

Local



For Better Kangleipak volunteers and Miss Universe Manipur contestants pose after a cleanliness drive

ANSAM seeks clarification from MP Bimol

NEWMAI NEWS NETWORK

IMPHAL: All Naga Students' Association Manipur (ANSAM) has taken serious note of the statements made by Lok Sabha MP Dr Bimol Akojam relating to forest land in the hill areas of Manipur, the demand for Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Meetei/Meitei and criticism of Article 371C.

According to ANSAM, the Congress MP made the statements relating to sensitive issues through various discussion sessions, which are being widely circulated on social media since January 14. In light of the sensitivity of the issues and their direct implications to the tribal communities of Manipur, the ANSAM said it was compelled to seek clarification from the MP and the Indian National Congress (INC) on several points which undermine the constitutional and historical rights of the indigenous tribal peoples of the state.

In a statement issued Sunday, the student body pointed out that Article 371C of the Constitution of India was introduced during the transition to statehood for Manipur in order to pro-

HOW CAN A PROGRESSIVE COMMUNITY (MEETEI) WITH A CLAIM OF 2000-5000 YEARS OF EXISTENCE DESIRE TO BENEFIT FROM BEING AN ST UNDER THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION

vide special administrative safeguards for the hill areas. Article 371C enacted to safeguard the rights of the tribal people of Manipur, particularly over land, resources, culture and custom. It was introduced with full awareness of the historical and continuing attempts by dominant groups to encroach upon tribal rights and that concern remains valid even today. The Article provides Hill Areas Committee (HAC) in the Manipur Legislative Assembly and assigns special responsibility to the Governor to ensure proper administration of the hill areas. The provision reflects a constitutional recognition of the distinct historical, social and administrative realities of the hill regions and the need to protect the interests

of the tribal population, it explained.

According to the ANSAM, tribal leaders from Manipur have at various stages since independence of India approached various courts of the country over land rights whereas the Supreme Court of India affirmed that there is no government 'Khasland' in the hill areas of Manipur and gave rulings that the land belongs to the people. The ANSAM claimed that these judgments are on record and it is the reason why compensation in the hills is mandatorily paid directly to tribal landowners by all user agencies including the state as well as the Union government.

On the land administration in the valley, the ANSAM said plains became the property of the state following the merger of Manipur with the Union of India in 1949. Hence, land administration of the valley areas has largely been governed through statutory mechanisms under the revenue department of the state government totally different from the customary land systems prevail in the hill districts till date, it added.

Given these historical and

constitutional 'realities', statements suggesting that forest lands in the hill areas of Manipur are open for claims by communities outside the traditional tribal inhabitants raise serious concerns. Such assertions and attempts to dismiss settled legal positions and constitutional recognition of tribal land rights in Manipur are viewed with serious concerns, the ANSAM said and demanded clarification from the MP whether he was speaking on the matter in his personal capacity or reflects the official position of the INC.

The ANSAM continued that tribal communities across the North Eastern region have been granted special constitutional protections in recognition of their distinct identities, customary laws and relationship with land and natural resources. These safeguards are fundamental part of India's constitutional commitment to protecting indigenous and tribal peoples, How can a progressive community (Meetei) with a claim of 2000-5000 years of existence desire to benefit from being an ST under the Indian constitution, the ANSAM questioned.

API Manipur observes World Obesity Day

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

IMPHAL: Manipur State Chapter of Association of Physicians of India (API) marked World Obesity Day on March 4 by organising an awareness programme under the theme "8 Billion Reasons to Act on Obesity".

The programme was held at Citizens' Club, Soibam Leikai and KKYDO, Kongpal Kongkham Leikai under the supervision of Dr Irom Anil Singh, honorary secretary, API Manipur State Chapter, in the presence of Prof Kh Lokeshwar Singh, vice-chairperson of the chapter.

As part of the initiative, awareness banners were displayed at JNIMS, RIMS and SAHS.

The organisers highlighted that obesity is a major risk factor for several diseases, including diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke, and stressed prevention through balanced diet, regular physical activity, adequate sleep, limiting sugary drinks and early screening.

The awareness campaign will continue for a month to encourage healthier lifestyles and prevent obesity-related complications.

