

## Governor releases 'Bhagyachandra And Bhakti Movement In Eastern Indian Literature' ; recounts the life of Bhagyachandra

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Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla today released a book called "Bhagyachandra and Bhakti Movement in Eastern Indian Literature". The book is a collective endeavour of Dr. Aheibam Koireng Singh, Assistant Professor, Manipur University, Dr. H. Shukhdeba Sharma, Head, Department of Social Work, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Regional Campus, Manipur and Rami Niranjan Desai of India Foundation, New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Heptulla said that Bhagyachandra, popularly known as Rajarshi was one of the most versatile rulers amongst the kings of Manipur in terms of the outstanding contributions he made for promotion of art and culture of the State and in serving the society and the ideal thoughts he had for the welfare of the future generations.

"It is common knowledge that the rich cultural wealth of Manipur was born out of the imaginative mind and religious ingenuity of Maharaja Bhagyachandra by blending the native pre-Hindu religious element and cultural tradition with the great tradition of Hinduism leading to the birth of a state patronized peculiar and unique form of Hindu Vaisnavite cult of religion. It is the culture he had started that put Manipur on the global map. During his rule, a vibrant society prevailed and there was a cultural renaissance never seen before in the State. He documented and codified the Manipuri dance style,

launching the golden era of its development and refinement. He composed three of the five types of Ras Lilas - the Maha Ras, the Basanta Ras and the Kunja Ras", She said. Rajarshi Bhagyachandra Maharaja was born in 1748. During his reign, once he took shelter in Takhel, now called Assam in a war with Awa, the present day Myanmar, where he saw the image of Lord Shri Krishna in his dream in the most beautiful and resplendent dress. The Lord was in his Natabar garb with a flute in his hand and a lotus and Chura of peacock feathers on his head. The union or jugal murti of Lord Krishna and Srimati Radhika was seen in his vision. The king also had a dream telling him to make idols from the jack fruit grown on the Kaina hills and worship it. He followed the vision and made statues out of the jack fruit in the image of Lord Krishna.

In 1776, Rajarshi Bhagyachandra established the Govindaji temple and inaugurated the divine idol of Radha Krishna and began to worship the Lord with his consort in the Royal Palace. After this, the Rajarshi tried his dream of the Ras dance and taking the essence of the twenty ninth to the thirty third Chapters of Shrimad Bhagavat Darshan which are known as the Raspanchadyaya, he trained many artists for the different kinds of Ras dance of Radha Krishna as well as Bhakti. The Ras Lila of Radha Krishna was held accompanied with the most enthusiastic mood of the religious people of Manipur from the 11th day of Hiyanggei (November), 1779 to the full moon day.

From the religious point of view and from the artistic angle of vision, we can claim that the Manipuri Classical Dance, the Radha Krishna Ras Lila is one of the most modest, softest and mildest and at the same time, one of the most meaningful dances of the world. Here lies the specific significance of the charm and beauty of the Manipuri Classical Dance, the Ras Lila of Radha Krishna in various episodes intertwined with the bhakti movement. The Governor further said that many books have been written on the multifaceted character of Maharaja Bhagyachandra, a king who was at once a courageous and skilled warrior, a deeply religious person and a great nationalist. Eminent writers have thrown light on his character from different perspectives and yet many more books can be written on his remarkable exploits. The present book is a compilation of the works of reputed scholars who are familiar and well versed with

the central theme and subject matter. The book has twelve chapters on the thoughts and works of Rajarshi Bhagyachandra all well researched and contributed by writers of considerable reach in the field. They have touched upon the role of Rajarshi Bhagyachandra as a crusader of Bhakti Movement in the State. This book will be able to throw light on the pioneering role of this great king in the Bhakti Movement and a lasting source of inspiration to many. The collective effort by the eminent editors is really commendable and praiseworthy. Y. Khemchand Singh ji, Hon'ble Speaker, Manipur Legislative Assembly, Dr. Ch. Chandramani Singh, Convener, Manipur Citizen Forum, Dr. Ng. Ngalengnam, Director, Indira Gandhi National Tribal University etc. were also attended in the book releasing function.

