

## Significant rise in economic activities in the state: CM

DIPR  
Imphal, Oct. 9

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has said that the State has witnessed considerable increase in economic/business activities and rise in number of micro and small enterprises/industries because of improvement in law and order situation in the past few years. He was speaking as the chief guest at the 70<sup>th</sup> Territorial Army Day organised by the State Government at 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Manipur Rifles Banquet Hall today. N. Biren Singh said that the State now has 13,000 registered micro industries, which is the highest in the entire North East. There has been constant rise in economic and business activities as well because of improvement in law and order situation in the past few years, he stated. The Chief Minister also assured that the State Government would extend all



support to security forces/agencies to ensure that the security environment in the State continues to improve so that development momentum in the State is maintained. N. Biren Singh further said that the Territorial Army had unfailingly risen to the challenges whenever it had been called upon to serve the nation. The force continues to provide invaluable support through its commitment,

bravery and sacrifice, he added. N. Biren said that raising of 165<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion (TA) (Home and Hearth) Assam had given direction and opportunity for gainful employment of the youth of the State and their meaningful participation in the development of the State. Since its deployment in the State in 2007, it had become an inseparable part of the

security setup in the State, he added. The Chief Minister also congratulated the unit on becoming the first Territorial Army Unit to get the prestigious unit appreciation from the Eastern Army Commander. He observed that celebrating Territorial Army Day is a proud moment to felicitate the 'Citizens Army'. 165<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion (TA) (Home and Hearth) Assam is

the first and only Territorial Army unit raised purely from the domicile of Manipur. Affiliated to the Assam Regiment, it is the only battalion of the Indian Army with 100 percent domicile of Manipur and hence they truly are 'The Manipur Terriers', he opined.

Deputy Chief Minister Y. Joykumar Singh, who attended the function as president, mentioned about the significant roles played by the Territorial Army in violent prone States like Manipur. He said that Territorial Army help the Army and other security forces in gaining goodwill of local population. They also make security forces aware of any particular State or locality for effective execution of operational tasks, he added. Ministers, MLAs high ranking civil, police, army, paramilitary and Territorial Army officials and personnel and their families also took part at the function.

## NCERT advises schools to play-age appropriate songs during lunch breaks to create positive, joyful environment

Agency  
New Delhi, Oct 9

The NCERT has advised schools to play "age-appropriate" songs when students are being served mid-day meals or during lunch breaks to create a positive and joyful environment. In guidelines issued for "Art Integrated Learning", the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) said, "Research has shown that this (music) leads to better receptivity in children. It also helps in developing a sense of calmness and peace". "While children are proceeding with the lunch or mid-day meals are being served, the schools may utilize this period of time for playing popular age-appropriate songs or music to create a positive and joyful environment," it said. The guidelines have been

formed by a team of educators in association with Jamia Millia Islamia on basis of a year-long study conducted in 34 municipal corporation schools. The council has outlined separate guidelines for teaching of art at pre-primary, primary and upper primary level detailing capacity building, planning of activities, planning time and resources, classroom management and community involvement. Not commenting on a child's artistic capabilities, not comparing children's artwork, assessing the process and not the product and treating art as a tool rather than subject, are among the do's and don'ts NCERT has listed for art teachers in schools. The NCERT has also told schools that art learning should be a "non-threatening" activity where children can perform without the fear of being judged.

### RPF Clarifies

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 9,

A statement by Bangkim, Assistant Secretary, Publicity Proscribed group Revolutionary People's Front (RPF) today clarifies that Khunumayum Indrakumar (32), S/o. Kh. Khemabanto of Andro Maringthen who was arrested by combined team Imphal East District Police Commando and Assam Rifles on October 8, 2019 is not related and nothing to do with the RPF and its army wing People's Liberation Army (PLA).

## REAC calls on Maibam Kabui villagers to call back drive out family

*The family was driven out for accepting different religion*

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 9

Rongmei Christian Advocacy Council (REAC) has strongly condemn the driving out of Zilathang Pamei and his family by villagers of Maibam Kabui Village. Speaking to the media at Manipur Press Club, Chairman of REAC, Angan Pamei said that Zilathang Pamei and all his family members grown up as Christian in Maibam Kabui

village. He added the village were debating over allowing Christian family in the village. On October 7 of this month, villagers of Maibam thronged to the residence of Zilathang Pamei and vandalized the place for worship at his house beside destroying his properties. Angan Pamei said and added that family members were thrashed and beaten by the Maibam villagers. He further added that such kinds of action should not be

done in a democratic country. He appealed the villagers to call back the family of Zilathang Pamei who have been driven out of the village as they are struggling with pains. The family is seeking shelter from one house to another. Angan Pamei also appealed the concerned authority to look at the matter and compensate the properties destroyed by the village. He added that not to repeat such kind of incident in the near future.

### Handicraft Exhibition

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 9

As per the Annual Action plan of 2019-20, Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicraft), Handicraft Service Centre, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India is organising an Exhibition cum Demonstration programme on Handicraft starting from today (09/10/19) till 13<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 at Nupital complex, Imphal. The programme was inaugurated by the Director, Directorate of Handloom & Textiles, Government of Manipur at Lamphelpat at 1:00 PM. Altogether 20 (twenty) National/ National Merit Certificate holder/ State Awardees participated the programme.

## ADC member leads villagers in cleaning road

IT News  
Imphal, Oct 9

10 Km long inter village road which is the shortest route to reach Chakpikarong from Chandel district head quarter, that connect Peru village to Toupokpi village was today clean by villagers and club members of Kanankhu Youth Club led by ADC Member, Ts. Williamson Anal. The road was constructed under PMGSY. The road stretch does not come under the jurisdiction

of ADC Member, Ts. Williamson Anal. However as the road side is filled up with bushes and branches of plants which may lead to accident to the people who are passing daily, the ADC member spear headed a cleanliness drive. Ts. Williamson Anal said that the road has many pot holes which is also a danger sign to the people passing it. He appealed the concerned authority to look at the matter. The social service was also attended by Social Worker Beton Anal.