DISTRICT ROUND-UP

Senapati joins celebration of Women's Day

CORRESPONDENT

SENAPATI: Senapati district celebrated International Women's Day with a sporting event at the Astro Turf Ground, under the theme "Give to Gain" with DC Mamoni Doley as chief guest, alongside guest of honour Koshia Mao, public prosecutor & government advocate.

DC Mamoni Doley said the day was about appreciating and supporting one another. She stressed that women can excel in any arena if given the chance, including politics, noting the district has yet to elect a woman legislator. She urged young women to be confident, shed any sense of inferiority, and strive for financial independence through education and income generation.

In her welcome address, W Paulina Monsang, deputy director of Mera Yuva Bharat,



explained that ASMITA aims to provide simple, scalable sporting exposure at the local level. Since 2021, it has engaged over 2.9 lakh women athletes nationwide in 34 sports.

Koshia Mao noted that women are no longer confined to the home and have proven their mettle across many fields. She stated that the "Give to Gain" theme highlights how progress comes from supporting and

empowering women. She urged women to be bold, use their constitutional rights, and pursue opportunities, adding that Senapati already has many exemplary women in leadership.

The event featured 100m, 200m, and 400m races across age groups, followed by a tug of war. The Indian Red Cross Society, Senapati, provided medical cover with an ambulance on site.

96th Lamta Thabung religious meeting held

CORRESPONDENT

JIRIBAM: The 96th Lamta Thabung Laining Meepham organised by Ahan Taranithoi Apokpa Marup, Uchathol branch was held at the Apokpa Marup office on March 3, along with the inauguration of a new Lainingkon (prayer hall).

Presided over by Ahan Taranithoi Hounashang chief Naorem Chourajit, the programme was also attended by Meetei Yelhoun Mayek Kanba Amasung Sandokpa Lup president Yambem Indrakumar Meetei,

Jiribam Zilla Parishad former Adhyaksha Khangenbam Janaki Devi, and GC College, Silchar Zoology Department former head Dr Hijam Baby as dignitaries on the dais.

The two-day programme featured scholars and speakers presenting papers on cultural and spiritual themes, including the development of Meeteilon and Meetei Mayek, as well as the life and teachings of Naoriya Phulo and their relevance to contemporary Meetei society. Discussions also covered the philosophy of Lamta Thabung and the preservation of indigenous traditions.

MUTSU backs TYCM stand on girls' hostel

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

IMPHAL: Manipur University Tribal Students' Union (MUTSU) has extended full support to the Tribal Youth Council Manipur (TYCM) in its demand for the immediate functioning of the Tribal Girls' Hostel at Old Lambulan, here.

In a press release issued on March 6, MUTSU said that the hostel has remained non-functional even after paramilitary forces vacated the premises on September 20, 2025. The union stated that the continued delay in reopening the facility has created serious difficulties for tribal girl students from remote areas of the state who depend on hostel accommodation to pursue their studies in Imphal.

According to MUTSU, many tribal girl students are now forced to stay in rented accommodations, which has placed heavy financial and logistical burdens on them and their families. The situation has made it difficult for several families to sustain their livelihoods while supporting their children's education.

The union also expressed its support for the ultimatum issued by TYCM, which has been extended until March 10, 2026, demanding that the hostel be made operational. MUTSU said that it is prepared to participate in any democratic form of agitation led by TYCM if the demand is not addressed within the stipulated period.

Indefinite Imphal-Ukhrul road shutdown begins

R LESTER MAKANG

UKHRUL: The National Highway-202 Development Committee, Ukhrul district has reaffirmed its decision to launch an indefinite shutdown of the Imphal-Ukhrul route from midnight on Sunday, citing the authorities' failure to address the grievances of affected landowners and the public over the prolonged delay in NH-202 dual-carriageway expansion project.

Speaking to The People's Chronicle over the phone on Sunday evening, Committee secretary AS Edmund Hungshi asserted that the Committee re-

mains firm on the blockade, given the lack of concrete action to meet its demands. "We have stationed sufficient volunteers at three strategic points—Malang (Hungbung), Shangshak, and Laho (Leingangching)—to enforce the shutdown from midnight today," he said, clarifying that essential services would be exempted.

The Committee has urged civil society organisations and the public for support and cooperation during the blockade.

Earlier on March 3, the Committee announced the resumption of agitation after officials failed to honour assurances from a joint meeting held at Majesty Restau-

rant in Hungsei, Hungbung (near the District Hospital) on February 3, attended by UKHRUL DC Ashish Das, Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) Ukhrul manager Salman Khan, and committee representatives.

