

8 years old minor rape: Locals angry to the inaction of the police

IT News
Imphal, Jan. 11

Wrath over inaction of the police in arresting an alleged rapist of a minor girl, locals of Borayangi Thoubal Leikai stormed to the residence of the alleged rapist of the same locality and demanded immediate arrest of the alleged rapist and punish him as per the law of the land. The large number of people with torch on their hand, however committed no vandalism to the house of the alleged rapist identified as Abdul Keiyum who has been absconding along with his mother after committing the crime. The alleged rapist Abdul Keiyum, is a married person and he allegedly raped a 8 years old minor girl on the evening of January 9 by taking her inside his

house.

A team of police from Kumbi Police Station rushed the site and console the large number of people. Protestors said that they did not gathered to commit any mob action however, people of the locality came out by themselves with torch on their hand demanding arrest of the rapist and punish him as per the law of the land as police fails to arrest them. "We gathered yesterday evening as we are not happy with the silence of the police, we were there with no intention of rendering any mob violence", a local of Borayangi said while demanding immediate arrest of the alleged rapist.

Bomb blasts at residential area

IT News
Imphal, Jan 11

Unknown miscreants blasted a bomb at the residence of Nangbam Robert at his residence at Chingamathak at around 10.30 pm yesterday. No one was injured in the blast but wind shield of a car park inside the residential complex has been reported destroyed due to the impact of the blast. As of now police a clueless of the miscreants and their motive of attacking the residence. Condemning the blast large number of people today staged a sit-in protest at Singamei Chingamathak. The protestors condemn blast at residential area and appealed all those responsible not to repeat such barbaric act in the future.

CAA came into force, but non-BJP states may not implement it

IT Desk
Imphal, Jan 11

Even as the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) came into force from January 10, 2020 across the country, there still lingers apprehension of its implementation in the Non BJP ruled state like Madhya Pradesh and Kerala among others. As for the state of Kerala, the state legislative Assembly had adopted resolutions not to implement the CAA and NRC. However, the CAA has been passed by both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha and state government are obliged to implement it. "Though the notification has been issued but it is yet to be seen what the Supreme Court has to say. The discussions

are still pending in the Supreme Court," said Madhya Pradesh Law Minister PC Sharma talking to media persons. PC Sharma said, "Madhya Pradesh government's stand on Citizenship Amendment Act is clear from day one. The chief minister of Madhya Pradesh has already confirmed the stand of the government. When on March 25 there was a march carried out, he put forth his views." Meanwhile, former chief minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that there exists MP government's obligation to implement the Citizenship Amendment Act in Madhya Pradesh.

Talking to reporters in Bhopal, Shivraj Singh Chauhan said,

"As far as the CAA is concerned, it has been passed by both the Houses of the Parliament. Chief minister has taken this oath that he will have true devotion to the Constitution. This is the central law which is the moral responsibility and compulsion of the government to implement."

In a gazette notification, the Union home ministry said the Act under which non-Muslim refugees from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan will be given Indian citizenship, will come into force from January 10.

The CAA was passed by the Parliament on December 11, 2019.

Bangladesh Data Journalists' Network names Siam as President



IT Correspondent,
Dhaka, Jan 11

A 7 member new executive committee of the Bangladesh Data Journalists' Network

(BDJN) was formed at Kawran Bazar in the capital on Friday. Siam Sarower Jamil of RTV, and Riaz Hossain of Desh Rupantor, were elected as president and general secretary respectively. The other office-bearers are: Vice-president Ahmmed Sharjin Sharif of Dhaka Tribune, Shamim Ahmed of Jai Jai Din, Joint-general secretary Faisal Hasan Soumin of Baisakhi TV, treasurer Tanvir Hasan of the Manabkhantha, publicity and publication secretary Sabir Islam of Purboposhchim, office secretary Khairul Hasan of Bigyan Path, a press release said

Union Power Minister releases State Energy Efficiency Index 2019

IT News
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Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, Raj Kumar Singh released the 'State Energy Efficiency Index 2019', which tracks the progress of Energy Efficiency (EE) initiatives in 36 states and union territories based on 97 significant indicators on Friday. The index was released on the occasion of RPM (Review, Planning and Monitoring) meeting, which is being held on 09-10 Jan 2020 at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra, New Delhi. The index is developed by Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) in association with Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE). It will help states contribute towards national goals on energy security and climate action by helping drive EE policies and program implementation at the state and local level, tracking progress in managing the

states' and India's energy footprint and institutionalising the data capture and monitoring of EE activities by states. The first such Index, the "State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index 2018", was launched on August 1, 2018. Taking forward the State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index 2018, the State Energy Efficiency Index 2019 incorporates qualitative, quantitative and outcome-based indicators to assess energy efficiency initiatives, programs and outcomes in five distinct sectors – buildings, industry, municipalities, transport, agriculture, and DISCOMs. New indicators for this year include adoption of Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC) 2017, energy efficiency in MSME clusters, etc.

The required data was collected from the concerned state departments such as DISCOMs, Urban Development departments and other departments with

the help of State Designated Agencies (SDAs). This year, a total of 36 states and union territories have been assessed based on their efforts and achievements in policy and regulation, financing mechanisms, institutional capacity, adoption of energy efficiency measures and energy savings achieved.

For rational comparison, States/UTs are grouped into four groups based on aggregated Total Primary Energy Supply (TPES) required to meet the state's actual energy demand (electricity, coal, oil, gas, etc.) across sectors. TPES grouping shall help states compare performance and share best practices within their peer group. Under four categories based on TPES, Haryana, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Puducherry and Chandigarh have been evaluated as progressive states/UTs in the State Energy Efficiency Index 2019.