## Difficult days ahead for Muivah

By: Yambem Laba

The talks between the Government of India and the NSCN (I-M) have now entered the 22nd year and are said to have reached a final point. The Nagas are expected to be given the fruits of the final Naga Accord as a Christmas gift later this year. At the outset it needs to be categorically stated here that the NSCN (I - M) had given up hopes of total sovereignty as early as 1988 and this has not been the result of the protracted talks that have been going on. That this demand was given up in 1988 itself was told to me by the late S. Khaplang when we had met in Thailand in 1997. According to Khaplang this was the main factor behind the split in the NSCN in 1988. He said that Muivah as General Secretary had convened a decisive meeting that year which was not attended by him and that the late Issac Chishi Swu was away in Kachinland at that time. That meeting which had also lacked the requisite quorum was pushed through and the resolution that was adopted was that the armed Naga movement for liberation which was launched by Angami Zapu Phizo who had raised the issue as early as 1947 and finally took to the jungle in the mid 1950s was going to change its ultimate goal. It was defined as "one step down from total sovereignty and one step up from the Suisha Plan". Suisha was a Tangkhul Naga Member of Parliament from Manipur in the second Lok Sabha. He was one of the major ideologues of the movement during the early days. That split in 1988 was a major setback for Muivah. Many

of his followers especially from amongst his Tangkhul tribe were killed and Muivah himself was saved by a timely warning from United National Liberation Front (UNLF) of Manipur. RK Meghen, supremo of the UNLF now in Guwahati Central Jail, told me that he had issued instructions to warn Muivah of the impending death threat to him from Khaplang's followers. And according to Lukhoh, the Vice Chief of Staff of the Manipur People's Army (MPA), barely two minutes had passed after he had warned Muivah and he had escaped through the backdoor when the entire cottage where he was holed up was raked by a fusillade of bullets fired by the Hemi Naga cadres of Khaplang. It however was Muivah's achievement that he had built up the NSCN (I - M) almost from scratch making it the biggest and most organized armed groups in the North Eastern region earning for itself the sobriquet of being the "Mother of all Insurgent groups" in the Northeast. Unofficial talks between the Government of India and the NSCN (I - M) had begun as early as 1994. That was confirmed to me by the late Rajesh Pilot, who was the then Union Minister of State for Internal Affairs, during his visit to Imphal at that time. Prior to that Prime Minister Narasimha Rao had utilized the services of noted Indian journalist Sanjoy Hazarika to offer India's olive branch to Muivah and Company. Sanjoy flew to Bangkok and broke the ice. Formal talks between the two began in 1997. The talks hovered from the Hague to Davos to Bangkok and finally to New Delhi and Nagaland. The NSCN (I - M) hired the services of some of the best possible negotiators, people who had been active

in South Africa and elsewhere where conflicts were present. The devastating NSCN ambushes on the Indian Army ceased but their taxation on trade and commerce in Nagaland and Manipur has continued till date. The dynamics of the Naga underground movement must be understood in the complexities of its composition. At best when we speak of the unique history of the Nagas, it can be said to be akin to that of the native American tribes often referred to as "Red Indians" where the Apaches are as different from the Cheyenne or the Cherokees and the Sioux and the only thread binding them was their hatred for the white settlers. In much the same way, the Angamis are different from the Aos or the Konyaks and for that matter the Tangkhuls of Manipur, the tribe to which Muivah belongs, have more cultural and historical affinity with the Meiteis or the plainsmen of Manipur. And while the Nagas of Nagaland use Nagamese as a means of communication, the Nagas of Manipur use Manipuri or the language of the Meiteis as their lingua franca. So, the dilemma before Muivah who hails from Manipur, was how he would explain his position to the population of the present state of Nagaland in the post - accord period. It was perhaps understanding this problem that he rushed through the process of signing the Framework Agreement in 2015 on which Issac Swu appended his signature from his deathbed. Muivah knew that no settlement with India could be arrived at without Swu's signature on it, the latter being from Nagaland and belonging to the Sema or Sumi tribe. And thus, sans sovereignty, the integration of the Naga

areas of Manipur particularly into Nagaland to form Nagalim becomes almost a sine quo non for Muivah's formal and official acceptability to the Nagas of Nagaland. While the Nagaland State Assembly had at least on three occasions resolved on calling for the merger of the adjoining Naga areas of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur, it was only in 2001 that the NSCN made its first formal attempt to broach the idea using a Trojan horse. They were then able to convince then Deputy Prime Minister LK Advani to extend the areas to be covered by the ongoing Ceasefire between the two sides to all its areas of operation beyond Nagaland by inserting the term "without territorial limits" in its term of reference. While there was muted silence in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, the Meiteis of Manipur smelt a rat and rose up in a manner never witnessed before. There was a complete breakdown of law and order and chaos reigned for three days during which the State Assembly building, the Chief Minister's Office all Ministers' residential buildings were burnt down. Eighteen people lost their lives even as it was rumored that the then Governor had taken refuge in the Army Cantonment in Leimakhong. That day, the 18th of June, is still almost a sacred day amongst Manipurians, who stood for the territorial integrity of the State. Three days later Prime Minister AtalBehari Vajpayee told the media that "a deep misunderstanding seems to have occurred in Manipur". The term "without territorial limits" was dropped from the terms of reference of the ceasefire between the Indian troops and the Naga militants. Muivah was back to square one. (Continued on Page 2)