



Message from climate activist Luchipiyari Kangujam

ILP gazette is not for protection of Indigenous people – MLA Joykishan

IT News
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Congress MLA Khumukcham Joykishan today term the ILP gazette published by the government of Manipur as a tool to allow any outsiders in the state rather than protecting the indigenous people of the state.

Talking to reporters today morning at his Khuyathong residence, MLA Joykishan said that there is no provision to protect the indigenous people in the Inner Line Permit being introduced in the state. The regulation is more like a bamboo chief fencing to protect deadly flood, which people expressed their happiness with the perception that water will not flood inside my house. The ILP is to permit outsiders to stay freely in the state. The guideline contents nothing that the people of the state wanted and as mentioned in the Manipur Peoples' (Protection) Bill. In the word of BJP that said they demanded Buffalo and get Elephant. However, this elephant turns out to be another transport of the outsiders for entering the state, he added.

"There is no clause which



explains which para military force or which central government employee who can enter the state. If it is any central government employee or any para military force their family can enter the state nothing like serving or posted in the state of Manipur has been mentioned. The number of active army in India is 1.4 million, number of reserved force is 11.55 million and the number of Para military force is above 20 lakhs. This means that any of them will not need ILP in entering the state", MLA Joykishan said. He added that the guideline should identify Indigenous people and also the permanent residence which is not reflected in the guideline.

"As they said since the day of inception, are they going to take the base year as December 31? What about

those outsiders staying at rent or other places who had been in the state before the commencement of the act? Will they come under the purview of the regulation or not. Confusion has been created", Joykishan said. The MLA challenge for a debate over the issue and urged the Chief Minister to arrange a platform within 4 pm tomorrow and said that he will prove that there is nothing to protect the indigenous people in the ILP guidelines being enforced in the state. It is nothing but fooling the people.

"Earlier we have urged the government to meaningfully implement the ILP granted by the Government of India. This government on fear that they would not be able to fool the people in the presence of the opposition, refused to summon

assembly session. The matter could have been discussed during the last assembly session which ended on December 20", Joykishan said.

He however said that the introduction of ILP seems to be another plan to generate revenue as they are collecting some fees from the outsiders who entered the state and not for the protection of the indigenous people of the country.

Some people opined that there should not be base year in the ILP but ILP should have a base year. The Permanent residence mentioned in the guideline should be described on the base year. Those neighbouring states where ILP is being enforced have base year to define the Indigenous people.

Regarding NRC, Joykishan said that it is about the illegal immigrant; however ILP is for the people of the country. How can the base year be taken in NRC when it is all about illegal immigrant, Joykishan asked.

The Congress MLA further alleged the government of Manipur to have violated the law of the state by issuing ILP to Union Minister Ram Madhav before there is state gazette.

ILP officially implemented in Manipur; 163 took ILP pass on the first day

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Inner Line Permit under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation 1873, implemented in the state by an order of the President of India December 11, 2019 has been officially enforced in the state of Manipur from January 1, 2020.

A tweet by Chief Minister N. Biren Singh said that a total of 163 outsiders had applied for ILP and issued pass for entering the state after verification at various check post established at Mao, Moreh, Jiribam and Airport.

"Yesterday i.e 01/01/2020 total visitors of outsider in the state who took ILP

passes are as given below: Break up are- Airport – 63, Mao – 62, Moreh - 05, Jiribam - 33, (Appl collected 330). Thanks to all the police personal and officials for caring the state and the visitors. Needs of the hour is to perform our duties with conviction and dedication for our country and state", The Chief Minister writes.

Forest Minister Shyamkumar clarifies on ISFR 2019

DIPR
Imphal, Jan 2,

Forest and Environment Minister Shri Thounaojam Shyamkumar today clarified on the reported loss of 499 sq km forest cover of the State as per report published in the biennial Indian State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2019. The report was released by the Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar in New Delhi on December 30, 2019.

Addressing to the media persons at his official residential quarter at Kanglapat, Minister Shyamkumar said that the data interpretation period for Manipur in the biennial ISFR 2019 is from October 2017 to February 2018 but the status indicated in the report mainly belongs to the survey conducted in the period 2016-17.

