

Budget Session of 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly begins

IT News
Imphal, Feb 14

The Budget Session of the 11th Manipur Legislative Assembly began today with an address by the state Governor Dr Najma Heptulla. Addressing the House, the Governor said that her government is deeply committed to protecting the interest of the indigenous people of the State. She termed the implementation of the long-

standing demand of the people - the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system as a "landmark" decision. She said for the ILP, which was implemented from January 1 this year, the government is launching online portal for issuing ILP for the larger benefit of the people. Acknowledging the improvement in the security environment of the State, Dr Heptulla said that "With signing of Memorandum of Understanding with various

Insurgent Groups, over 644 cadres have joined the mainstream". In her around one hour twenty minutes long speech, the Governor has highlighted various achievements of her government. Chief Minister N Biren Singh, who also holds the finance portfolio will present the state's budget for 2020-21 fiscal year today. The 15-day long Budget session will continue till the 28th of this month and will have eleven sittings.

Rights body comes up for street vendors' Right

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Youth's Forum for Protection of Human Rights (YFPHR), while showing serious concerns to the rights of the street vendors here in Imphal says that the ongoing issues has now become a threat to the livelihood of the street vendors. A statement of the YFPHR said that a communication letter has been submitted to the Chief Minister of Manipur drawing his attention to the problem being faced by the street vendors. The Right body stated that Since

January 15, 2020, the street vendors of Khwairamban Keithel are not allowed to sell any products for the last 29 days till the submission of this letter which has now become a threat to their livelihood. As per the statement that has brought to the notice of the Chief Minister, the YFPHR said that there are more than 2000 women Street Vendors earning their daily basic livelihood for their survival and to meet the daily needs of their family and children. The street vendors earn minimum of Rs. 200/- and Rs. 400 - Rs. 500/- at the maximum which is once in a blue moon. Since not

Restriction on Street Vendors is violation of Article 21, "Right to Live and Personal Liberty" - YFPHR

allowing the vending by the Government they are facing the hardship to meet their daily basic needs. The YFPHR also stated that they have learned that a sum of Rs. 1,300/- to Rs. 2,000/- are now being collected from these suffering women in the name of issuing Street Vendor's ID Card by some women among the street vendors being an agent of an unknown person assuring the

same which is in need to be identified at the earliest. This was not the ultimate issue, earlier too a sum of Rs. 250/- to Rs. 500/- were informed to have been collected to obtain a street vendor card and nothing such happened till date, it added. *The Rights body requested the Chief Minister to allow the Street Vending at the earliest to avoid violations of one's livelihood by providing compensation for the entire period until allowing the Street vending and also urged to direct the Police department to investigate on the collection of cash from the street vendors in the name of issuing Street Vendor's ID Card.* The Right body also urged the Chief Minister to formulate proper Street Vendor Policy.

Ruling legislatures sit together for breakfast before session

IT News
Imphal, Feb 14

Should we term it as the wisdom of Chief Minister N. Biren Singh or should it be the bridging of misunderstanding between the ruling MLAs, for the first time ruling MLAs along with all the Ministers together had breakfast before the commencement of the budget session which began today. May be such gathering would have happened many times in the nearly three years old N. Biren Singh government, but this is the first time that a photo of all the ruling legislatures sit together enjoying breakfast before the commencement of the budget session.



UPF's Mega Marathon on February 16

IT News
Imphal, Feb 14

Mega Marathon Manipur 2020 an annual event organised by United Peoples' Front with the theme "Run for Nation" in collaboration with Athletic Association of Manipur since 2007, will be held on February 16, 2020. The 13th edition of the Marathon which was scheduled to be held on

November 3 was postponed due to the restive nature of the State, said by Organising Committee Convenor N. Rupachandra United Peoples' Front (UPF). He expressed regrets to all athletes, media fraternity, technical and medical staff, clubs, bodies and organisations along the route of the run and some route are change from Khongnang karak to Nagamapal Traffic point, the new route is from

khongnang karak to 2nd MR road and then Kangla pat and then to Nagamapal. Media committee Chairman M.Takunkumar distributed tracksuit to the media committee members of the Mega Marathon Manipur 2020.

Police serve notices to vendors supplying food, water to anti-CAA protestors

By Raju Vernekar
Mumbai, Feb. 14

The police who have managed to bring down the number of anti-CAA protestors by nearly 40 per cent at "Mumbai baug" in South Mumbai by booking over 300 protestors, has now began serving notices to vendors warning them that they would be held equally responsible if something goes wrong at Mumbai Bagh. The notices have been served under section 149 Cr PC to those distributing and delivering food, including bananas, and water to the anti-CAA protestors. The police on Thursday served notices to several people under the CrPC. A local fruit seller, Ayaz Shaikh, said that he was served notice under Section 149 for selling bananas to one of the visitors, who wanted to distribute them among protestors. Shaikh fears he may face police action after the protest over. Section 149 states that "Police to prevent cognizable offences. Every police officer may interpose for the purpose of preventing, and shall, to the best of his ability, prevent, the commission of any cognizable offence".