According to the Committee, the joint meeting deliberated issues surrounding the long delayed Finch Corner-Hungbung-Choithar Junction stretch under PKG-III and PKG-IV. The DC and PMU manager assured to resolve all grievances raised by the Committee on behalf of affected landowners and the district public within February 2026, prompting the Committee to suspend a planned 72-hour

blockade set for March 4.

"The officials have taken no tangible steps to fulfil the assurance within the deadline," the Committee rued, declaring that an indefinite shutdown of the NH-202 Imphal-Ukhrul route will commence from midnight of March 8 until all grievances are fully addressed and a formal settlement reached.

The Committee recalled that the February meeting had mutually agreed that an indefinite blockade could be imposed in the event of failure to fulfil the assurance given by the DC and PMU manager on behalf of NHIDCL.

TI declares several Thadou bodies unlawful

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

IMPHAL: The Thadou Inpi-General Headquarters (TI-GHQ) has issued a joint declaration stating that several organisations claiming to represent the Thadou community will be considered "unlawful and illegitimate" under its constitution.

The declaration was adopted at a meeting of Thadou bodies held under the aegis of TI-GHQ on March 4, according to a statement issued by the office of the organisation.

Referring to the 2015 Delhi Conclave Declaration, the organisation stated that the former Thadou Tribe Council had been dissolved and replaced by TI-GHQ. It further maintained that any organisation formed in the name of the Thadou community without the knowledge of TI-GHQ would not be recognised as a genuine Thadou body.

On this basis, the declaration stated that Thadou Inpi-Manipur (TIM), Thadou Community International (TCI), Thadou

Linguistic Forum (TLF) and Thadou Students' Association-General Headquarters (TSA-GHQ), which it alleged were formed by Michael Lamjathang Haokip and associates for their personal interests, would be treated as unlawful and illegitimate under the TI-GHQ constitution.

The statement also said that Thadou Tribe Council-General Headquarters (TTC-GHQ) based in Churachandpur, which it alleged was formed by YT Haokip without the knowledge of TI-GHQ, would likewise be treated as an unlawful organisation.

Meanwhile, the meeting resolved that the Thadou Cultural Festival (HUN-2026) would be organised in Kangpokpi district.

The gathering also strongly criticised the actions of Michael Lamjathang Haokip, expressing what it described as "absolute outrage and deep indignation" over his conduct. According to the declaration, he had publicly disowned the historical and

social position of the Thadou community within the broader Kuki fold and taken positions widely perceived as hostile to the collective interests of his own people during a time of extreme suffering.

The statement further described his actions as "morally indefensible" and "socially irresponsible", alleging that they were profoundly damaging to communal solidarity. It added that such conduct raised serious questions for the Meitei community as to how trust could be placed in a person who, it claimed, had distanced himself from his own community during a period of crisis.

The meeting also argued that credibility built upon denouncing one's own community could not form the basis of genuine peace or reconciliation.

It then urged the Meitei community and others to remain vigilant, act responsibly and disassociate from him in order to prevent further escalation of tensions.

PREPAK-Pro clarifies on arrestees

CHRONICLE NEWS SERVICE

IMPHAL: The proscribed People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak-Progressive (PREPAK-Pro) clarified that the organisation and its armed wing Red Army are unrelated in any manner with two individuals arrested by security forces recently.

According to a PREPAK-Pro statement, security forces arrested Thokhom Rabichandra Singh (36) of Heirok Part-II on February 27 and Achom Luwangba Meitei (44) of Langol Yumjaomambi Leikai on March 3. However, both the individuals have been wrongfully branded as party's active cadres, the statement said and strongly called for stopping the act of levelling false charges against relatives of party's cadres after arrest.

Maring body seeks functional health centres

CORRESPONDENT

MOREH: Rilram Area Maring Organisation (RAMO) has urged the state government to take urgent steps to improve healthcare facilities in eastern Maring area of Tenuoupal district.

RAMO president K Parkash Maring appealed to the government led by chief minister Yumnem Khemchand to address the urgent needs of the Primary Health Sub-Centre (PHSC) at Leibi village and the Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Rilram Centre village.

He said buildings of the health centres and staff quarters are in a deplorable

condition. Heavy winds and storms have blown away the corrugated iron roofing of the PHC building, while the staff quarters have deteriorated to a point where healthcare service providers are hesitant to reside there.

