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Changs demand separate 'administrative umbrella'

Dimapur, Sep. 9 (EMN): Elected representatives of the Chang Nagas, and leaders of the Confederation of Chang Students' Union (CCSU), have asked the state government for an exclusive 'administrative umbrella' for the Chang people.

According to a press release from the chief minister's office on Saturday, "a delegation of Chang legislators and Confederation of Chang Students' Union expressing the desire of the Chang tribe to live together under one administrative umbrella, today appealed that the state government include all the six Chang villages under Tuensang district administration, presently under Noklak sub-division."

According to the statement, 'there was no land dispute or tribal issue in regard to the issue.' It reported the delegation as asserting that "various tribal leaders had lend (sic) their

voice (sic) to the proposed initiative which was being pursued for administrative convenience, and not for any electoral purpose."

The CMO statement also reported Zeliang as assuring the delegation that he would "take up the matter with the concerned department (sic), Chang legislators namely: Kejong Chang, Minister for Horticulture and DB and GB; CM Chang, Adviser for Planning and Coordination, and Toyang C Chang, Parl. Secy. for NRE and F and ES.

Sumi Hoho green signal

It also claimed that the Sumi Hoho - represented by three of its officials - has 'extended support and cooperation' to the present government.

After extending said "support", the Sumi Hoho delegation also urged Zeliang to upgrade "the oldest Polytechnic in Nagaland, Khelhoshe Pol-

technic Atoizu (KPA) to a degree college while also appealing for infrastructure development and compensation to land owners," it informed. s

Guest house for Myanmar Nagas

"Seeking the help of the state government for setting-up a guest house for the Nagas of Myanmar in Dimapur which would act as a centre of correspondence for the Nagas of India and Myanmar, the Naga Public Organisation, Myanmar (NPO) led by its deputy chairman, U Nure Sosa and deputy secretary general, Y Khomong today sought the intervention of the chief minister on the matter.

"The chief minister while assuring to render all possible help said that the issue would be taken up with the state home department for further necessary action," the CMO statement informed.

Rights' forum tells governor to suspend parliamentary secretaries and advisers

Dimapur, Sep. 9 (EMN): Despite the governor's refusal to act on the Nagaland Tribes Council's (NTC) call to remove all parliamentary secretaries and advisers designated by the government of Nagaland, the Nagaland Public Rights Awareness and Action Forum (NPRAAF) has asked governor to execute the same.

In a press release issued today, the NPRAAF told Governor, PB Acharya not to 'waste a minute' on the 'matter of unconstitutional appointments of parliamentary secretaries and

advisors taking due consideration the Supreme Court judgement."

"The Supreme Court Bench comprising of Justice J Chelamswar, Justice RK Agrawal, and Justice AM Sapre has declared appointment, salaries, allowances and miscellaneous provisions as unconstitutional act, while giving a landmark judgement on Assam Parliamentary secretaries Act of 2004.

"The question posed before the Court was whether article 194 (3) and entry 39 of List II of the 7th schedule author-

ized the state legislature to make the impugned Act. Entry 39 indicates the field of legislation regarding the powers, privileges, and immunities of a member and committee of a house of such legislature," it reminded.

"It is very unfortunate that the Governor of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh PB Acharya still allows the two state governments to retain unconstitutional post of parliamentary secretaries and Advisers defying the Supreme Court judgement. The governor should not

remain oblivious to the issue as his sole role is to protect the constitution and not run the government.

"The credibility of the governor would be enhanced if he acts before the ultimate judgement of the Kohima Bench of Guwahati High Court which is bound to be in line with several High Court and Supreme Court judgement."

It has asked the governor to act fearlessly 'in tune with the Constitution of India to instil peoples' confidence in the governor's office.'

Students of KPA left fighting for 'faculty' salary

Dimapur, Sep. 9 (EMN): Controversy-hit Khelhoshe Polytechnic in Atoizu, under Zunheboto district has once come under the scanner following an allegation levelled by the institute's student union concerning salary of the 'fixed pay' faculty.

