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THE MEGHALAYAN

NATION

BJP, Opp trade barbs ahead of G20 summit
The BJP and the opposition traded barbs on Sunday over Prime Minister Narendra Modi's remarks in an interview to PTI ahead of the G20 summit.

WORLD

Sectarian tensions in Gilgit-Baltistan
Pakistan's interim Information Minister Murtaza Solangi said on Sunday that the situation in Gilgit-Baltistan was "completely peaceful".

SPORTS

Mohun Bagan lift Durand Cup
A moment of sheer brilliance from Dimitri Petratos proved decisive as 10-man Mohun Bagan Super Giant beat arch-rivals East Bengal 1-0 in a fiercely contested final.

PRAYERS FOR PEACE



People at Dimapur in Nagaland hold placards and candles during a prayer service for peace in Manipur, on Sunday. PTI Photo

Grant general amnesty or we cease talks: HNLC

■ STAFF REPORTER
SHEILING

The proscribed Hynniewtrep National Liberation Council (HNLC) on Sunday protested against the government's decision to summon its general secretary Sainkupar Nongtraw in the midst of the ongoing peace talks. It also threatened to walk away from the talks if the government did not drop all charges against all its leaders and immediately offer general amnesty. "The HNLC vehemently condemns the recent actions taken by the government, specifically the notice publicly summoning Sainkupar Nongtraw, general secretary of HNLC, to court amidst the ongoing formal talks," HNLC general secretary-cum-publicity secretary Sainkupar Nongtraw said in a statement. He said this was not

“If your government shows the same determination in dividing Meghalaya and declaring Hynniewtrep as a separate and equal state with a specific timeline, just as they did with Kashmir, then we would be more inclined to trust your governance.”

Sainkupar Nongtraw
HNLC general secretary

the first instance where HNLC leaders, including the chairman and finance secretary, have been summoned during informal discussions. "Such actions not only undermine our trust in the government but also have the potential to hinder and disrupt the efforts towards achieving a lasting resolution," he said. Stating that the HNLC remains committed to the peace process and has actively engaged in negotiations with the state govern-

ment, Nongtraw said, "However, we are deeply concerned about the double standard exhibited by the government." The state government demanded my attendance at a meeting with a strict deadline of September 30, while the MHA, on the other hand, specifically targets all senior leaders of HNLC to appear in person," he said. The HNLC also emphasised that all leaders and cadres will not come out openly unless and until

its political demands are met. It also urged the government to hold talks with the delegation authorised by the HNLC central executive committee and led by the vice-chairman. "To ensure the success of the peace process, Nongtraw said, "We demand that the charges against HNLC leaders be dropped and a general amnesty be offered. Without these essential steps, our key leader will not actively participate in the ongoing negotiations. While we have authorized the vice-chairman and their delegation to represent us in talks, the lack of seriousness displayed by the government is becoming increasingly evident. If this attitude persists, we will be left with no option but to withdraw from the negotiations completely." **Contd. p3**

Allotment of medical seats in state quota KSU cries foul over documents of non-indigenous students

■ STAFF REPORTER
SHEILING

The Khasi Students' Union (KSU) has flagged discrepancies in the documents submitted by non-indigenous students who were allotted medical seats from the state quota. In a statement issued on Sunday, the union said that out of the 11 seats allotted to non-indigenous students from the open category, nine such individuals submitted documents which seemed incomplete and also doubted the authenticity of such papers. In the press statement KSU general secretary Donald V Thabab pointed out that as per rules of the government one of the documents needed to be submitted by non-indigenous students is



their Permanent Resident Certificates (PRCs). "Most of them only submitted Provisional Permanent Resident Certificates (PPRCs), which are valid only for three to 12 months," Thabab said even as he added that most of these PPRCs procured have become invalid since they have crossed the time limit. The KSU leader also questioned the health department for recognising these documents which are

not valid. Thabab also pointed out that of the nine non-indigenous students some did not even submit their birth certificates. "Even those who submitted their birth certificates, these were recently procured, especially from Garo Hills," he said. The KSU general secretary said that the birth certificate of one candidate, Md Mahmudul Islam, procured in 2012 showed that he was resident of and that too without a court order. It may be pointed out as per rules for applying for a birth certificate, those who do so more than a month after a child's birth should be accompanied along with a court order and this also applies to indigenous students. **Contd. p3**

NEHUTA to lodge protest against VC with President

VC accused of playing with the careers of UG students by hurriedly implementing NEP 'illegitimately'