Parkash Maring said that although the health director had previously visited and inspected the facilities during the last administration, no steps were taken to repair or improve the infrastructure.

The organisation also stated that it had repeatedly urged the previous government to construct workable compatible buildings and provide adequate infrastruc-

ture for the health centres, but the demands remained unfulfilled.

RAMO further raised concerns over absence of an ambulance at the Rilram Centre PHC, saying the lack of emergency transport has caused serious difficulties for villagers during medical emergencies, accidents and sudden illnesses.

The organisation appealed to the state government to station a dedicated ambulance at the health centre and expressed disappointment that none of the ambulances recently distributed by the state government were allocated to the PHC or PHSC in eastern Maring area.

KIM censures bodies claiming to represent Kuki community

CORRESPONDENT

KANGPOKPI: Kuki Inpi Manipur (KIM) cautioned against what it termed as "un-mandated formation and functioning" of certain civil society organisations claiming to represent the Kuki community.

A press release issued on March 3 by KIM information & publicity secretary Janghaolun Haokip stated that the warning was issued in pursuance of resolution adopted during its 31st General Assembly.

The Inpi stated that entities such as Kuki Human Rights Council (KHRC), World Kuki-Zo Intellectual Council (WKZIC) and Joint Forum of 7, among others, were formed without consultation with or authorisation

from the apex body and therefore do not have the mandate to represent the Kuki people. KIM alleged that the functioning of such organisations, established without the acknowledgement of the general Kuki populace, could be "detrimental" and may misrepresent the collective voice, vision and aspirations of the community.

It further advised media organisations, government agencies and non-governmental institutions to refer only to organisations duly mandated by KIM in official as well as non-official matters.

Reiterating its position, KIM maintained that it remains the recognised apex body of the Kuki tribes and is authorised to articulate the collective stand of the community.

Bank of Baroda KHANGABOK BRANCH ABRIDGED VEHICLE E-AUCTION NOTICE

Opposite MMRC Unity Park, Khangabok, Thoubal, PIN- 795138, Manipur Email: khanga@bankofbaroda.co.in

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name & address of the Borrower, Total Dues (in Lakhs), Vehicle Make & Model Registration No., Date & Time of e-Auction, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Bid Increase Amount, EMD deposit Account No. & IFSC Code Name of the Branch, Inspection Date & Time.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that Bank has repossessed/seized the Hypothecated Motor Vehicles mentioned below in exercise of the powers conferred under Hypothecation/Loan Agreement executed by the parties and Vehicles will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is" and "Whatever there is" basis for recovery of dues in below mentioned account/s. The details of Borrower/s / Guarantor/s / Vehicles/Total Dues / Reserve Price / e-Auction date & Time, EMD and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:-

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name & address of the Borrower, Total Dues (in Lakhs), Vehicle Make & Model Registration No., Date & Time of e-Auction, Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Bid Increase Amount, EMD deposit Account No. & IFSC Code Name of the Branch, Inspection Date & Time.

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ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH, GUWAHATI Hem Baruah Road, Panbarah, Guwahati, Assam-781001, Email: cs8231@pnb.bank.in

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s)/ Mortgagee(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/ symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of its dues due to the Bank/ Secured Creditor from the respective borrower (s) and guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

Table with columns: Lot No., Name of the Branch, Name of the Account, Name & addresses of the Borrower/Guarantor Account, Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/ Owner's Name (mortgagors of property(ies)), Schedule of the Secured Assets, Details of the encumbrances known to the secured creditors.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF E-AUCTION SALE:

- The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions.
1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS"
2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation.
3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://www.baanknet.com on 27.03.2026 from 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM.
4. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer https://www.baanknet.com
5. The authorised officer or the bank shall not be responsible for any charge, lien, encumbrances or any other dues to the government or anyone else in respect of properties (e-auction) not known to the bank. The intending Bidder is advised to make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances on the property including statutory liabilities, arrears of property tax, electricity dues, etc.
6. The authorised officer reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or to postpone/cancel/adjourn/discontinue or vary the terms of the auction at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever and his decision in this regard shall be final.
7. It shall be the responsibility of the bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the asset and specification before submitting the bid. The bidder inspects the property in consultation with the dealing official as per the details provide.

Authorized Officer Punjab National Bank, Secured creditor Date: 02.03.2026, Place: Guwahati