He said that out of the total area lost, 491 sq km is in hill districts of Churachandpur, Tamenglong, Senapati, Chandel and Ukhrul. Maximum loss of forest cover is in Churachandpur with 250 sq km. He informed that Churachandpur and Tamenglong are extremely fire prone areas and the tree cover of Manipur outside forest land has reduced by 47 sq km, he added.

He said diversions of large areas under forest cover by Railways, construction of

highways, roads and particularly Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) roads in hill districts have also contributed in loss of forest covers in the recent years. He said that hum cultivation in hill districts with shortened cycles regularly contributes in loss of forest areas. He further said that in the 14th Finance Commission, no funds were provided to the Forest Department for implementation of prescription of the Working Plans and raising infrastructure.

Forest Minister Shyamkumar said that Forest Department has been giving awareness regarding the unclassified forest areas for converting them into Community Reserves as per Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 for better protection and

management. He said efforts are being made to apply Working Plan prescriptions through community involvement apart from regular destructions of poppy cultivation areas with NAB and Police and reclaim the same areas under forest cover through plantations of local plant species. He said to reduce the extraction of firewood, the department on a pilot basis linked the forestry schemes with PM's Ujjwala Yojana for distribution of LPG connections.

He said that the department has developed online portal to prevent of smuggling of timber/forest produce and use of fake transit passes. He said that improved coordination among Forest Department, Assam Rifles and Police Department has resulted in increase of seizure and confiscation of illegal forest produces.

In the valley districts, he said that about 8 sq km is lost which could be attributed to rampant encroachment and illegal earth cutting in Imphal and Thoubal districts. He said there is a need for collaboration between Forest and Revenue Department to check whether there is any irregular and rampant land deeds (pattas) issued to the public in reserved forest areas which is a violation of laws. He said that the rampant felling for poppy cultivation by the anti-social elements in hill districts has contributed tremendously to forest cover loss.

IRDSO and IRE observes foundation day

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Integrated Rural Development Service Organisation (IRDSO) and Institute of Rural Education (IRE), Wangjing today observed 33 and 36 foundation day at the office complex of IRDSO at Wangjing in Thoubal district yesterday.

Convenor of the WinG (Women in Governance) Manipur Nonibala Narengbam who is also the Chief Functionary of IRDSO while speaking on the occasion said that the year 2019 witness various women and Children related issues. In Thoubal district alone 67 cases related to women and children, Nonibala said and added that economically backward children who are gifted with various skills are being provided monetary assistant by IRDO.

Nonibala further said that all girl should get compulsory education. No matter how rich are they with education useless? The IRDO will provide monetary support to girl child who cannot bear the cost of education.

NEFIS demands immediate release of FCI labourers

IT News
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North East Forum for International Solidarity (NEFIS) expressed strong condemnation to the arrest of workers of FCI and demanded their immediate release.

Over 30 FCI workers who had been agitating against the exploitative practices in FCI by the private contractor had been arrested in early December. They have still not been released and their families have been left without any financial source, due to their arrest.

In order to highlight the

unjustness of the situation, the wives of the workers had demonstrated in front of FCI building and thrown their utensils in protest. The protesting wives had said that their families had been struggling to make ends meet following the arrest of the workers. They also said that since there was no money to buy their daily needs, it was better to handover their cooking vessels instead of keeping them empty. Moreover, few days back even the children of the workers had handed over their books and bags to the Education Directorate and

had appealed to the authorities to get their fathers released since their arrest was affecting their studies and their families faced a bleak future due to loss of the sole breadwinner.

NEFIS showed solidarity with the FCI workers and their families and demanded that all the workers fired from their jobs should be reinstated. It also demands that action should be taken against the exploitative contractor and his contract should be cancelled. NEFIS said they had pledged to support the workers' and their families' struggle in the coming days.

95 per cent hike in "Airtel's base plan; Separate recharge plan for NE



By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Jan 2

"Airtel" has gone in for a 95 per cent hike in its base plan by discontinuing earlier base recharge plan of Rs.23 for pre-paid users in all circles and has replaced it by a Rs. 45 pre-paid plan.

