

Manipur University in dire straits -8

UGC directs Registrar MU to take action over a complaint of anomalies in recruitment process 209 posts

ITNews
Imphal, Feb 13

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has directed the Registrar of the Manipur University to take up appropriate action as per rules based on the complaints received by the UGC on alleged irregularities being committed by the Manipur University authority in the recruitment process of 209 posts of various groups. On May 27, 2019, Deputy Registrar of the Manipur University invited applications through an advertisement for filling of 20 (Twenty) for Group-A post and another 74 for filling of Group B & C posts on the same day. Applications for filling 25

Professors, 51 Associate Professors and 39 Assistant Professors were also invited through advertisement on the same day by the then Registrar-in-Charge David K. Zote. As per a complaint letter addressed to the Secretary & CVO of the UGC, which is being taken with extreme seriousness, and filed by an individual identified as Kunal Shandhilya stated that all the three advertisements for recruitment of various posts in the Manipur University, a Central University, deviated the norms and Recruitment Rules of the Central University/UGC regulations. Except for four posts- Medical Officer, Curator, Public Relations Officer and Hindi Officer upper age limit is not defined in any of the

other, including those for teaching posts. The letter to the UGC Secretary also highlighted how anomalies are salient in the recruitment process of 4 (four) Group A post outside the University jurisdiction. The written test for the post of Information Scientist was held on January 25, 2020, the written test for Assistant Registrar on January 27, 2020, for Programmer on 29 January 2020 and the Screening Test for Public Relation Officer was held on January 28, 2020. As per the Imphal Times source, the test stated by the complainant was held at Catholic School Canchipur, which is located close to the Manipur University. The letter to the UGC Secretary also stated that the question-

papers for the recruitment test for the said posts (Group A) were set by the Manipur University itself. "Normally, for recruitment in any Central University through written test, question papers are set by engaging a third party organization which has experience in setting questions for such recruitment, and further the exams/ tests are conducted by third-party organizational of repute and having experience in conducting such recruitment test", the letter said. It stated that the way the recruitment test was done is a complete violation of the Central University procedures.

CM distributes over Rs. 11 crore to 1300 beneficiaries

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Chief Minister N. Biren Singh also handed over 150 motorised cum pedal operated spinning machines to 60 different Self Help Groups and 30 individual farmers under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) at the function organised by the State Sericulture Department. Speaking at the occasion, N. Biren Singh said that sericulture is suitable to the soil of Manipur and the State can gain dividends through this sector. Maintaining that activities related to handlooms, handicrafts and weaving had always been parts of Manipuri life, the Chief Minister expressed optimism that Manipur could enhance its economy if people focus on sericulture. Stating that the plants which are used as feeds for silkworms attain maturity in three years, the Chief Minister said that

there is no need for extra care if these plants once attain maturity. Vast tracks of fertile land in hill areas are left in waste while some parts are being planted poppies, the Sericulture Department should impart awareness about the benefits of growing these silkworm-food plants in place of poppy in hill areas. The Chief Minister said that the Government is ready to provide assistance for earning livelihood to villagers for three years i.e. till the attainment of maturity of silkworm-food plants. The Chief Minister also suggested the Department to have a monitoring system to keep an eye on the works of beneficiaries. Stating that there are many hard working people in the State, the Chief Minister said that State's economy would flourish only when the rural economy thrives.

BOSEM to make no change in class X examination Scheduled

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Any kind of obstruction like bandh, boycott agitations will make no change to the examination scheduled for High School Leaving Certificate Examination (HSLC) prepared by the Board of Secondary Education (BOSEM), Director of Education (S) Kirankumar today told media persons today afternoon while saying that to maintain full transparency answer scripts of top 10 position holders and other subject toppers will be uploaded in website. "The scanned answer script of 10 position holders and highest scorers in every subject of HSLC examination of 2020 which is scheduled to start from Feb. 17 will be uploaded at BOSEM web portal in public interest", Kirankumar said. He also added that answers keys would also be uploaded on the website of BOSEM

Answer script of top 10 students, subject toppers to be uploaded in website for the first time

after the exam is over. "The ensuing HSLC examination will be conducted on the scheduled date without fail", said Kirankumar. As per submission, a total of 38664 students will be appearing in the HSLC examination at 140 centers this year. Out of the total students, 19040 are male and 19624 are female. Only 1 disabled candidate is appearing the board examination this time, the director of Education (S) said while briefing the media at BOSEM office. He further said that there

would be some changes in the evaluation as well as the format of the scripts from the previous examination. This time answers scripts are changed from landscape to portrait format and margins are drawn. Watermarks of respective subjects are embossed on science and social science answer scripts, he added. The Director also appealed to students, teachers, and parents not to indulge in unfair means during the exam. He further appealed to all organizations not to call any bandh, blockade, etc. during the examinations.