## Rights body worries; appeals govt. to restrain military exercise in the wake of the Frame Work Agreem; seeks complete safeguard of civilians

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The spurt of harsh tone through media by both authority of the government of India and the NSCN-IM over differences and inability to arrive at a conducive agreement to both side in the wake of settling the decades old Naga issue and the unrest among the people of NE states particularly in Manipur due to apprehensions of negative fallout has worried many concern citizens including Human Rights organization Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR). The YFPHR fears catastrophe ending as those who will be affected are the civilians who are the citizens of this country as the YFPHR is apprehensive of Indian authority utilizing military might to suppress any kind of oppositions from any ends. Similar wilderness is

also possible that might sabotage the peaceful coexistence among the people of the reason if the NSCN-IM is provoked to take up extreme measures. Unofficial report from a highly classified source said that the number of cadres present mainly at the NSCN-IM head quarter at Hebrone has been reduce, and a report by a news portal which stated that about 300 cadres have already left camp Hebrone. The report however did not disclose about the sifting of any weapon from the camp Hebrone. Similar, report about cadres of the NSCN-IM who had been at many undesignated camps in Ukhrul, Chandel, Senapati and Chandel

districts had also been shifting. However, Imphal Times is yet to ascertain the authenticity of the report about NSCN-IM cadres leaving from their Hebrone camp. Following the development, the YFPHR had submitted memorandums to both Prime Minister of India and the Governor of Nagaland to restrain and to bear maximum tolerance in exercising military power - no matter on what could be the fall out of the October 31 final talk (as announced) so that the live of civilians are not affected. **Inseparate memorandum submitted by the YFPHR to both the Prime Minister and the Governor of**

Nagaland, the YFPHR showed serious concern over the possible violence which may occur due to the recent development on the Peace Talk with the GOI and NSCN-IM. "We drew the attention of the PM and the Governor of Nagaland to initiate a safety measure and protection for the civilians particularly for the women and children in the region particularly in Manipur of the possible violence which may occur with regard to the recent development. "We appealed the PM and Governor to keep in account of the safety of the civilians instead of exercising military suppression to the people" the YFPHR urged both.

## Absconded kingpin drug smuggler arrested

IT News  
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Support from the civil society bodies of Lilong has made Manipur police success in cleaning the anti social elements and fight against illicit drugs. ANJUMAN and ALADA, two major civil society organizations base in Lilong Thoubal district has been playing vital role in assisting the police force in saving the youths of the state from falling as a prey of the illicit drugs. Today too members of the two civil bodies assisted a team from Lilong Police Station led by its Officer in Charge O. Ajit arrested a king pin drug peddler who had been



said that the kingpin absconder, identified as FM Aktar Hussain (35) s/o (L) FM. Habibur Rahaman of Lilong Haoreibi Mayai Leikai was arrested today along with the help of the civil organizations from his hide out at Kiyangei Mamang Leikai at around 12.30 am today. The hunt for the kingpin was reported to have been personally supervise by SP of Thoubal distir Dr. S. Ibomcha. On October 22, the police team seized 14,513 nos. of SP capsules, 99 illegal coded syrup bottles and 12 gms of Heroin no. 4 on October 22 following the arrest of 3 persons from Lilong area.

## 2nd GP meeting for Khongman



IT News  
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2nd special Gram sabha for finalization and approval of Gran

panchayat development plan for the year 2020-2021 session was held at Khongman Gram Panchayat. Seram Niken, Zilla Parasid imphal east

attended the session as Chief Guest while Khongman GP pardhan Mousiraigthe Devi presided over it.