The new price has gone live in all circles with "Airtel" informing subscribers

through a public notice. The Rs.45 pre-paid recharge will offer the same benefits as the Rs.23 pre-paid plan. The public notice states that the new Rs.45 Airtel smart recharge will offer local and STD voice calling at 2.5 paise per second, 5 paise per second for national video calls, and 50 paise per MB for data.

SMS tariff is at Rs.1 per SMS for local, Rs. 1.5 per SMS for national and Rs.5 per SMS for international messages. The validity of the new Rs.45 plan is 28 days. These are the same benefits as the Rs.23 pre-paid recharge plan that has now been discontinued.

The notice reads, "This notice is for pre-paid subscribers of "Bharti Airtel Limited" and "Bharti Hexacom Limited"

("Airtel") in all service areas. The existing SUK base plan is being discontinued with effect from 29 December 2019.

Further, it will be mandatory to recharge with a voucher of Rs.45 or above, every 28 days to avail services. In case of non-recharge with a voucher of Rs. 45 of above, all services will be suspended post the grace period of 15 days. After the completion of the grace period, if the subscriber fails to do a Rs.45 recharge, then the services will be suspended.

"Bharti Airtel" has also launched its 4G services in the remote Hayuliag, Anjaw district in Arunachal Pradesh, which is expected to allow customers in 100 villages across the Hayuliag region

to access 4G and HD quality (voice over LTE) (VoLTE). There will be no additional data charges for VoLTE and calls will be billed as per existing plan or pack benefits. While it has already launched platinum 3 G network in AP, Dimapur, Aizawl and Agartla, "Airtel" is also planning to roll out 6000 mobile sites, 3000 km optic fibre in North East including Assam, 4 G SIMS in Assam, 2 G/3G services in Arunachal Pradesh.

"Airtel" has announced separate Recharge plan for the North East with price ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 2249. There are 408 plans across 19 pack types. Among 1 GB Per Day Plans, 1.4 GB/Day Combo 3G Data Pack is the cheapest plan priced at Rs. 149 with a validity

of 20 days. Among 2 GB plus Per Day Plans, 2 GB / Day Combo 3G / 4G Data Pack is the cheapest plan, priced at Rs. 249 with a validity of 28 days. Other offers for the North East: Among 28 Day Validity Plans, Easy Recharge has been priced at Rs. 8 with a validity of 28 days. Among 2G Data, Combo Top up 37 Promo Talktime is the cheapest priced at Rs. 52 with a validity of N.A..

Recharge plans in nutshell: 3G Data(40 MB 3G / 4G Data Pack)-Rs. 7- validity-one day, 4G Data(40 MB 3G / 4G Data Pack)-Rs. 7- validity-one day, 84 Day Validity Plans (Easy Recharge 32(Roaming)-Rs. 32- validity-81 days, SMS, Easy Recharge 2 (SMS)-Rs. 2- validity-7 days, STD Rate Cutter, Easy Recharge 17 (STD)-Rs. 17- validity-27 days. Among Top Up, Topup-Rs. 7.47 Talktime is the cheapest plan, priced at Rs. 10 with a validity of Lifetime.

Pack)-Rs. 7- validity one day. Full Talktime, (Rs. 220 Full Talktime Pack), Rs. 220- validity of lifetime, ISD Rate Cutter (ISD Pack 36), Rs. 36- validity-27 days, Local Calls Rate Cutter(Easy Recharge 27)-Rs. 27- validity-3 days. Prepaid Plans(Full Talktime Pack)-Rs. 220- validity of lifetime.

Other recharge offers: Easy Recharge plan-Rs. 8- validity 28 days, Easy Recharge 32 (Roaming)-Rs. 32- validity-81 days, SMS, Easy Recharge 2 (SMS)-Rs. 2- validity-7 days, STD Rate Cutter, Easy Recharge 17 (STD)-Rs. 17- validity-27 days. Among Top Up, Topup-Rs. 7.47 Talktime is the cheapest plan, priced at Rs. 10 with a validity of Lifetime.