MNS's new flag runs into rough weather

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Feb. 13

The Maharashtra state election commission (SEC) has sought clarification from the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) about the use of the seal (Rajmudra) of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj on its new flag.

The notice has been issued by SEC Secretary Kiran Kurundkar on 5 February, 2020 seeking clarification from MNS about its new flag. MNS's new saffron-coloured flag bearing the octagonal 'Rajmudra' (royal seal) of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at its centre, was unveiled by MNS chief Raj Thackeray at

recent party convention in Mumbai. Whereas the party's earlier flag had stripes of saffron, blue and green colour. The state election commission has sent the notice to MNS, in response to a complaints made by the "Sambhaji Brigade", "JaiHo Foundation", "Akhil Bharatiya Maratha Mahasangh", R. R. Patil Foundation and other organisations.

Reacting to the charge, MNS leader Shirish Sawant claimed that the party is yet to receive any notice from the state election commission. Besides, the topic of party flag does not fall in the jurisdiction of the election commission. (contd. on page 2)

Teachers organised sit in protest at Chandel district headquarters

ITNews
Chandel Feb. 13

As a part of the agitation being underway by the Council of Teachers' Association (COTA), Chandel District Teachers Association staged a

sit in protest at Maha Union Govt Higher Secondary school. The COTA has been demanding rectification of the Manipur Services Revised Pay Rules-2019 (7th Pay) The protest was joined by

Higher secondary Lecturers, Graduate teachers, Primary teachers, RMSA and SSA teachers from Chandel and Tengnoupal district. Playcards with slogans "Rectify ROP-2019 to stop

agitation", 'Abolish AGP Adopt GP system', 'Teachers mould Future Generation amang' 'Don't Discriminate Teachers Through ROP-2019 etc. were displayed during the protest.

Chief Minister says Rs. 260-crore proposal for irrigation submitted

ITNews
Imphal, Feb 13,

Chief Minister N. Biren Singh has said that the State Government had submitted a Rs. 260-crore proposal to the Centre for the construction of ground water pumping sites for irrigation purposes at different parts of the State. He was speaking at the Anganpou Humba (Sowing of First Crop Paddy) programme organised by Arapti Urup Farmers' Association under the supervision of Keirao AC MLA L. Rameshwar at Arapti Mayai Leikai Tanakha Pat in Imphal East District today.

Spreading the idea of making Manipur a self-reliant State in food grains production, the Chief Minister along with MLAs Shri L. Rameshwar and Shri Md. Abdul Nasir sowed the first handful of paddy seeds to mark the beginning of farming first crop paddy for this year. Farming of RCM-12 rice variety would be done in around 20 hectares of Urup and Arapti while wheat would be grown in around 10

hectares. Speaking at the occasion, the Chief Minister said that the State can save a huge amount of money giving a boost to the economy if Manipur can reduce import of food grains and other essential items from other States. Shri N. Biren Singh also mentioned that there is need to encourage using of items produced in the State so that money is not drained out.

Stating that proper irrigation is necessary to enhance agriculture and horticulture produces, the Chief Minister said that a Rs. 260-crore proposal had been submitted to the Centre for construction of ground water pumping sites. He also said that around new 250 check dams would be constructed and RLI schemes located at different parts of the State would be made fully functional.

Bhutangkhal bazaar of Jiribam District burnt to ashes



IT Correspondent
Jiribam, Feb. 13

A major fire broke out at Bhutangkhall bazaar which lies at Jiri- Tipaimukh (JT) road around 20 kms towards the southern side of Jiribam District headquarter. The fire burnt down thirteen shops and belongings at bazaar. As per locals report, the incident occurred at around 5 AM of today morning. The cause of fire is still uncertain. Local people tried to douse the fire but it was vain, as fire engulfed thirteen shops. The fire tender from Jiribam Fire Station reached at the spot but due to worse condition of JT

road, it couldn't reached the place in time, prior to reach the fire tender the shops burnt into ashes. The burnt shops are- Grocery shops, tea stall, pan shops, cloth store, cycle work shop, pharmacy, mobile repairing

shop and other accessories shop were included in it. One cruiser vehicle and auto rickshaw which were parked nearby the shops were also burnt down. Around 15- 20 lakhs worth of properties damaged in the fire.

2 day prog. on Nature for Civil Societies concludes

ITNews
Thoubal, Feb. 13

Two day programme on "Nature for Civil Societies" organised by Forest Department Thoubal under the aegis of the Nature Learning Centre, National Mission on Himalayan Studies (NMHS), Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Govt. of India concluded today. On the concluding day, three team under the leadership of Debala Laiphrakpam, Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) Thoubal paid inspection visit to Kharungpat, Ikoppat and Waihoupat and took stock of the condition of the lakes.