■ STAFF REPORTER
SHEILING

The North Eastern Hill University Teachers' Association (NEHUTA) has decided to report to the President of India against the violation of NEHU Act, Statutes and Ordinances by the university's vice-chancellor in regards to implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP). This came after the expiry of the deadline given by the association to the NEHU VC to withdraw the July 12 notification issued to the principals of all affiliated colleges by Debashish Chowdhury, Officer on Special Duty (OSD), CDC, NEHU which NEHUTA said was grossly mislead-

ing and inappropriate. In a statement, NEHUTA president Prof Lakhon Kna said that the emergent meeting of the executive committee, NEHUTA held on August 31, has decided to enforce the resolutions of the general body meeting held on August 26. "We have decided to send a detailed report on violation of NEHU Act, Statutes and Ordinances by the vice-chancellor to the visitor of the university, the honourable President of India, the Prime Minister, the Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan, the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, other central ministers, the chief of the university, the Governor of Meghalaya and Meghalaya chief minister," Kna said. He said the association has also decided to boycott all academic council meetings in the future. Kna also thanked its members for not setting or moderating the question papers of illegitimately implemented first semester undergraduate under NEP as per the general body meeting resolution. "So far, all NEHUTA members have abstained from setting and moderating question papers of first semester under illegitimately implemented NEP at undergraduate level for different subjects as decided by the general body meeting of NEHUTA," he said. **Contd. p3**

Contraband worth Rs 15 crore seized



■ OUR CORRESPONDENT
JOWA

The Anti Narcotic Task Force (ANTF) of East Jaintia Hills arrested one Lalhumsanga Beingachho of Aizawl, Mizoram travelling in a tourist vehicle and seized 10 black packets weighing 10.16 kg worth Rs 15 crore. West Jaintia Hills SP Jagpal Singh Dhanoo confirmed that the contraband is crystal meth (pure amphetamine). Lalhumsanga, a drugs supplier, boarded the vehicle (AS 01 KC 9188) from Aizawl proceeding toward Khliehriaat where he was detained at Kongong check point during a naka checking at around 4:30 pm. A search was conducted on the vehicle where the ANTF detected the illegal contraband belonging to Lalhumsanga. A case under NDPS Act has been registered at Khliehriaat PS and investigation is on to trace backward and forward linkages.

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■ **ACHIK leader charged with Tura violence arrested**
One of the top leaders of the ACHIK Balkharin Marak, accused of being part of the group behind the Tura violence on July 24 has been arrested from a hideout in East Garo Hills.

■ **JNV student in GH attacked by seniors**
A student of central school Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in Williamnagar has been admitted to a hospital here after suffering injuries in an alleged assault on him by a large group of senior students inside the hostel campus on August 31.

G20 leaders to get taste of Indian street food, millet dishes

NEW DELHI

US President Joe Biden and other world leaders gathering for the G20 summit here will get a taste of lip-smacking Indian street food, including flavourful delicacies from Chandni Chowk, and innovative millet dishes. An elaborate spread of millet recipes has been planned for the world leaders and delegates attending the G20 summit on September 9-10 at the Bharat Mandapam, showcasing the climate-resistant and highly nutritious coarse grains grown across the country. During the summit meeting, the world leaders

will also plant saplings of national plants or plant species native to their respective countries as part of efforts to create a G20 Garden in the Bharat Mandapam complex. In an interview to PTI, G20 India Special Secretary Muktesh Pardeshi said arrangements are also afoot to make the India visit memorable for the spouses of the world leaders through live demonstrative sessions on the rich handicrafts legacy of the country coupled with a shopping experience at the National Gallery of Modern Art. "Yes, in some innovative manner, there would be an introduction to street



Preparations under way for the G20 Summit at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, on Sunday. PTI Photo

food, and local and regional cuisines of India. The chefs are working overtime to finalise the menu, keeping all aspects in mind. But certainly,

there will be some exposure," Pardeshi said in response to a question. "Delhi is very well known for its street food, particularly the Chandni Chowk area. So, when you visit our international media centre, I am sure you will also get a taste of the street food of India," he said. He said all hotels where world leaders and delegates will be staying are competing with each other to come up with innovative millet dishes. Pardeshi said special attention is being given to the gifts for the visiting leaders and delegates with preference given to handicrafts, textile and painting traditions of the country. "For world leaders, the prime minister is conscious of the fact that the gift should connect and convey a sense of warmth. We have submitted a list of items -- whether they are paintings or handicraft items or carpets -- they will be chosen with all care and respect to the visiting dignitary," he said. "Our approach is that the gifts should convey a message about our handicraft traditions and culture. When leaders carry an item, they should carry the memory of India," he added. **PTI**

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NEHUTA to lodge...

Moreover, Kma said that the academic council is yet to decide on the model papers under NEP for undergraduates which is required as per NEHU Ordinance so that there is uniformity in the pattern of question paper setting across all subjects.

"In absence of model question papers, no teacher can set the questions and hence it cannot be moderated. Without these procedures, UG exams for the first semester based on NEP cannot be held," he said.

Further, Kma said that NEHUTA is worried that NEHU is unnecessary playing with the careers of the UG students by hurriedly implementing NEP 'illegitimately' without the approval of the academic council, when it is not yet prepared or is ready to implement NEP in totality in absence of discussions

on model question papers in academic council with regard to syllabus of all subjects from 3rd to 8th Semester which is to be prepared, discussed and approved by respective Board of Studies of different departments and their School Boards and finally to be discussed and approved in academic council.

"It is a long process. That's why the VC cannot unilaterally implement NEP hastily and illegitimately. All these are necessary as per NEHU Statute and Ordinance which require the approval of the academic council," he said.

"Without these mandatory procedures, NEP at UG in affiliated colleges will be null and void and a disaster of epic proportions which will spoil the careers of our first semester students," Kma said.



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