MNSU General Conference underway

IT News
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The 55th General Conference of the Sirti Thimjittam Sourkhe (Monsang Naga Students' Union, MNSU) is underway on the theme "Our Heritage for Posterity" at Liwa Sarei Village Chandel district. MLA Awangbow Newmai, NPF Manipur State Unit President attended the inaugural session of the general conference as the chief guest which begins yesterday. The conference will conclude tomorrow.

2nd Day of the conference

graced by President of Naga Students Federation (NSF) Ninoto Awoni, President of Sirti Upa Ruh (Monsang Tribe Union) Ng Gilbert as Guest of Honour and Function President respectively while Rev. Dominic Lumon Monsang DD Archbishop of Imphal, Mission Secretary of MBC Rev. Alani Shongis, Executive Secretary of MNBCA Rev. W. Moses Monsang and President of Manipur Catholic Women Organisation (MCWO) Sanuw Ts. Shelvi Monsang as Special Guests respectively.

During the program, Presentation of cultural dances, choreography and songs Chief Guest Awangbow Newmai released a Souvenir of 55th General Conference of the Sirti Thimjittam Sourkhe (Monsang Naga Students' Union). Presidents of ANSAM, ATSUM, NSUC, SDSA, ZSUM, KSU (Khoibu), CANA (Chotho), TKS (Tangkul), LKK (Lamkang), TTBR (Aimol), TTR (Tarao), ASU (Aimol) and other student leaders, Village Chiefs, Pastors also attended the programme.

Cluster Demonstration on Organic Farming conducted

IT News
Chandel, Jan 11

One day Awareness Programme of Cluster Demonstration on Organic Farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) was conducted today at Bolok Village, Chakpikarong Block in Chandel District. The Programme was organised by KVK Chandel. PKVY is an extended component of Soil Health Management (SHM) under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS),

National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA). PKVY aims at supporting and promoting organic farming, in turn resulting in improvement of soil health. The programme was launched and initiated to promote organic farming through cluster approach. The objective is to produce agricultural products free from chemicals and pesticides residues by adopting eco-friendly, low-cost technologies. The gathering was briefed on the

programmes and activities to be undertaken under PKVY. Training on "Importance of Organic Farming and its practices" and "Own Saved Seed Production for Organic Farming" was also conducted by Dr. Kl. Levis Chongloi, SMS (Agronomy) and Ts. Leenda Monsang, SMS (Plant Breeding) respectively. Later, field visit and group discussion was organised along with the farmers. The programme was attended by Bd. Monishing, Chief of Bolok Village and 52 farmers.

Natural gas pipeline grid for North East

By - Raju Vernekar

The Central Government has decided to set up the 1,656-km North-East Natural Gas Pipeline Grid at a cost of Rs.9,265 crore to connect Guwahati (Assam) to major cities in the North East region to enable the supply of piped cooking gas (PNG) to households and CNG to automobiles, besides fuel to industry to boost industrial growth in the region. The grid would connect Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The cities to be connected to the grid include Itanagar, Dimapur, Kohima, Imphal, Aizawl, Agartala, Shillong, Silchar, Gangtok, and Numaligarh.

The main source of the natural gas for distribution in the entire northeast would be through the 750 km long pipeline, being constructed by Gas Authority of India Limited (GAIL) to bring natural gas from Barauni to Guwahati, as part of the Rs.12,940 crore Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-

Dhamra Pipeline (JHBDPL) project (also known as the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project). This pipeline will be connected to the North-East via the Indradhanush grid. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the project on 9 February, 2019 during his visit to Assam. The project is expected to be completed in 5 years and it is considered as a significant step towards achieving the central government's "Hydrocarbon Vision 2030" for the North-East. The depots will be constructed in all the states where the natural gas is proposed to be distributed, after which connections in households will be done. The work distribution in households will be undertaken by a separate company after the groundwork for the natural gas pipeline is completed by "Indradhanush Gas Grid Ltd" (IGGL). The process of land acquisition process for the project has begun under the Petroleum & Mineral Pipelines Act, 1962.



The project will be implemented by the IGGL, a joint venture company of Indian Oil Corporation, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, GAIL, Oil India and Numaligarh Refinery Ltd. The joint venture was incorporated in August 2018 to develop and operate a natural gas pipeline grid

in the North-East.

Since in absence of anchor customers, the Rs.9,265 crore project was not economically viable, the Government approved "Viability Gap Funding" (VGF) worth Rs 5559 crore to set up the grid. The VGF would be capped at 60 per cent of the

estimated cost of the project and would not be linked with upward capital cost variation.

This is for the second time the pipeline project is being funded by the Government. In 2016, the government had provided a capital grant of Rs.5,176 crore (40% of the project cost) to the 2,655-km JHBDPL gas pipeline project, which being executed by GAIL. All other pipelines in the country have been funded by public or private sector companies.

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs gave its approval to the project on January 8, 2020. The funding support to the gas grid is a part of a broader goal of the government to raise the share of natural gas in the country's energy mix to 15% by 2030 from current 6.2%.

"About 20% of India's natural gas production comes from the North-East. That is out of about 75 million standard cubic meters per day of gas output, 15 Million Metric

Standard Cubic Meter per Day (MMSCMD) comes from North East. At present Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura have established gas production potential while there are possibilities for the same in Nagaland and Manipur. The government has envisaged developing the National Gas Grid. At present, about 16,788 km natural gas pipeline is operational and about 14,239 km gas pipelines are being developed to increase the availability of natural gas across the country.

The Government aims to bring in a gas-based economy and has been taking steps to enhance domestic gas production and enable expeditious development of gas infrastructure including pipelines, city gas distribution networks and re-gasified liquefied natural gas terminals and development of a gas market by giving access to gas infrastructure.