A press statement from the 'students of Khelhoshe Polytechnic Atoizu' on Saturday stated that they were once again left facing 'an embarrassing problem due to non-payment of salaries of the fixed pay faculty.'

"The student's community regret to state this but the fixed pay faculty (11nos) have (sic) not been paid salary since the month of March 2017 till date for which they are abstaining from performing their duties w.e.f 11th September 2017. It is also to be mentioned that the authority has been made aware of the prevailing situation several times and earlier also the fixed pay faculties were not paid salaries and only after they agitated in the form of not declaring the examination results

only the concerned authority (sic) reacted.

"In this regard the Khelhoshe Polytechnic Atoizu Students Union (KPASU) on 25th April 2017 has already issued a press release giving ample time for the govt. to solve the matter so that the student's careers are not put at stake but the concerned authority (sic) paid no heed which led to excessive delay in semester result declaration thus victimizing the students."

According to the student body, the authority concerned (director of Technical Education) were 'solely responsible for these unpleasant outcomes.'

"The student's community strongly want to convey that if polytechnics (sic) are not functioning then even the directorate of technical education will stop functioning. If officers cannot handle their responsibilities then they must also resign from their post so that others are not affected.

"The fixed pay lecturers have tried various means to fight for their rights but in the larger interest of the student's community they have even sacrificed those rights, thinking that the authority will look into their problems but to no avail, this problem remains a problem semester after semester," the statement read.

"The KPASU demands for immediate positive action from the concerned authority/government (sic) on or before 12th September 2017 failing which the entire students community of KPA will be forced to picket the directorate of Technical Education and the authority will have to bear all expenses as we the students community fight for our rights," it warned.

Kohima fishmonger 'beaten to death'

Dimapur, Sep. 9 (EMN): A non-Naga trader was reportedly 'beaten to death' on Saturday in Kohima. The victim has been identified as 22-year-old, Pradeep Mahato, a fishmonger, originally from Chhapra district of Bihar.

According to reports, he was 'taken away' from his shop located at Razhat Point Fish market, at around 11 am on Saturday, while his body was found dumped in a drain near TM Govt High School, Billy Graham road, Kohima by some people this evening. He later succumbed to the

injuries at Naga Hospital, Kohima. Though the identity of the accused person(s) could not be known till the filing of this report, yet, it was widely speculated that some local citizens were behind the 'murder.'

Talking to *Eastern Mirror*, Kohima police said that the victim was brought to North PS at around 4.30 pm. Though badly beaten, since he was still breathing, the police personnel immediately rushed him to Naga Hospital.

A medical staffer at the hospital also told this newspaper that the vic-

tim succumbed to his internal injuries at around 8-8.30 pm.

Police said there were not much external injuries, and therefore suspected that he died of serious internal bleeding. A doctor at NHAK said that the victim was brought to the hospital in a very bad shape.

At the hospital, a cousin of the victim disclosed that some locals took the victim away today, while it was learned that the history of the incident dates back to a quarrel between the victim and some locals on September 7 last.

NPA worried by 'divide' in media opinion over Gauri Lankesh's killing

Dimapur, Sep. 9 (EMN): In the backdrop of the cold-blooded murder of Gauri Lankesh - a journalist famous for standing up to, and against, right-wing Hindu extremism - the Nagaland Press Association (NPA) has expressed concern over how the unfortunate killing has divided the "media" along ideological lines.

A statement from the NPA - an organisation that lists working journalists as well as non-working journalists, including newspaper proprietors as its members - on Saturday issued a statement expressing shock at the "assassination of Gauri Lankesh, a senior journalist and editor of the weekly Gauri Lankesh Patrike - a magazine which has been described as an 'anti-establishment' publication."

Gauri was known for being not just a critic of right-wing Hindu extremism but also someone who had raised her voice against powerful organisations, the statement read. "She paid the price for standing up for her beliefs. Violence and killing is not the way to confront our differences. In a democracy, which we have adopted, dissent is legitimate and part of free speech. If there is anything that is contrary to the spirit of our democracy and rule of law, the judiciary is there to address grievances and give justice.

