sangai Run; urges people to participate in Sangai Festival

ITNews
Imphal, Nov. 24

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh flagged off Manipur Sangai Run organised as part of Manipur Sangai Festival at Khuman Lampak Sports Complex today.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister urged the public to fully participate in the annual tourism festival and not to trust any rumour which may create apprehension in the minds of the people. N. Biren Singh informed that he along with his Cabinet Ministers had a discussion with COCOMI representatives last night, adding that the State Government had decided to call the winter session of Manipur Legislative Assembly by December 20.

The Chief Minister further said that Union Home Minister Amit Shah, despite his busy schedules due to the ongoing Parliament session and political developments in Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh, had given appointment for meeting with COCOMI leaders on November 25 at 10 pm acknowledging the significance of the grievances and demands raised by the people of Manipur. Stating that Manipur Sangai Festival is no more a simple festival but a pride for Manipur

and also a platform to promote the identity of the State to the world, the Chief Minister said that many delegates from different countries are participating in the festival this year as well.

Observing that there is no state or country which does not have issues, the Chief Minister expressed his firm belief that

Manipur would triumph in all the issues besieging the State because the people, the State Government and the Central Government are equally concerned with these issues. He also called for a collective effort to fight these issues instead of remaining divided and blaming each other. Manipur Sangai Run, which

was flagged off from Khuman Lampak, passed through locations like North AOC, Khong Ani Karak, Thangmeiband Road, PWD, Nityaipat Chuthek, Sanjenthong, Palace Gate, Hatta Road, Telipati Road, Lamlong Bridge, Dinku Road and culminated at the starting point (Khuman Lampak).

COCOMI lifts boycott on Sangai Festival

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Hours before the inaugural function of the Manipur Sangai Festival, Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI), which boycotted the Sangai Festival and has been organizing a wide spread campaign across the state to stay away from the Sangai Festival, today lifted the ban and withdrew

the boycott called. The announcement for lifting of the ban was released through social media signed by Sunil Karam, President of United Committee Manipur (UCM). The released stated that the decision to lift the boycott called on Sangai Festival has been taken after the Chief Minister of Manipur N. Biren had assured in writing about the invitation by the Union Home Minister Amit

Shah to representatives of the COCOMI on November 25 at 10 pm besides the assurance for convening of a special state assembly session. The COCOMI however said that it will continue the alert protest and has taken a decision to urge the government to take a resolution that the final settlement of the Naga issue should in no way affect the state of Manipur.

Foreign delegates call on CM

DIPR
Imphal, Nov. 24

Ambassadors and High Commissioners of different countries along with their spouses, who are here in the State capital to take part in the Manipur Sangai Festival, called on Chief Minister N. Biren Singh at Chief Minister's

Secretariat today. The Chief Minister welcomed the foreign delegates and exchanged pleasantries and gifts with them. He also expressed gratitude to them for visiting the State and wished them for a pleasant stay. The delegates also thanked the State Government and people of Manipur for their wonderful

hospitality. The visiting delegates also had a photo session with the Chief Minister. The Ambassadors and High Commissioners are from the countries of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao DPR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

Imbroglia over government formation in Maharashtra continues; Sharad Pawar's role appears doubtful

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Nov. 24

The imbroglia over government formation in Maharashtra continued with the Supreme Court on Sunday refusing to order immediate floor test as a sequel to Devendra Fadnavis (BJP) and Ajit Pawar (NCP) swearing in as chief minister and deputy CM in early hours of Saturday morning without observing protocol.

While hearing a petition filed by the Shiv Sena-NCP-Congress combined against the Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari's decision to swear in Fadnavis as CM, the SC issued notice to all parties and posted the matter for hearing on Monday, November 25. The apex court also directed the Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta to produce the letters with the governor - one in which the BJP submitted its claims on having a majority and the other of the governor inviting Fadnavis to form a government.

In a dramatic turn of events Fadnavis (former CM) and Ajit Pawar (nephew of NCP Chief Sharad Pawar), were sworn in as CM and DCM respectively on Saturday. The swearing in took place at 7.45 AM after President's Rule (imposed on November 12) was revoked at 5.47 am on Saturday. No media except one news agency, was invited and swearing in was completed in hush-hush manner. The Governor has given a time till 30 November to prove the majority to CM

Fadnavis. However the Shiv Sena led front wants him to prove the majority immediately or the front be given a chance to prove its majority.

Government formation in Maharashtra was announced after Shiv Sena, the Congress and the NCP were all set to announce Uddhav Thackeray as the alliance's Chief Minister.

Ajit Pawar was stated to be accompanied by a dozen MLAs of his party for the oath taking ceremony. However, later most of them returned to the party fold and claimed that they were misled by Pawar.