By now most of the vendors who had been distributing food and water to the Mumbai Bagh demonstrators have stopped coming fearing police crackdown. The police are not only serving notices to the protestors and the vendors, but also to those who have been extending their support to the Mumbai Bagh women. Notices are being given randomly to those who came there to express solidarity with the protestors, advocate Sundeeb Narwani, claimed. It may be recalled that some Muslim women began agitation from the night of Republic Day at Morland Road in Nagpada in South Mumbai and continued it without police permission and despite police suggesting them alternate site to stage agitation. The agitation is being staged on the lines of agitation in Shaheen Baug in Delhi. Many "secular" minded and "left-oriented" people have visited Mumbai baug to express solidarity. The protestors had a meeting with Maharashtra Home Minister Anil Deshmukh on Monday after which they agreed to withdraw the agitation. However some of the women came back to the venue saying that the issue was not confined only to Maharashtra, but was applicable to whole of India, the agitation cannot be withdrawn. Besides the Maharashtra Government had not agreed to pass any resolution in the state legislature against CAA/NRC.

JFA demands measures to ensure safety of women

IT News
Guwahati, Feb 14

Journalists' Forum Assam (JFA) expresses serious concern over an incident of eve-teasing to a senior lady journalist at a place adjacent to Guwahati Press Club in Ambari locality of the city and demanded necessary action plan to ensure safety and security of every woman in the society. Mentionable is that the senior lady scribe faced the humiliation on the evening of February 10, 2020 as she was returning from a function at Ravindra Bhawan. A group of people inside a parked vehicle in the locality passed obscene comments targeting her which she responded in a courageous manner.

As she tried to reach them and take a photograph of the number plate of the vehicle, they fled from the scene. However one of their friends was not inside the vehicle and was seen running to catch the vehicle. The lady scribe asked him about the people inside the vehicle and he answered accordingly. "We are really shocked that those people inside the vehicle dared to verbally humiliate a lady journalist. It shows their audacity to target women anywhere anytime as they perhaps start believing that nobody can punish them. The concerned authority should adopt necessary measures to ensure safety and security of each woman in public places," said a JFA statement.

Okram Joy threatens to throng at assembly if house fails to recognise Sanamahi as minority religion

IT News
Imphal, Feb 14

Supporting the demand of an indigenous people's group called *Yelhou Mee Thoupei*, veteran politician and former MLA Okram Joy Singh today said that he is ready to lead the organisation in spearheading the agitation demanding for a government resolution to announce "Sanamahi" religion

as minority religion in the ongoing state assembly session. "I will throng with the Yelhou Mee Thoupei to the Manipur legislative assembly if the issue of Sanamahi religion is not discuss and announce as a minority religion in the ongoing budget session", the seasoned politician O Joy while speaking to media persons at Manipur Press Club

today. He said that the address of the Governor of a state is the statement of the government and hope that the Sanamahi religion is included in her speech. He further urged the Government to announce Sanamahi religion, which is one of the oldest religions in the South East Asian countries to officially recognise as minority religion before the 2021 census.

Manipur Governor meets NCC NER contingent that wins republic day 2020 competitions at Delhi

IT News
Imphal, Feb 14

Manipur Governor Dr. Najma Heptulla, met the NCC cadets of Manipur who were part of NER contingent for RDC 2020 and congratulated them for their outstanding performance in winning RDC 2020 competitions.

While meeting them at Raj Bhawan, the Governor was briefed on these competitions and that the NER contingent had won six of these competitions, namely Flag Area, Guard of Honour, Republic Day Parade, National Integration Awareness Presentation, Discipline and March Past in Hon'ble Prime Minister's Rally.



The nine cadets who have done Manipur proud are Sgt Avavei Veikho of DM College of Arts, SUO Purnima Singh of Kha Manipur College, Cpl Nandita Wahengbam of

Liberal College, Sgt Yaikhom Nira Chanu, Cdt Y Sachin Singh, Sgt Themchui Keishing and Cdt Mayarchung Chithung all of DM College of Science, Cdt L Albert

Mangang of RUDA Academy and Cdt Jodha Leimapokam of Meiti Mayak High School. Brigadier RS Sethi Group Commander, brought out that participation of cadets in the

Republic Day Camp parade and competitions at Delhi marks the pinnacle of a cdt's journey in NCC. Cdts go through a tough selection procedure at unit, Group and Directorate levels, and then compete against the best of each of the seventeen NCC Directorates. Winning at this level is indicative of the immense potential of these cadets as future citizens of the nation. He added that such a good performance reaffirms our faith and belief in the sincere and hard working youth of Manipur; and given the right guidance and resources, these children can achieve the impossible. The cadets were accompanied by their unit officers, school/college principals and the Associate NCC officers.