## The End Can Open A New Map Out : Naga Framework Agreement

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In case NSCN-IM turns away from this cloudy Framework deal, perhaps it will be an opportunity for (North) Easterners. Likely Muivah will do so, since there is refusal by New Delhi to respect a separate flag and constitution for Nagas. Going back a bit around the so called peace deal; too big is India to acknowledge fairly the torment of (North) Easterners. India has already got galore of haywire of its own in the mainland. The disability is too big to reset the legislative, executive and judiciary in places. Hence, realizing the mammoth limitations, it will be a rational move for Eastern region to initiate something to mitigate the reality bites from Delhi. More importantly, structural violence, controversial merger, militarization, etc. have made the region feel discriminated. Again, this time by Hindu national party, BJP's Citizenship Amendment Bill (CAB) and National Registration of Citizens (NRC)'s spill over from Assam is staring the peoples. The situation causes sometimes, mixed contemplation about alternative towards a way-out; an attempt to reconnecting the dim dots to visualize a new different layout in the Eastern India political map. It looks very visible that Delhi has been waiting for some sort of natural death of the political armed movement to be happened sooner or later. However it is

very unlikely that waiting games get fulfilled so wishfully, perhaps because of the patriotic retention among the indigenous bloods, and seen unseen forces of China and others. Even the form of resistance may migrate from armed struggle to democratic endeavor which will be rather legitimate. At the same time, armed groups may also be waiting for domestic crumbling of India on her own, in terms of splitting her territory into three or more, or political paralysis triggered by Hindu fundamentalism, colossal corruption, indigent governance, corporate games, etc. Political Armed Organizations (PAOs) might have well visualized India-how its might is, what it intends to, and certainly have experienced the amount of its commitment and quality in handling peace and justice. Likewise India dissects the weaknesses and strengths of the PAOs too. More or less Delhi is familiar with the psychology, what the organizations combating for, which organizations want what, how easy and difficult to handle with. Eventually to transform or resolve the existing conflict in the region is of the most desirable. Governments declare amnesty and provide unilateral cease fire could be one good job. So the armed groups are to come out to start a new non-violent and democratic movement. The following can be a rough architecture towards a solution. 1. A unification of the (principal) Political Armed Oppositions of (North) Eastern India by investing all their

resources, drives and sincerity towards giving birth to a new (Nation) State sharing negotiable configuration with the Republic of India. 2. The other NE states which have low intensity of armed conflict or absence of PAOs will also be invited to. Those have not joined at the inception may be considered in the aftermath. Thus, it will capacitate a desired inclusiveness of the communities of NE and even beyond. [Necessarily all the present seven/eight states may not be part of.] 3. The name of the new state may be called the United Peoples Land of Indo-Myanmar-UPLIM or New Sub-Himalayan Land-NESHILAND or Western Southeast Asia-WESEA. 4. In order to legislate for and govern the UPLIM/NESHILAND/WESEA, and to practice a good socialism, and to deliver fundamental rights of life, liberty, equality and dignity to the peoples of the new State, there will be a Parliament that may be called Peoples House-PH. [The structure and modus operandi of the PH may be considered and derived from the other parliamentary practices of the world.] 5. Currency may be retained with the Republic of India with validating the Euro and US dollar in the region; Communication, Defense, External Affairs, Natural Resources may be negotiated for a concurrent list; and the rest could be better in the realm of the PH affairs. 6. The key members or leaders of the PAOs, and from the other states where PAOs do not exist, political/social leaders will be member-representatives in the Parliament/

PH [whom may be called People Representative-PR] 7. The modality of how and what number of PRs may be determined by considering various bases and will be settled democratically among PAOs in consultation with the NE communities/peoples by considering the optimum economic-political space of ethnic/indigenous minority. [Will Bodo, Karbi, Naga, Kuki, Mestee, etc., have one PR for each of them or will drop down to ancestral tribal communities and clans or will it based on the population ratio?] 8. The first five year tenure of the PRs may be reserved and compensated for the PAOs, afterwards PRs will be elected through universal franchise by their respective peoples/communities or otherwise. 9. The existing State Assemblies will remain, so do the participation of the MILAs in the UPLIM provincial governing activities in two houses setting. However it will be with the reformation of power division and functional sharing and in conjunction with PH structure. [It may minimize the outward dismay and eventual turbulent of the existing political personalities and parties.] 10. A wider candidature in the existing constituent assemblies election will be validated to accommodate the members and leaders of PAOs by migrating their organizations into electoral political parties or joining existing parties or floating new ones. Thus it may extend a meaningful participation to the governing activities for the new (Nation) State.