After a meeting of NCP legislators held at the Y.B. Chavan Centre in Mumbai, on Saturday, Ajit Pawar was sacked as the leader of NCP's legislative party and was replaced by Jayant Patil. However, Pawar senior did not remove his rebel nephew from the party. The meeting was attended by 42 MLAs, although the strength of elected MLAs is 54 in the 288 member of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.

It may be recalled that Sharad Pawar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi had a meeting in New Delhi on 20 November "to discuss the issues of farmers". Besides, Modi had praised him and his party on the occasion of 250th session of the Rajya Sabha.

On that day and BJP President Amit Shah held separate meeting, which led to speculation that some agreement might have been reached between Pawar and Modi. It was

also said that the NCP might get something at the Centre in bargain. Moreover, Ajit Pawar is being probed by the Enforcement Directorate in connection with an alleged corruption case. Some time ED had also served notice against Sharad Pawar and a few NCP MLAs.

Pawar and Modi are known to have personal equation despite the recent bickering during the Maharashtra election campaign. Modi has publicly praised Pawar as his political guru. Springing surprise is what is common to both Pawar and Modi. In fact soon after the results of the 2014 assembly elections were announced and it became clear that the BJP would run short of majority, Pawar unilaterally had pledged "outside support" to the BJP. Later Shiv Sena which had contested the elections separately joined the BJP Government led by Fadnavis nearly after two months.

After the election results were announced on 24 October, the BJP, which emerged as the single largest party, could not earlier stake claim to form a government after it could not reach an agreement with its former ally Shiv Sena on its "50:50" demand. The BJP won 105 seats in the 288-member assembly followed by the Shiv Sena (56), NCP (54), Congress (44) and others including Independents =29.

In the meanwhile all the three parties - Shiv Sena, NCP and Congress have herded their MLAs in different hotels to avoid defection.

FA of GOI and NSCN-IM is to divide the ethnic people of this region - MNPF

ITNews
Imphal, Nov. 24

Armed rebel group Manipur Naga People's Front (MNPF) in a statement issued today said that the twenty two years old frame work agreement between the Government of India (GOI) and the NSCN-IM is not a peace agreement but it is a talk to divide the various ethnic mongoloid race of this region which they colonized and called it North East state in general and to spew venom between the hill and plain people of Manipur in particular. The statement signed by Thomas

Numai, Secretary Publicity, MNPF said that instead of rejoicing the Frame Work agreement between the GOI and NSCN-IM, it is time that we the Nagas should rather prepare for the future to face the impact of the agreement to Naga society. The statement of the MNPF question the rationale behind the conclusion of the 70 years old Naga Revolutionary struggle if they compromise it with economic package, six schedule or Territorial Council under the Indian Constitution. It said the sacrificed of the 100s Naga revolutionary would be meaningless with such a

settlement. Questioning if the victims of Indian army atrocities and excess including those ladies who had been rape, would be satisfied by this agreement, the MNPF said that the Frame Agreement is more like a angler hooking fish with a fishing rod. If the news about NSCN-IM leaders of Somdal crossing to China territory to continue the armed struggle is true then it is another trading of the Naga people by Somdal IM, the statement said.

UNLF observes 55th Anniversary

Annual statement of Central Committee elaborates on the various threats to the indigenous people of WESEA

ITNews
Imphal, Nov 24

Proscribed group United National Liberation Front (UNLF) Manipur today observed its 55th Anniversary today. In connection with the observance the Central Committee of the proscribed group in its annual statement elaborated on the various threats to the identity of the indigenous people of WESEA region. The statement by the central committee is produce below - "The history of the Manipur nation which is withstanding and facing the challenges of time and facing all the external forces with the collective effort of our forefathers is witnessed

by the documents and treaties of our neighbouring countries as well as of the British. Very unfortunately, today the fate of our composite history and identity of all our indigenous ethnics having an inseparable and organic relationship is falling apart to the verge of ultimate obliteration due to the consistent conspiracy of Indian Imperialist's Divide and Rule Policy which is fragmenting our collectives throughout the long 70 years since the very day Manipur was annexed in 1949.

The most potent and ultimate colonial policy of the Imperialist India is to racially assimilate all the distinct ethnics of our region which

are already kept suppressed politically, economically and socio-culturally, to the mainland India which is quite different from us in every aspects.

Thus due to these 70 years of hegemonic colonial rule of India, our people are degraded, dehumanized losing all it's valour and values of our society so more and more people have become slavish and dependent. Hence

As people have become more and more dependent and couldn't think that we cannot survive independently and even taking pride as Indian, it makes easier for the racial assimilation process without any hindrance.

(Contd. on page 2)

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Shri N. Biren Singh
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Govt. of Manipur

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