"Resorting to violence is not only undemocratic but it makes us unworthy as humans - valuing life and order. The NPA is of the firm belief that dialogue remains the best way forward to resolve whatever differences people may have. The NPA stands with the rest of the media and human fraternity in demanding that those found guilty must be brought to justice.

"The NPA is also concerned by the manner in which the killing of Gauri Lankesh has been politicized even to the extent that the media has been divided along so called ideological lines. The media is acknowledged as the fourth pillar of democracy and we should remain conscious of our duties - to stand for truth, fairness and dialogue," it stated.

Rescue efforts continue as Mexico quake death toll reaches 61



Evacuated patients lie on their hospital beds shaded by a tree, in the aftermath of a massive earthquake, in Juchitan, Oaxaca state, Mexico. AP/PTI

Mexico City, Sep. 9 (IANS): The race to rescue those trapped in the rubble continued on Saturday after at least 61 people were killed in the most powerful earthquake to hit Mexico in a century that struck off the southern coast, toppling houses, damaging hospitals and government offices, and sparking mass evacuations.

Another 200 people were injured, President En-

rique Peña Nieto said, as he declared a national day of mourning, BBC reported.

Rescue efforts following the earthquake, which struck the nation's Pacific Coast late on Thursday, were focussing on the worst-hit states of Tabasco, Oaxaca and Chiapas. Tens of thousands of emergency packs, as well as 100 extra police officers and rescue dogs were sent to Juchitan, in Oaxaca, said to be

the worst affected town.

At least 17 deaths were reported in Juchitan. The town hall and a number of other buildings were destroyed or badly damaged.

The 8.2-magnitude quake was felt by about 50 million people across the country. It was the strongest earthquake Mexico has experienced in 100 years, the President said. In September 1985, a magnitude 8.0 earthquake killed

Manipur govt. tightens noose around Ibobi's neck

Our Correspondent

Imphal, Sep. 9 (EMN): Former Chief Minister of Manipur, O Ibobi Singh has said that he would accept 'any kind of punishment' if found guilty on charges of financial 'misuse, mismanagement, and misappropriation.'

On Saturday, he told newsmen in Imphal though the case registered against him was 'unfortunate'; he was ready to face any punishment since 'any financial matter related documents cannot be concealed as it is in public domain.'

The former chief minister has, however, already obtained anticipatory bail through his lawyer from the court. Manipur police has lodged FIR against Singh and five others after the joint secretary in the Planning department had asked the police to conduct "a detailed investigation and to book the persons/officials responsible for mismanagement, misappropriation and misuse of funds", on the basis of an enquiry by the Vigilance department.

On Friday, Manipur Chief Minister, N Biren Singh said that the case of

alleged financial irregularities of Rs 185.79 crore in the functioning of a government agency would be handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Biren said this during a brief interaction with the media on the sidelines of a climate change convention in Imphal on Friday. A state cabinet decision has also been taken in this regard, it was informed.

The FIR has named Singh and five officers, including three former chief secretaries of Manipur, in connection with alleged financial irregularities in Manipur Development Society. Ibobi of the Congress was the chief minister of Manipur from 2002 to March 2017.

The FIR was lodged on September 1 last, at Imphal police station against Ibobi, and former chief secretaries: Y Ningthem Singh, PC Lawmkunga and O Nabakishore Singh. Also named in the FIR were former project director of MDS, DS Poonia, and its administrative officer Ranjit Singh, sources said. Manipur police have already conducted a search at the residence of Y Ningthem Singh in Imphal recently.

Give me a lever long enough and a fulcrum on which to place it, and I shall move the world.
Archimedes

WEATHER TEMPERATURE	
KOHIMA	Max: 25° Min: 18°
DIMAPUR	30° 24°
KOHIMA	5mm 92%
DIMAPUR	1mm 94%
* Rainfall (RF) * Relative humidity (RH) Temperature in State Capitals	
Alzawl	24° 20° Itanagar 28° 23°
Agartala	31° 24° Shillong 22° 18°
Gangtok	25° 17° Delhi 37° 25°
Guwahati	30° 24° Kolkata 32° 27°
Imphal	27° 21° Chennai 33° 26°